



*Fourteenth Sunday  
After Pentecost*

*Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
September 3, 2023*

*"Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we are a vibrant  
congregation that shares the love of Christ with each other,  
the community, and the world."*

## **Service of Holy Communion**

*(Based on Bread of Life, Setting V—With One Voice)*

**Congregational responses are in bold print**

*We welcome all our visitors, members, friends and family to this morning's celebration of the Word and Sacrament. We gather each week to worship, study and share fellowship so we can joyfully serve others. We especially welcome those new to our worship. If you are looking for a church home, we would love to tell you more about Grace! Please fill in a visitor card and place it in the offering plate.*

*We ask that all who commune fill in a communion card.*

*We have Gluten Free Communion Wafers available.*

*Please inform Communion Assistant of your need.*

*Restrooms: Located to your left as you face the rear of the church.*

*During worship, you'll notice parts of the service in regular type, which are spoken/prayed by various worship leaders. Then there are the parts you and the rest of the congregation respond and/or pray in bold type. All of us are participants as we worship God! When asked to stand, please do so as you are able.*

*As Jesus welcomed all in the crowds who gathered around him, so he welcomes us.*

**Gathering**

**Gloria Patri**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen. Amen.**

**Welcome and Announcements**



*We stand.*

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the ✙ Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
who loves us into being,  
calls us to community,  
and inspires us to love.

**Amen.**



Confronted by the law and called to life in the gospel,  
let us confess our sin before God and one another.

God of love and community,

**We confess that we have not loved as God has loved us.**

**We look to ourselves to fulfill your law.**

**We seek to satisfy our own desires.**

**We turn away from our neighbors  
and live for ourselves alone.**

**Teach us again in your statutes  
and help us to love your will,  
that in and through us  
your beloved community is made known.**

**Amen.**

Beloved of God,  
love is the fulfillment of the law,  
and in ✙ Jesus, God's love for you is made known.

Through Jesus your sins are forgiven,  
and you are drawn into God's love and life.

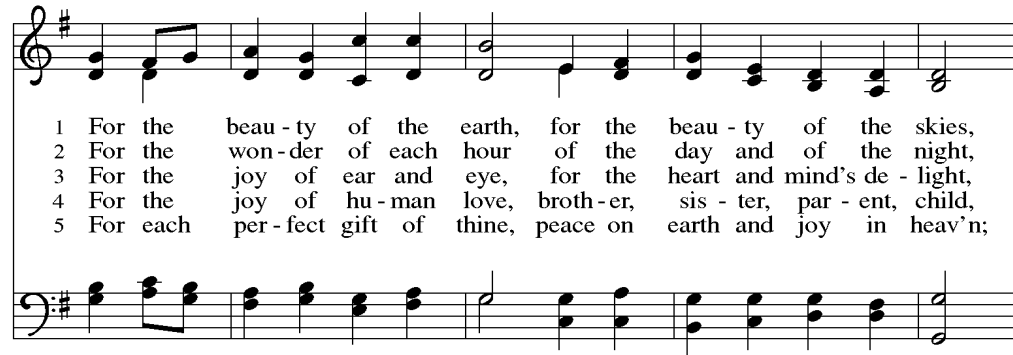
Live fully, knowing that God loves you.

**Amen.**

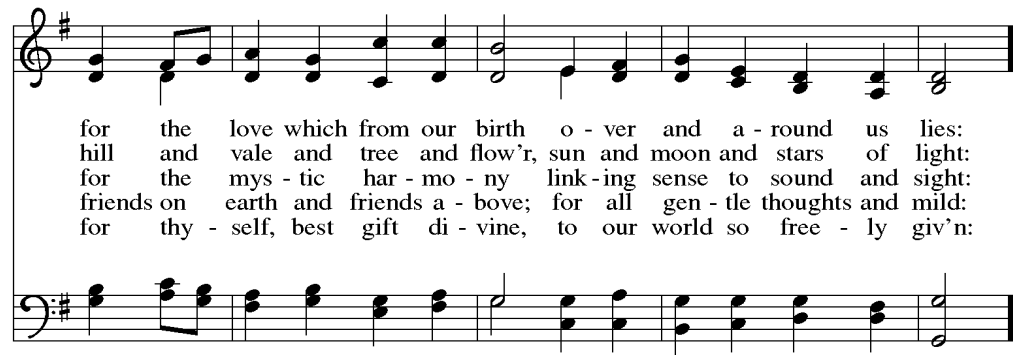
**Gathering Hymn:** *"For the Beauty of the Earth"*

