



Grace Lutheran Church

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SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 6, 2021

Welcome: We are glad that you are here or are watching our worship service online. May you be blessed through this time of worship. We pray you find today's service a source of encouragement and strength. For those worshipping in person please take time to register your attendance using the slips in the pew rack. These can be placed in the offering plates by the door as you exit.

Prayer Requests are always welcome. To have someone included in our prayers during worship, please call the pastor or church office or write down the request and give it to the pastor.

Lectionary Summary: The devil deceived us, enticing us to disregard and disobey the Word of God and driving us to hide “*from the presence of the LORD God.*” But the Lord, in His mercy, promised a Savior, who would set Himself against the devil on our behalf (Gen. 3:8–15). The Son of Man came, the incarnate Son of God, conceived and born of the woman. He “*first binds the strong man,*” Satan, by atoning for the sins of the world, thereby removing the condemnation of the Law and the fear of death (Mark 3:27). Now He plunders the devil’s house by calling all men to repent. Though He appears to be “*out of his mind*” (Mark 3:21), He fulfills the will of God and makes of us His own brothers and sisters. Therefore, “*we do not lose heart,*” despite the suffering, sin and death that we experience in this fallen world. “*He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus.*” By His grace, we are “*being renewed day by day.*” For the Gospel is daily bringing us into His presence, not for punishment, but for “*an eternal weight of glory*” (2 Cor. 4:14–17).

Order of Worship
Matins *LSB 219*

Prelude

Welcome and Greeting

Ringing of the Bell

♪ Opening Hymn: “Thy Strong Word”

LSB 578 sts. 1–2, 5–6

**1 Thy strong word did cleave the darkness; At Thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank Thee, While Thine ordered seasons run.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**

**2 Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness, Dark as night and deep as death,
Broke the light of Thy salvation, Breathed Thine own life-breathing breath.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**

**5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory, Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us, Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia! May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias, Alleluias without end!**

Stand

**Δ6 God the Father, light-creator, To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten, Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer, Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever Praise the holy Trinity!**

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Opening Versicles (Matins)

LSB 219

♪P O Lord, open my lips.

♪C And my mouth will declare Your praise.

♪P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

♪C make haste to help me, O Lord.

♪C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Praise to You, O Christ. Alleluia.

♪**P** Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

♪**C** O come, let us worship Him.

♪**Venite**

LSB 220

C O come, let us sing |to the Lord,
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of |our salvation.
Let us come into His presence with thanks|giving,
let us make a joyful noise to |Him with songs of praise.
For the Lord is a |great God
and a great |king above all gods.
The deep places of the earth are |in His hand;
the strength of the hills is |His also.
The sea is His, for He |made it,
and His hand |formed the dry land.
O come, let us worship and |bow down,
let us kneel before the |Lord, our maker.
For He |is our God,
and we are the people of His pasture and the |sheep of His hand.
Glory be to the Father and |to the Son
and to the |Holy Spirit;
as it was in the be|ginning,
is now, and will be for|ever. Amen.

♪**P** Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

♪**C** O come, let us worship Him.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 3:8–15

⁸And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” ¹⁰And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” ¹¹He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” ¹²The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” ¹³Then the LORD God said

to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.” ¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

2 Corinthians 4:13—5:1

¹³Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, “I believed, and so I spoke,” we also believe, and so we also speak, ¹⁴knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. ¹⁵For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. ¹⁶So we do not lose heart. Though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For this slight momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, ¹⁸as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal. ¹For we know that if the tent, which is our earthly home, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Holy Gospel

Mark 3:20–35

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the third chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁰Then [Jesus] went home, and the crowd gathered again, so that they could not even eat. ²¹And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, “He is out of his mind.” ²²And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, “He is possessed by Beelzebul,” and “by the prince of demons he casts out the demons.” ²³And he called them to him and said to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? ²⁴If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an end. ²⁷But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then

indeed he may plunder his house. ²⁸“Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter, ²⁹but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”— ³⁰for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.” ³¹And his mother and his brothers came, and standing outside they sent to him and called him. ³²And a crowd was sitting around him, and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers are outside, seeking you.” ³³And he answered them, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” ³⁴And looking about at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵Whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Children’s Message

♪ **Sermon Hymn: “Rise! To Arms! With Prayer Employ You”** *LSB 668*

- 1 **Rise! To arms! With prayer employ you, O Christians, lest the foe destroy you;
For Satan has designed your fall.
Wield God’s Word, the weapon glorious; Against all foes be thus victorious,
For God protects you from them all.
Fear not the hordes of hell, Here is Emmanuel.
Hail the Savior!
The strong foes yield To Christ, our shield,
And we, the victors, hold the field.**

