



Grace Lutheran Church

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25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 19, 2023

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. *Offerings are received at the door as you enter or leave. Please take a moment to complete an attendance registration slip found in the pew rack and return it to the offering plates also.*

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 Day of the Lord is “*near and hastening fast,*” and it will be “*a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation*” (Zeph. 1:14, 15). The Lord will search out and punish “*the men who are complacent*” concerning His Word, “*who fill their master’s house with violence and fraud*” (Zeph. 1:9, 12). Then all their works and efforts will be for nothing: “*Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them*” (Zeph. 1:13). But those who fear, love and trust in the Lord are “*good and faithful*” stewards of His property (Matt. 25:21). They live by faith in His free gift of forgiveness, and they multiply His goods in the loving forgiveness of their neighbor, and “*the master of those servants*” settles His accounts with them by the gracious reckoning of His Gospel (Matt. 25:19). Likewise, “*God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ*” (1 Thess. 5:9). Therefore, let us also “*put on the breastplate of faith and love*” in our dealings with one another (1 Thess. 5:8).

Order of Worship
Service of Prayer and Preaching *LSB260*

Preservice Music

Welcome and Greeting Time

Ringling of the Bell

♪ Opening Hymn: “Now Thank We All Our God”

LSB 895

- 1** Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voices, Who wondrous things has done, In whom His world rejoices; Who from our mothers’ arms Has blest us on our way With countless gifts of love And still is ours today.
- 2** Oh, may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us, With ever joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us And keep us in His grace And guide us when perplexed And free us from all ills In this world and the next!

Stand



- 3** All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given, The Son, and Him who reigns With them in highest heaven, The one eternal God, Whom earth and heav’n adore; For thus it was, is now, And shall be evermore.

Text: Martin Rinckart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text: Public domain

LSB 260

Opening Versicles

- P** This is the day which the Lord has made;
C let us rejoice and be glad in it.
P From the rising of the sun to its setting,
C the name of the Lord is to be praised.
P Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;
C I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.
P Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.
C Teach me Your paths.
P Sanctify us in Your truth.
C Your Word is truth.
P From the rising of the sun to its setting,
C the name of the Lord is to be praised.
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.

♫ Old Testament Canticle: “All You Works of God”

LSB 930 v. 1 & 6

**1 All you works of God, bless the Lord! All you angels, now bless the Lord;
Come, you heavens and pow’rs that be, Praise the Lord and His majesty:**

Refrain

**ref Raise your voices high, praise and magnify, All you works of God, bless the
Lord! Raise your voices high, praise and magnify, All you works of God, bless
the Lord!**

**△6 Bless the Lord, all you pure of heart; All you humble, His praise impart; God
the Father and Son adore, Bless the Spirit forevermore! Refrain**

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Sit

Readings From Holy Scripture

Old Testament Reading

Zephaniah 1:7–16

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is near; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests. ⁸And on the day of the LORD’s sacrifice— “I will punish the officials and the king’s sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire. ⁹On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master’s house with violence and fraud. ¹⁰“On that day,” declares the LORD, “a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills. ¹¹Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. ¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, ‘The LORD will not do good, nor will he do ill.’ ¹³Their goods shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.” ¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. ¹⁵A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, ¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

[P] This is the Word of the Lord.

[C] Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything

written to you. ²For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³While people are saying, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Reading

Matthew 25:14–30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁴[Jesus said:] “For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. ¹⁷So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. ¹⁸But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.’ ²¹His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ ²²And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.’ ²³His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ ²⁴He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ ²⁶But his master answered him, ‘You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather

where I scattered no seed? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. ²⁹For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

Sit

Children's Message

♪Sermon Hymn: “We Give Thee But Thine Own”

LSB 781

- 1 We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
- 2 May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!
- 3 Oh, hearts are bruised and dead, And homes are bare and cold,
And lambs for whom the Shepherd bled Are straying from the fold.
- 4 To comfort and to bless, To find a balm for woe,
To tend the lone and fatherless Is angels' work below.
- 5 The captive to release, To God the lost to bring,
To teach the way of life and peace, It is a Christ-like thing.