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## For the Beauty of the Earth

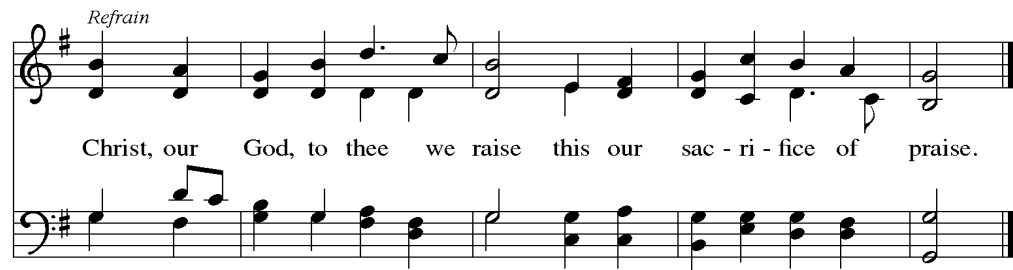


1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,  
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,  
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,  
5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:  
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:  
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:  
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:  
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

*Refrain*



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Text: Follitt S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt.  
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

Prelude

Greeting

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

**And also with you.**

Kyrie



**A** Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:    **G** Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*



**A** Chri - ste e - le - i - son:    **G** Christ, have mer - cy.  
*Christ, . . . . have mer - cy:*



**A** Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:    **G** Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*

**Kyrie**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*The Hymn of Praise or another appropriate hymn may be sung.*



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



① Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



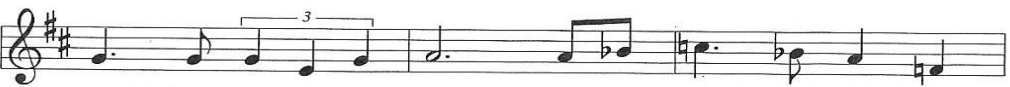
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



② Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



**C** Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



**I** For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
**II**



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.



**C** Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

Holy One, you stretch wide your tent that all may be welcomed in, and in Jesus you stretched out your hands in expansive love for a weary and wounded world. Help us to reach out with your own wounded hands of love, that through us your life may be known in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*We sit.*

**Word**

## **First Reading: Exodus 3:1-15**

A reading from Exodus:

<sup>1</sup>Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. <sup>2</sup>There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. <sup>3</sup>Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." <sup>4</sup>When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." <sup>5</sup>Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." <sup>6</sup>He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

*Continued*



<sup>7</sup>Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, <sup>8</sup>and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. <sup>9</sup>The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. <sup>10</sup>So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." <sup>11</sup>But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" <sup>12</sup>He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

<sup>13</sup>But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" <sup>14</sup>God said to Moses, " I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ' I AM has sent me to you.'" <sup>15</sup>God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,  
and this my title for all generations.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: Psalm 90:13-17**

*We read responsively.*

- <sup>13</sup>Turn, O LORD! How long?  
Have compassion on your servants!
- <sup>14</sup>**Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,  
so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.**
- <sup>15</sup>Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us,  
and as many years as we have seen evil.
- <sup>16</sup>**Let your work be manifest to your servants,  
and your glorious power to their children.**
- <sup>17</sup>Let the favor of the LORD our God be upon us,  
and prosper for us the work of our hands —  
**O prosper the work of our hands!**



## **Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21**

A reading from Romans:

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup>No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*We stand.*

## **Gospel Acclamation**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28**

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew:

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

<sup>27</sup>For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*We sit.*

**Children's Message**

**Pastor Pingel**

**Sermon**

**Pastor Pingel**

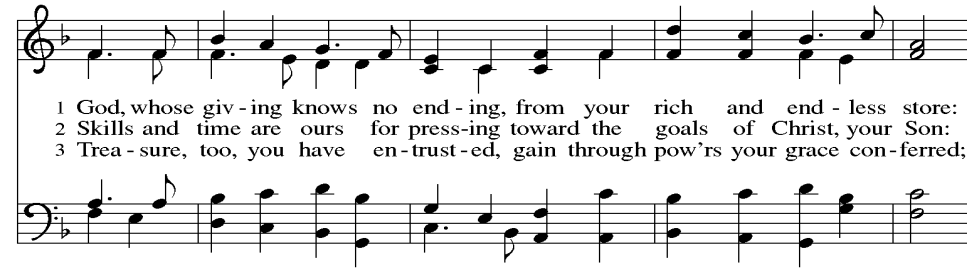
*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