- 2 **Cast afar this world’s vain pleasure And boldly strive for heav’nly treasure.
Be steadfast in the Savior’s might.
Trust the Lord, who stands beside you, For Jesus from all harm will hide you.
By faith you conquer in the fight.
Take courage, weary soul! Look forward to the goal!
Joy awaits you.
The race well run, Your long war won,
Your crown shines splendid as the sun.**

- 3 **Wisely fight, for time is fleeting; The hours of grace are fast retreating;
Short, short is this our earthly way.
When the Lord the dead will waken And sinners all by fear are shaken,
The saints with joy will greet that day.**

Praise God, our triumph's sure. We need not long endure
Scorn and trial.
Our Savior King His own will bring
To that great glory which we sing.

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Sermon "Excuses, Excuses"

Pastor Erik

Stand

♪Te Deum Hymn: "We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God"

LSB 941

1 We praise You and acknowledge You, O God, to be the Lord,
The Father everlasting, by all the earth adored.

To You all angel powers cry aloud, the heavens sing,
The cherubim and seraphim their praises to You bring:
"O holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
Your majesty and glory fill the heavens and the earth!"

2 The band of the apostles in glory sing Your praise;
The fellowship of prophets their deathless voices raise.
The martyrs of Your kingdom, a great and noble throng,
Sing with the holy Church throughout all the world this song:
"O all-majestic Father, Your true and only Son,
And Holy Spirit, Comforter—forever Three in One!"

3 You, Christ, are King of glory, the everlasting Son,
Yet You, with boundless love, sought to rescue ev'ryone:
You laid aside Your glory, were born of virgin's womb,
Were crucified for us and were placed into a tomb;
Then by Your resurrection You won for us reprieve—
You opened heaven's kingdom to all who would believe.

4 You sit in splendid glory, enthroned at God's right hand,
Upholding earth and heaven by forces You command.
We know that You will come as our Judge that final day,
So help Your servants You have redeemed by blood, we pray;
May we with saints be numbered where praises never end,
In glory everlasting. Amen, O Lord, amen!

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C Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Lord's Prayer

C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Collects

P O Lord, hear my prayer.

C And let my cry come to You.

Collect of the Day

P Almighty and eternal God, Your Son Jesus triumphed over the prince of demons and freed us from bondage to sin. Help us to stand firm against every assault of Satan, and enable us always to do Your will; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Additional Collects of Intercession and Thanksgiving

Collect for Grace

P O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus & Benediction

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

♫C Amen.

Sit

♫Closing Hymn: “Go, My Children, with My Blessing” *LSB 922 sts. 1–2, 4*

1 Go, My children, with My blessing, Never alone.

Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are My own.

In My love’s baptismal river I have made you Mine forever.

Go, My children, with My blessing— You are My own.

2 Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.

Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.

Here you heard My dear Son’s story; Here you touched Him, saw His glory.

Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.

4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;

I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace:

I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother.

Go, My children; I will keep you And give you peace.

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NEWS AND NOTES

WE REJOICE with the following members of Grace who are celebrating this week.

BIRTHDAYS: Reese Rethwisch, Colleen Starzl, Brenna Anderson, Sherri Widner, Mackenna Heithold-Wical, Larry Magnuson, Dave Wragge, Deb Dannelly, Brady Heithold, Pam Henderson, Mary Janke, Shawn Nolte, Michael Temme, Sue Temme, Chad Sebade & Emma Heithold

ANNIVERSARIES: Paul & Lavon Biermann, Tim & Heather Reinhardt, Michael & Brittany Temme, Carl & Darlene Lilienkamp, and Rick & Joy Smith

LAST WEEK our offerings were \$4,644.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS: The Wednesday morning Bible class will continue to meet through the summer from 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Pastor Buchhorn will begin a new study on the book of Proverbs this week. Proverbs is a book of practical wisdom from God concerning life. New faces are always welcome. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge" (1:7). Proverbs promises that you will not face life alone or without good counsel. When you face the practical dilemmas of life, the Lord is with you to establish your steps.