**6 And we believe Thy Word, Though dim our faith may be:
Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord, We do it unto Thee.**

Text: William W. How, 1823–97 Text: Public domain

Sermon “A Trust From The Master”

Pastor Buchhorn

Stand

Prayer

P In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For . . . *[additional bids for prayer may be inserted here]* . . . let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

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.**

Collect of the Day

P Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Morning Prayer

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.

Benedicamus and Benediction

LSB 267

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

C Amen.

♪Closing Hymn: “Saints, See the Cloud of Witnesses”

*LSB 667 v. 1, 4, 5 6
to tune Iste Confesso 659r*

- 1** Saints, see the cloud of witnesses surround us;
Their lives of faith encourage and astound us.
Hear how the Master praised their faith so fervent: “Well done, My servant!”
- 4** Come, let us fix our sight on Christ who suffered,
He faced the cross, His sinless life He offered;
He scorned the shame, He died, our death enduring, Our hope securing.

**5 Lord, give us faith to walk where You are sending,
On paths unmarked, eyes blind as to their ending;
Not knowing where we go, but that You lead us— With grace precede us.**

**6 You, Jesus, You alone deserve all glory!
Our lives unfold, embraced within Your story;
Past, present, future—You, the same forever— You fail us never!**

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NEWS AND NOTES

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

BIRTHDAYS: Rebecca Anderson, Kyle Brogren, Taylor Nelson, Ryan Allemann, Brenda Pippitt, Mary Temme, Tanner Heithold, Derek Carroll, Charlotte Diediker, Aubree Hansen, Samantha Niemann, Kerry Tanfield & Keith Woodward

ANNIVERSARIES: Pastor & Kathryn Buchhorn and Levi & Andrea Trautman

NURSERY: A nursery room has been created to help parents with young children. The nursery is located in the first room west of the upstairs fellowship hall. Please feel welcome to use the room to quiet your child.

PARENTS OF LITTLE CHILDREN: Books which your children may enjoy are available in book bags located near the doors at the east end of the sanctuary. Please return the books after the worship service. Thank you.

LAST WEEK'S OFFERINGS WERE \$8,688.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS: Today we will resume our overview of the book of Acts. Join us for this chapter-by-chapter tour through the story of the church's growth and expansion. The class meets in the basement at 9:15 a.m.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: There will be no Wednesday morning Bible class this week due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP: We will observe our national day of thanksgiving with a special Thanksgiving Eve worship service on Wednesday at 6:15 p.m. May we remember not only what we are thankful for but who we are to be thankful to.

ANNUAL VOTERS' MEETING: A reminder that our annual voters' meeting will be held today, Sunday, November 19, beginning at noon. The agenda for the meeting was mailed out to all member households in mid-October and is posted in the fellowship hall. A light meal will be served following the 10:30 a.m. service so join us for worship and then stay for the meal and the meeting. All communicant members 18 years of age and older are eligible to vote and encouraged to attend.

LUTHERAN HOUR: Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dean Nadasdy
Will those who do good things be saved? Or, will those who are saved...do good things? Dr. Dean Nadasdy says those who love Christ also love showing mercy to others. Hear the "Lutheran Hour" message on KTCH AM next Sunday at 7:30 am.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: "The Passover Promise" is this week's lesson about God's establishment of the Passover. God, through Moses, threatens one final plague—worse than any previously experienced. Following God's instructions, the Israelites make careful preparations for the Passover, marking their doorposts with the blood of a lamb prepared for the feast. The final plague takes place at midnight as all the firstborn throughout Egypt die. The Egyptians hand over their valuables, hastening the Israelites away.

SUNDAY SUPPERS AT CUP OF GRACE: Each Sunday evening a free meal for WSC or other students is being planned for Cup of Grace at 7:30 p.m. Please come and join us for this casual meal in a friendly, faith-affirming environment. We look forward to seeing you there.