*We stand.*

**Hymn of the Day:** "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

**#678, Page 12**

## God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending




1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and end - less store:  
2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:  
3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through pow'rs your grace con - ferred;



na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly cross, grave's shat - tered door,  
all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es joined, the church made one.  
ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to spread the gos - pel word.



gift - ed by you, we turn to you, of - f'ring up our - selves in praise;  
Now di - rect our dai - ly la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone;  
O - pen wide our hands in shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call,



thank - ful song shall rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.  
born with tal - ents, make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.  
heal - ing, teach - ing, and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1915-2006  
Music: RUSTINGTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848-1918  
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### Apostles' Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of  
the Father,  
and he will come to judge the  
living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic  
church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### Apostle's Creed in Swahili

**Ninamwamini Mungu, Baba Mwenyezi,  
Muumba wa mbingu na dunia;**

**Na Yesu Kristo, Mwana wake wa pekee,  
Bwana wetu, aliyetwaa mwili kwa tendo  
la Roho Mutakatifu, akazaliwa na Bikira  
Maria. Akateswa zamani za Pontio  
Pilato, akasulibiwa, akafa, akazikwa,  
akashuka kuzimuni mwa wafu,  
akafufuka katika wafu siku ya tatu,  
akapanda mbinguni, anakaa kwa  
mukono wa kuume wa Mungu,  
Baba Mwenyezi, ndipo atakuja tena  
kuhukumu wazima na wafu.**

**Ninamwamini Roho Mutakatifu, Kanisa  
kikristo takatifu, ushirika wa watakatifu,  
ondoleo la zambi, ufufuko wa mwili, na  
uzima wa milele. Amina.**

The  
Apostles'  
+ Creed +

### Prayers of Intercession

Gathered into God's embrace, let us lift our voices on behalf of a weary and wounded world.

*A brief silence.*

*Each portion of the prayers end with these or similar words.*

God, we pray,  
**open our hands in love**

Into your wounded hands of love, O God, we place all our prayers, trusting in your mercy through the Crucified and Risen One Jesus.

**Amen.**

### Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*We sit.*



**Meal**

### Offertory

*We offer our thanks to God for "ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of God's gracious love" by our offerings. The offering plates will be passed by the ushers from the center aisle.*

*(Please place visitor cards and communion cards in the offering plate.)*

*We stand.*

### Offertory Song



**Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were  
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we  
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,  
Lord, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.**

### Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

**Holy God, giver of all good things,  
receive the gifts we bring,  
fruit of the earth and the work of human hands,  
that they may be used to your purposes  
for life and love in the world.  
Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.  
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.



## Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



### **Thanksgiving at the Table**

Honor, praise, glory and thanksgiving  
to you, God, our loving Creator.

In the beginning you reached your hands into the earth  
and formed humanity in your own image.  
You breathed into us your own breath of love  
and gave us hearts and hands and voices  
to live your loving purpose in the world.

Throughout the history of your people, you never abandoned us,  
but brought us into community with one another and with you,  
and guided us through your prophets.  
With endless patience and love,  
you called to us time and again to return to life with you.

In the fulfillment of all things, you came to us in Jesus,  
born into a human family, raised in a hometown,  
who gathered around himself a community formed by your love,  
and yearned to gather all people as under the loving wings of a mother hen.

Sitting at dinner with friends  
and knowing one among them would break the bonds of love,  
our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks;  
broke it; and gave it to his disciples saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Trusting in his promise to be among us whenever we gather in his name,  
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*Continued*

Gathered as your people,  
meeting in Jesus' name,  
and preparing ourselves to feast upon Jesus' very body and blood,  
we plead with all creation:

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send your Spirit upon this meal,  
the body and blood of Jesus,  
that we overflow with your selfless love.  
Turn us to face our neighbors,  
that by us and through us your love may be known in the world.  
Again, we beg:

**Come, Holy Spirit**

All honor and praise and glory to you,  
God of creative, dirty hands,  
God of holy, wounded hands,  
God who strengthens and guides our hands,  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

### Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray  
as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

### Baba Yetu

Baba Yetu uliye mbinguni, jina lako litukuzwe;  
ufalme wako ufike,  
utakalo lifanyike  
duniani kama mbinguni.  
Utupe leo mkate wetu wa kila siku,  
utusamehe makosa yetu,  
kama nasi tunavyowasamehe waliotukosea.  
Usitutie katika kishawishi,  
lakini utuopoe maovuni.  
Amina.