ADULT BIBLE CLASS: Pastor Buchhorn is leading a summer study on the book of First Corinthians. An introduction to the book states, "The experiences of the Corinthians are increasingly those of present-day Christians...in so called Christian lands slipping deeper into pagan ways. The impact of the world's morals and mores on church people is evident today, with political factions growing, marriages failing, sexual morality sinking, and church disorders increasing. The Christian today faces many of the moral dilemmas reflected in this epistle." The class meets at 9:15 in the church basement.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASS OPENING: Beginning June 6 we will resume with a joint opening activity for Sunday School and Bible Class attendees. At 9:15 a.m. growing disciples of all ages will gather for a snack, brief topic and song before heading off to class. Plan to be a part of it!

CLOSER TO NORMAL: We are thankful today to be able to resume a few more of the things which were temporarily discontinued due to the pandemic. Thank you to those who have volunteered to serve as Greeters and Lay Readers. If you would like to help in one of these areas of service, please indicate it on your attendance registration form.

VISIONARY PARENTING BIBLE CLASS WITH PASTOR ERIK: Parents are you looking at getting into God's word with your children. Are you not sure how to even begin doing something like that? Wanting to strengthen habits that you are already doing. Well then, we hope you will join Pastor Erik during the Sunday School Hour from 9:15 to 10:15AM! We will cover great topics like God's grand vision for the home, a God-filled normal life, Biblical fatherhood and motherhood, family worship, multi-generational faithfulness, a safe home, and disciplines that disciple. What you will hear and learn is that God has brought your family together for a grand purpose! Our study called *Visionary Parenting* will help you discover and lean into this awesome opportunity. Through studying God's Word in this Visionary Parenting series, you will be inspired to catch a fresh vision of God's purpose for your family. While also being inspired to build faith and character in the hearts of your kids.

GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE: LifeServe Blood Bank will be at Grace on Tuesday, June 8th, from 1:30 to 6:30 pm. Call 800-287-4903 to schedule an appointment. Appointments are required.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Today, we will study “Abomination Nation.” God reveals the future of Israel to the prophet Ezekiel. Because of Israel’s abominable behavior, the presence of the Lord departs the temple with cherubim and spinning wheels. Yet God promises to cleanse and restore His people: they will once again dwell in the land God promised, and He will put His Spirit within them. For those who cannot attend in person, visit <http://bit.ly/onlinesundayschool> to access an online video overview for Lesson 11 and additional family materials.

SUNDAY SCHOOL MESSAGE: As I look forward to the next several months, I would like to say how grateful I am to have been able to be a part of this congregation. On my journey toward becoming a Director of Christian Education, I often point back to my journey through teaching Sunday School at Grace Lutheran Church. With that, it has been an amazing gift to have been able to teach, and learn, as part of this Sunday School program, and I have been extremely privileged to have been able to work with some many amazing students, teachers, parents/guardians, and congregation members in my time as a teacher in this congregation. For anyone considering the possibility of serving in this congregation, I cannot advocate for teaching as part of the educational ministries at Grace Lutheran Church enough, and I cannot wait to hear about the amazing things that God has in store for this congregation, in the future. Sincerely, Derek Jareske.

CARE PACKAGE DONATIONS FOR LOCAL NURSING HOMES: Please consider donating some items as Grace Lutheran Church prepares to make a special care package for our community as our outreach portion of Vacation Bible School. Donations may be brought to church office for the attention of Pastor Erik now through June 17th at the end of VBS. Your participation means so much to so many! Suggested items include but are not limited too... Crossword puzzles and pens, Sudoku puzzles, Adult coloring books, Colored pencils or markers, A cross-stitch pattern, Jigsaw Puzzles, Books or magazines, Candy or snacks, Lap Blanket or Throw, Fuzzy socks or slippers, Music CD of Christian Hymns, Handwritten card expressing your care and concern, Something handmade, Lotion, Hand Sanitizer, and other Toiletries. Thank you again for all of the love and care you are showing your neighbors!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JUNE 13TH THRU 17TH 5:15PM TO 8PM: Is there just one God? . . . Who is God? . . . What is God like? . . . Does God love me? . . . Can I know God? Our kids grapple with questions like these every day. At Mystery Island VBS, we’ll uncover the truth about our Creator God and how His love applies to their lives. Grab your sunscreen and get ready for a taste of paradise as you track down the one true God at Mystery Island! Our Daily Schedule will include: Dinner starting at 5:15PM followed by a large group opening 5:50PM, small group

rotations through lessons, games, and crafts, and large group closing at 8:00PM. We will see you soon for a swash buckling, rip roaring, high sea sailing tale of an Island Adventure!!!