MEN OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH: Don't forget the Men's Study Group at Cup of Grace, December 2nd at 7:30 AM. It is early in the month, so mark your calendars. Enjoy coffee, breakfast, conversation, prayer and study. You will be on the road by 8:30 AM.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: Our annual Sunday School Children's Christmas Eve program will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, December 24. Practices begin on November 26 following the late worship service. If you have not already done so, please let your child's Sunday School Teacher or the Church office know if your child will be participating in the program so that speaking parts can be assigned.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE: During November the Altar Guild will be assembling a display in the sanctuary for donating non-perishable food items for the Wayne Food Pantry. Any healthy, filling, non-perishable foods are welcome. There is also a need for diapers and other paper goods and health/beauty aids. Here is a list of possible items: boxed meals (Hamburger Helper), canned meat (tuna, chicken), peanut butter, jelly, macaroni & cheese, pasta & sauce, canned fruit, canned soup, canned vegetables, cereals & oatmeal, flour & sugar, diapers (all sizes), toiletries (soap, shampoo, toothpaste), paper products (toilet paper, paper towels.)

HOLIDAY HAM SALES have been a tradition in our church around the holidays. Sales will begin today, Sunday, November 19th with a delivery date of Wednesday, December 13th. The 8-10 pound fully cooked spiral cut ham will be \$35 each. We are excited for another year of selling and thank you for your support of our Youth Group (7th-12th Grade). More details to come.

SUPPORT LIFE: The WSC prolife club Wild For Life has asked for the help of local churches in their Baby Bottle Boomerang fundraiser. You are invited to take a baby bottle (available at the entrances) and through the month of November fill it with loose change or cash and then return it to the church by December 3. All money collected will be used to buy diapers, formula, and onesies for Haven House in Wayne and Mary's Choice Pregnancy Center in Sioux City.

DON'T SPEND THANKSGIVING ALONE: Once again Dan & Bonnie Hansen will be preparing a delicious Thanksgiving feast. Call the church office to sign up. All are welcome.

LUTHERAN HOUR SPONSORS ARE NEEDED: It's not too early to reserve your special date to sponsor the Lutheran Hour in 2024. We also have a couple open dates for 2023. Call the church office to reserve a date. The cost is \$20.

CHRISTMAS CHRISMONS: Please leave your finished ornaments in the church office by December 1st. If you need more supplies, contact Karen Schardt @402-369-3422.

YOUTH GROUP (7th-12th Grades) - SAVE THE DATE for our Christmas Celebration on Saturday, December 2nd @ 5:30pm.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

PASTORS: Pastor Michael Buchhorn, Senior Pastor

Pastor's phone: 402.385.4148 Email: pastorbuchhorn@gmail.com

Pastor Emeritus: Pastor Carl Lilienkamp

ELDER ON DUTY: Mike Heithold (8:00) Jared Heithold (10:30)

ACOLYTES: Sadie Fredrickson & Lucille Ocampo (8:00)

Grant Reeg & Chase Rethwisch (10:30)

READERS: Kathy Johnson (8:00) Galen Wiser (10:30)

GREETERS: Lowell & Kathy Johnson (8:00) Galen & Kathy Wiser (10:30)

FISHERS OF KIDS PRESCHOOL: Teacher – Keila Olson – 402.584.2257

Director – Rhonda Sebade – 402.369.2170

LUTHERAN HOUR SPONSOR: Keith & Karen Knudsen

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| TODAY | 8:00 am. | Worship |
| | 9:15 am. | Sunday School & Bible Class |
| | 10:30 am. | Worship |
| | 12:00 pm. | Voters' |
| | 7:30 pm. | Sunday Supper |
| MONDAY | 6:00 pm. | Teachers' Meeting |
| TUESDAY | 10:30 am. | Preschool Thanksgiving Program |
| WEDNESDAY | 6:15 pm. | Thanksgiving Eve Worship |
| SATURDAY | 4:00 pm. | Family Communion |
| NEXT SUNDAY | 8:00 am. | Worship/Communion |
| | 9:15 am. | Sunday School and Bible Class |
| | 10:30 am. | Worship/Communion |
| | 11:30 am. | Sunday School Program Practice |
| | 7:30 pm. | Sunday Night Supper |

POINSETTIAS

If you are interested in adorning the chancel for Advent and Christmas with a poinsettia, please complete the following and return it with payment to the church office or place in the offering plate no later than December 3rd.

Name of Donor: _____

In memory of _____

Or

In honor of _____

The cost is \$7.50 per poinsettia. Please make checks payable to "Grace Lutheran Altar Guild."

***You may pick up your plant after the Christmas Day Service.
(Poinsettias not picked up will be disposed of.)***



Thank you!