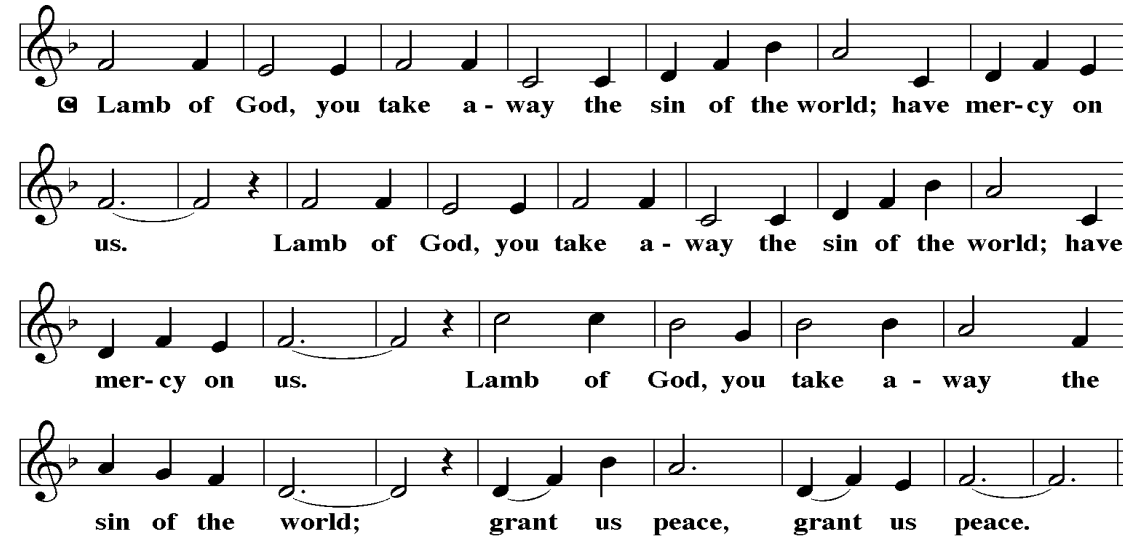
### Invitation to Communion

All people are called to Christ's table.

Come, eat what is good.

**Thanks be to God.**

*We sit.*



☞ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

### The Holy Communion

***OUR LORD BIDS YOU WELCOME TO THIS HOLY MEAL! At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. Here we receive Christ's body and blood and God's gifts of forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation to be received by faith for the strengthening of faith. In this sacrament the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. This real presence is a mystery. Admission to the sacrament is by invitation of the Lord — regardless of Church denomination — to those who are baptized. (Taken from the ELCA statement on worship. The Use and Means of Grace ©1997)***

***Ushers will invite you to come down the center aisle. Receive the bread from the pastor or assisting minister, then turn to the side you have sat on, and receive the wine/grape juice from the communion assistant at the altar rail. Place your empty cup in the trays at the end of the railing, and return to your pew via the side aisle.***

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**Amen.**

*We stand.*

**The Communion Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

**Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray.

**Holy Jesus, in this meal you have fed and nourished us to work in your beloved world.  
Send us now, filled with yourself and strengthened by your Spirit to live your love for  
others.  
Amen.**

**Sending**

*Communion ministers may be sent to take the sacrament from this gathering to those who are absent.*

Gracious God, you took the form of a servant, offering yourself as food, comfort, and strength to a sick and hurting world. Anoint with a servant heart those who take your word and Sacrament to our sisters and brothers. Grant grace, mercy, healing, and hope to those who feast on your body and blood and receive your words of new life. May we all recognize that we have a place and a home in the body of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**



## **Celebration of Vocation and Blessing of Hands for Ministry**

We are called to proclaim the good news:

### **God is at work!**

This good news is not left in some history long ago or a place far away:

### **God is at work in the world still today!**

In us and through us, God is glorified in our work.

When we offer a helping hand, God is praised.

When we share of our abundance, God is known in the world.

### **God is at work in us!**

In our service today, and in our daily lives,

let us live out what God has called us to in baptism.