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS: June 12th – Open to everyone and anyone who wants to join Pastor Erik for the Cross Festival in Norfolk, NE. You are asked to meet him at church by 12:30p.m. that afternoon. We will carpool over to Norfolk to see bands like KJ-52, Remedy Drive, Rhett Walker, and The Afters! We will get back into town by Midnight after the Fireworks. Parents are asked to come with and as this is a free concert people are asked to bring money for the free will donation and any food or souvenirs you want to bring home. For more information check out their website at... <https://christiancrossfestival.org/>

June 17th – Open to all 7th Graders thru High School Seniors. We are having a lock in at church following our wrap up of VBS. Bring sleeping bags, blow up air mattresses, pillows, and anything else you will need to sleep. We will do a lot of things that night though like take down VBS posters, #BingeJesus with the new TV show called The Chosen, Play board games, and more. Everyone should eat dinner before coming to church but save room for delicious snacks at our movie! See you there by 7:00p.m.

JUNE 17TH SOUL SURFER NYG FUNDRAISER: Ready for some fun in the sun? How about some fun under the stars? Well then, come join us at Grace Lutheran Church on June 17th immediately following the close to Vacation Bible School at 8:00pm. Our Youth Group will be shooting off a volcano, watching a fun video of our children throughout the VBS week and watching Soul Surfer as a National Youth Gathering Fundraiser! Invite your friends, bring your families, come with blowup furniture or lawn chairs, and join us for a great night! Concessions will be sold, and all money goes to helping our Youth make it to Houston, Texas during July 9th-13th, 2022! There are still a few NYG envelopes available too if you would like to donate money via that opportunity. Look for them on the wall leading into the Church fellowship hall to see what is still available.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED: We want to take our current roster of Sunday School teachers for all that they have done for us and our church families this past year! I hope you agree with me that our team was fantastic, and we have truly appreciated all of the time, effort, and love that you put into your service! With that said, a few of our teachers are stepping away this year after many years of leading and we need to fill a couple of spots. If you have a heart for our kids and want to help them grow in their faith as they study God's word, please contact Pastor Erik today! We are especially in need of a teacher who can work in the 1st and 2nd Grade class alongside Michelle Ekberg, and one teacher who can work in the 5th and 6th Grade class alongside Desiree Kneifl. If you are able to, we would love to have you included in our group by June 26th when we do our Teacher Retreat which will be held here at church, and which will help equip you for the work ahead. Thank you again for considering this amazing opportunity!

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING FUNDRAISING FUNDS: As of June 2nd, 2022 our Youth Group has raised \$8607.53 out of the estimated budget of \$15000. Pastor Erik has challenged the group to keep up the great work by offering to shave his beard, and head of hair if they raise an additional \$1000 this summer, and he will kiss a pig if they raise \$3000 before August 15th at our Sunday School Kick-off also known as Rally Day! Watch for our other fundraisers throughout this summer. Thank you for always supporting our youth. Let's keep having fun!

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

PASTORS: Pastor Michael Buchhorn, Senior Pastor

Pastor's phone: 402.833.1071 Email: pastorbuchhorn@gmail.com

Pastor Erik Christensen, Associate Pastor

Pastor's phone: 979.204.0752 Email: pastorerik@gracewayne.com

Pastor Emeritus: Pastor Carl Lilienkamp

ELDER ON DUTY: Doug Heithold (8:00) Scott Hansen (10:30)

ACOLYTES: Cole Zach & Maddux Heithold (8:00)

Lanee Rethwisch & Dylan Jensen (10:30)

LAY READER: James Simpson (8:00) Galen Wiser (10:30)

GREETERS: Galen & Kathy Wiser (10:30)

FISHERS OF KIDS PRESCHOOL: Teacher – Keila Olson – 402.584.2257

Director – Sara Ruwe – 402.369.2661

LUTHERAN HOUR SPONSOR: Grace Ladies Aid in honor of Pastor Erik's 5th Ordination anniversary.

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

TODAY	8:00 am.	Worship
	9:15 am.	Bible Study & Sunday School
	10:30 am.	Worship
MONDAY	7:30 pm.	Elders
TUESDAY	1:30 pm.	Blood Bank
WEDNESDAY	9:00 am.	Bible Study
	2:00 pm.	Ladies Aid
SATURDAY	4:00 pm.	Family Communion
NEXT SUNDAY	8:00 am.	Worship/Communion
	9:15 am.	Bible Study & Sunday School
	10:30 am.	Worship/Communion
	5:15 pm.	VBS