### **God is at work through our hands!**

## **Blessing**

God who sets forth the law of love,  
Jesus who fulfills the law for you,  
and the Spirit through whom you are called to love,  
✝ bless you this day,  
that you may be God's hands and heart and voice  
at work in the world.

**Amen.**



**Sending Song:** *"God's Work, Our Hands"*

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## **Dismissal**

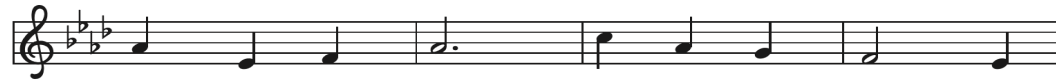
Go in peace. You are God's hands at work in the world!

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Postlude**

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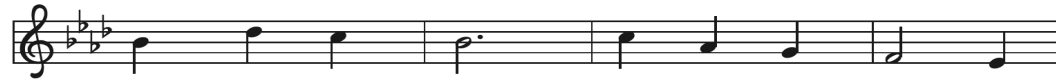
## God's Work, Our Hands



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,  
 2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,  
 3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,  
 4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,  
 fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,  
 prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,  
 seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,  
 walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,  
 pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,  
 Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.  
 run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.  
 claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.  
 gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



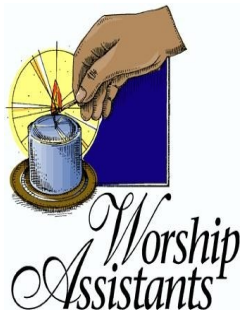
Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,  
 Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,  
 Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,  
 Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.  
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.  
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.  
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954  
 Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922–1987  
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**Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today**

<b>Altar Flowers:</b>	<i>Bob and Carolyn Barrette</i>
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	
<b>Assisting Minister:</b>	<i>Donna Gum</i>
<b>Communion Assistant:</b>	<i>Ron Almarode</i> <i>Susan Myers</i>
<b>Council Person of the Week:</b>	<i>Jerry Kite</i>
<b>Offering Steward:</b>	<i>Pat Brady</i> <i>Jean Morgan</i>
<b>Ushers:</b>	<i>Ron Almarode</i> <i>Lee Lynch</i>

**Next Sunday's Schedule and Lessons**

**September 10, 2023**

***Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost***

Holy Communion  
10:00 a.m.


**Pastor Paul Pingel**  
Presiding and Preaching

***Ezekiel 33:7-11***  
***Psalms 119:33-40***  
***Romans 13:8-14***  
***Matthew 18:15-20***



Altar Flowers

*Chancel flowers this morning  
are given in gratitude for  
God's blessings.*



**Prayer List**

*Please print your new prayer concerns before worship on the sheet in the white notebook located in the back of our Worship area. Please ask ushers if you need assistance. **Names on the prayer list will remain on for four weeks**, in an effort to make the prayer list current to the life of Grace congregation and the community and world around us. If the need is longer term, please notify the church office, and the person in need will be transferred to the "Ongoing Need for Prayer" list.*

**Prayer Request for Members (Remain on List for four (4) weeks)**

Sylvia Almarode  
Lisa Gray

Genevieve Arneson

Robin Crowder  
Janet Parmer

**Prayer Request for Relatives/Friends (Remain on List for four (4) weeks)**

Sherry Aldinger, Friend of the Radeckes  
Dean Donnelley, Friend of the Almarodes  
Sheldon Waggy, Brother of Carolyn Hite  
Chuck Wood, Friend of Sylvia Almarode

**Joys and Celebrations (Remain on List for 4 weeks\*)**

Kirsten Schwiesow's, Daughter of David and Nancy, continued healing  
and positive medical results  
Brad and Wilda Keefer's 65th wedding anniversary

**Ongoing Need for Prayer for Members (Remain on List for three (3) months)**

Emily Almarode  
Phyllis Kite

Marge Cloutier  
Glenn Myers

Sandy Johnson  
Tom and Carol Varner

*Continued*



**Ongoing Need for Prayer for Relatives/Friends (Remain on List for three (3) months)**

**Gary Barrette**, Brother of Bob Barrette  
**Rebekah Bircher**, Friend of Betty Karol Wilson  
**Caitlin Binda Bomar**, Friend of Many in Our Community  
**Natalie Dodge and Family** (2 year old cancer patient), Friend of the Almarodes and Warrens  
**Dick Longworth**, Friend of the Trauschts  
**Jennifer McDonald**, Friend of the Radeckes  
**Taunya McDonald**, Friend from Christ Tabernacle  
**Phoenix Oberg**, Friend of Sarah Kite  
**James Pingel**, Brother of Pastor Pingel

**Members/Friends Grieving (Remain on List for four (4) weeks\*)**

**Family of Mike Freed**, Cousin of Marsha Howard, Friend of Almarodes  
**Family of Roslyn Holt**, Friend of Gail Johnson  
**Family of Jen Kerney**, Friend of Many at Grace  
**Family of Roy Kramer**, Uncle of Pastor Paul  
**Family of Jim Mays**, Uncle of Mike Myers  
**Family of Mike Moles**, Friend of Linda Tomey

**Prayer of Thanksgiving for Congregation Members Celebrating Birthdays**

**Alex Skelton (9/4)**

**Katie Morrison (9/8)**

**Stephen Van Stee (9/7)**

 IN OUR   
*Thoughts and Prayers*

### The Needs of the World

Extreme weather conditions around the world; severe temperatures, crippling drought, hurricane, and extreme rains elsewhere: Hawaii, California, Florida, Georgia and the Carolinas, Greece, Canada

#### **Many areas of war and tension around the world**

"The poor, the widow, the orphan, the alien:" paying attention to the biblical call for us to walk with others

#### **Those in medical professions - doctors, nurses, surgeons, specialists, CNA's, social workers, and support personnel - maintenance, cleaning staff, kitchen staff**

Teachers, Professors, Administrators, Assistants, and Support Personnel preparing to welcome students at our local schools and colleges; and for our children, grandchildren and young adults starting school either this week or the next few weeks in August and September

### The Church

#### **Grace's Strategic Planning**

Our friends in Christ at Main Street United Methodist Church, following their vote to remain in the United Methodist Church.

**Virginia Synod Bishop-Elect  
Rev. Dr. Phyllis Milton,  
beginning her new term as  
bishop this week.**

### Our Neighbors

**Our Neighbors near the Orchard Creek Area**



**Name Tag September!** - Starting September 3rd, we'll have name tags out in the narthex, and encourage you to wear a nametag! It's a way to put a name to faces we see often, but do not know as well; and it is a way to make welcome those visiting with us. We'll see how it goes and either continue this practice or enjoy the September emphasis!



**God's Work Our Hands Sunday is Today!!** - We will celebrate the ELCA God's Work Our Hands Sunday one week early (instead of 9/10) in order to ask God's blessing on the work Grace and 16 other congregations will be doing on Saturday September 9th at the Rise Against Hunger event! Special hymns and liturgy will be a part of today's worship.



**First Sunday Fellowship is MOVED to September 10th!** Because this is Labor Day weekend, we are moving our First Sunday Fellowship one week later to Next Sunday, September 10th. Our Hospitality Book Study Group will be our host, and will share more about the upcoming Wednesday Community Potluck starting the 13th (see notice elsewhere in the announcements)!



**Baptism—History, Celebration, and Font!** - You are invited to take part in a class on Holy Baptism. We'll look at the history of Baptism, from Jesus' words in the Bible to its importance in the early Church, its practices through the years, all the way to present day! SIGN UP on the sheet in the Fellowship Hall, and we will begin later this month, depending on what day works best for all who sign up!



**Confirmation starts September 10th!** Grace Confirmation Class participants Libby Caister (3rd year), Esme Hilker (1st year), and Reva Sloane Franklin (1st year), will begin Confirmation Class with Pastor Paul in the next few weeks! They'll be studying the Old Testament. Pray for our Confirmands and Pastor as they study and learn together this year! (And pray for Kiera Mahoney who will be confirmed on Reformation Sunday!)



**All God's Children** will resume meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of every month at 7:00 pm on **Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>** and discuss Toni Morrison's only short story, *Recitatif* (including the 2022 Introduction by Zadie Smith). The story concerns two girls, Twyla and Roberta, one is Black and the other White. However, the author never reveals which one is Black and which one is White. The reader must decide, leading to the moral lesson that racial differences are arbitrary and may be constructed according to one's own personal prejudices and biases. We will discuss our assessments at the meeting.

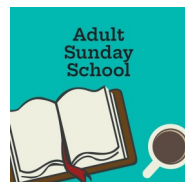
We are always delighted to welcome new members. If you want to be added to the mailing list, please let Rick Bump know (rcbump0621@gmail.com).



**Rise Against Hunger Food Packing Event-** Saturday, September 9, 10:00 a.m. at Kate Collins! Please remember to bring a cap to wear for food packing. Rise Against Hunger will also provide hair nets if needed. Please arrive a little before 10:00 (9:45!) to get registered. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered for this event.



The Church World Service 2023 **CROP Hunger Walk** is Sunday, September 24 at 2:00 pm beginning in Ridgeview Park. Our fundraising goal this year is \$1,000. Online donations can be made to our team, Grace Lutheran Waynesboro at <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/waynesborova>. One quarter of all monies raised locally stays in our area and supports the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank, Disciples Kitchen and VPAS Meals on Wheels. Karen Walck will be in the back of the nave if you would like a collection envelope and to accept donations. Please join our team to walk on September 24. If you have any questions, please call Karen at 765-480-9920.



**Adult Sunday School** will resume on Sunday, September 17, at 8:30 a.m. We will be exploring the gospel according to Mark, looking ahead to the season of Advent, when we enter a new church year and hear from this gospel in worship. Call Pastor Karen Van Stee at 325-0736 for more information. All are welcome!



**News for the young and young at heart** - After a short break for the summer, **Sunday School** for our children, 2<sup>nd</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade, will resume on Sunday September 10, in the Sunday School classroom. We will meet each Sunday after worship from 11:15 a.m. until Noon. The class follows the lectionary so we will have an opportunity each week to expand on the gospel reading through study, games, and crafts.

Steve and Pastor Karen Van Stee will conduct **Acolyte and Crucifer Training** in the near future. There is an interest/sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary for the next few Sundays. These important positions greatly enhance the worship experience and provide a relatively stress-free way to start getting involved with the worship service. This training will be held after Confirmation and Children's Sunday School Sunday, September 17. Lunch will be provided and is open to all who feel called to more **18.** involvement in the church. Call Steve at 540-325-0772 for questions or more information.



**Quilting**—The Grace Quilters will be returning to the regular Tuesday quilting day on September 12. Last year, over 60 quilts were donated, with 54 sent to Lutheran World Relief. Quilting is a delightfully hands-on ministry and the more hands we have, the more quilts we can complete. We invite you to join us on Tuesdays in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m. If you are more comfortable, another way to participate is by providing cotton fabric. A solid color works best and with no stains. If you know a quilter that would like to participate, please contact Gwen Kite at 540 910-0508 or email at [gwenma2002@yahoo.com](mailto:gwenma2002@yahoo.com).



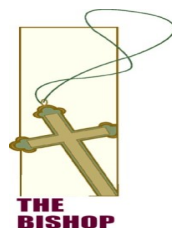
**Community Potluck at Grace starting September 13th at 6:00 p.m.** We are excited to begin weekly Community Potlucks at Grace in September. These meals are meant to be a time of fellowship for Grace members and an opportunity to build relationships with other folks in our community. We will be inviting people in our community that would enjoy a time of fellowship as well as those who struggle to have enough food. Come and eat—bring a dish, bring a friend! Find out more details at the September First Sunday Fellowship (held 9/10) hosted by the Hospitality Book Group.



**Handbell Choir**—anyone interested in joining the handbell choir, please contact Sam Moyers.



**Grace ELC and WARM Cold Weather Shelter (CWS)** - We are beginning to plan our contributions to the Waynesboro Area Refuge Ministry's Cold Weather Shelter. The CWS coordinates with churches in our area to provide food and shelter to our homeless neighbors. Estimates indicate there are over 80 people in our area in need of these services. Grace ELC has been asked to host up to 20 of our homeless neighbors for the week of **December 4 - 11, 2023**. Please pray for this important ministry as we enter the planning stage. More info is coming soon! Peace - Susan Myers and Donna Yobs, CWS Co-Coordinator



**Bishop's Installation in October!** Bishop-Elect Phyllis Milton's Installation and Reception will be in Waynesboro, VA on Saturday, October 21st, at 1:00 p.m; and Grace - as we did with Bishop Humphrey six years ago - will host the reception. Stay tuned for more detailed information as we are moving forward with catering, tents, and set-up.








**Lutheran Disaster Response in Hawaii** - Our Lutheran Disaster Response team responds for the long term, and all reports out of Hawaii expect a year's-long response *need*. Your gifts will be 100% given to the need in Maui. Make checks to Grace with "Maui - U.S. Wildfires" in the memo line.



**Food Pantries - Thanks, and Continuing Need**—Many thanks to those who have donated Peanut Butter, Mac 'n Cheese, Personal Hygiene items, and Dried Rice and Beans to our local food pantries. We have made ***thirty-six*** deliveries thus far, sixteen to Main Street United Methodist, and twenty to Calvary United Methodist, Stuarts Draft, with the donations gratefully received in the midst of great need. **Overall, we have given well over 3,815 pounds of food!** If you can help, please donate to our box set inside the office door for you to drop off.



**Life of Grace Church**  
**September 3–10, 2023**

Day of the	Date	Time	Event
Sunday	09/03	10:00 a.m.	<b>ECLA God's Work, Our Hands Sunday</b> <b>Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost</b> Service of Holy Communion In Person and via You Tube <b>Pastor Paul Pingel</b> , Preaching and Presiding
Monday	09/04		
Tuesday	09/05	9:30 a.m.	<b>Quilting Group (Fellowship Hall)</b>
Wednesday	09/06	10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	 <b>Prayer Group</b> (Chapel)  <b>Yoga</b> (Seminar Room)  <b>Choir Practice</b>
Thursday	09/07	8:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 6:00 a.m.	<b>Grace Walkers</b> <b>Bridge Club</b> (Fellowship Hall) <b>CCE&amp;J Meeting</b> (Conference Room)
Friday	09/08		
Saturday	09/09	10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	<b>Rise Against Hunger</b> (Kate Collins Middle School) <b>Yoga</b> (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday	09/10	10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:10 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	<b>Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost</b> Service of Holy Communion In Person and via You Tube <b>Pastor Paul Pingel</b> , Preaching and Presiding <b>First Sunday Fellowship</b> Hospitality and Grace Committee <b>Confirmation Class</b> (Seminar Room) <b>K-5 Sunday School</b> (Sunday School Classroom)

**Monday**

2 Samuel 13:23-39  
 Acts 20:17-38  
 Mark 9:42-50  
 Morning Psalm 57, Evening 85

**Tuesday**

2 Samuel 14:1-20  
 Acts 21:1-14  
 Mark 10:1-16  
 Morning Psalm 54, Evening 28

**Wednesday**

2 Samuel 14:21-33  
 Acts 21:15-26  
 Mark 10:17-31  
 Morning Psalm 65, Evening 125

**Thursday**

2 Samuel 15:1-18  
 Acts 21:27-36  
 Mark 10:32-45  
 Morning Psalm 143, Evening 81

**Friday**

2 Samuel 15:19-37  
 Acts 21:37-22:16  
 Mark 10:46-52  
 Morning Psalm 88, Evening 6

**Saturday**

2 Samuel 16:1-23  
 Acts 22:17-29  
 Mark 11:1-11  
 Morning Psalm 122, Evening 100

**Grace Church Council**

*Robin Crowder, President (540-476-0180)*

*Allison Fink, Vice-President (540-448-0985)*

*Jack Eckstrom (240-344-3176), Jerry Kite (540-910-3372),*

*Linda Meyer (540-256-2277), Jean Morgan (540-649-4422),*

*Susan Myers (434-760-1660), Stephen Van Stee (540-325-0772),*

*Karen Walck (765-480-9920), Donna Yobs (650-248-4882),*

*Cabell Caister, Youth Member*

*Ron Almarode, Treasurer*

*Charles Goodrich, Financial Secretary*

**Rev. Paul Pingel, Pastor, Email: [pastorpingel@gmail.com](mailto:pastorpingel@gmail.com)**

**Mike Myers, Organist, Director of Music, Email: [mickhdking@aol.com](mailto:mickhdking@aol.com)**

**Nancy Dowdy, Administrative Secretary, Email: [Grace.lc@comcast.net](mailto:Grace.lc@comcast.net)**

**Office Hours:** 8:00—11:30 a.m. and 12:30—2:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday **Closed Friday**

[facebook.com/gelc.elca](https://www.facebook.com/gelc.elca)

[youtube.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro](https://www.youtube.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro)

Internet: [www.gracewaynesboro.org](http://www.gracewaynesboro.org)

**Telephone:** 540.949.6171