

*Grace Lutheran Church  
Welcomes you to*

*The Great Thanksgiving*



*Join Us for  
WORSHIP*

*Everyone is Welcome!  
Taste and See that the Lord is Good,  
Let us rejoice together!*

# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

\*\*\*\*\*

**6<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**July 9, 2023**

**Pastor Jim Helgren**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Opening Hymn**      "Jesus Shall Reign"      LBW Hymn # 530

**Brief Order for Confession & Forgiveness**      Page 77

**Kyrie**      Page 78

**Hymn of Praise**      Page 81

**Prayer of the Day**      See Insert

**First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12**      See Insert

**Psalm 145:8-14**      See Insert

**Second Reading: Romans 7:15-25a**      See Insert

**Gospel Response**      Page 83

**Gospel: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30**      See Insert

**Children's message**

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day**      WOV Hymn #734

    "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling"

**Nicene Creed**      Page 84

**Prayers of the Church**      Page 85

**Offering**

**Offertory**      "Listen, God is Calling"      See Insert

**Offertory Prayer**      Page 87

**The Great Thanksgiving**      Page 88

**The Lord's Prayer**      Page 91

**Post-Communion Canticle & Prayer**      Page 92

**Benediction & Dismissal**

**Closing Hymn**      "Children of the Heavenly Father"      LBW # 474

**We carry the "light" out into the world! Depart to serve!**



# Today's Readings

Sunday, July 9, 2023  
6th Sunday after Pentecost

## Prayer of the Day

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## First Reading

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!  
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!  
Lo, your king comes to you;  
triumphant and victorious is he,  
humble and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.  
<sup>10</sup>He will cut off the chariot from  
Ephraim  
and the war-horse from Jerusalem;  
and the battle bow shall be cut off,  
and he shall command peace to  
the nations;

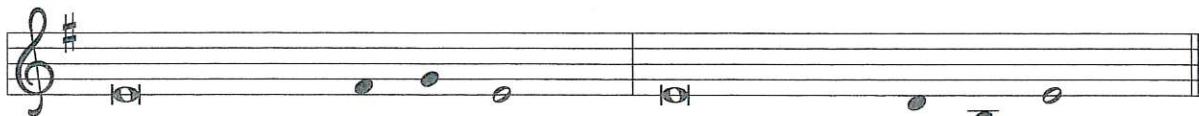
## Zechariah 9:9-12

his dominion shall be from sea to sea,  
and from the River to the ends of  
the earth.

<sup>11</sup>As for you also, because of the blood  
of my covenant with you,  
I will set your prisoners free from  
the waterless pit.

<sup>12</sup>Return to your stronghold,  
O prisoners of hope;  
today I declare that I will restore to  
you double.

## Psalm



The LORD is gracious  
and full <sup>1</sup> of compassion,  
slow to anger and  
abounding in <sup>1</sup> steadfast love.  
<sup>9</sup>LORD, you are <sup>1</sup> good to all,  
and your compassion  
is over <sup>1</sup> all your works.  
<sup>10</sup>All your works  
shall praise <sup>1</sup> you, O LORD,  
and your faithful <sup>1</sup> ones  
shall bless you.  
<sup>11</sup>They shall tell of the glory  
<sup>1</sup> of your kingdom  
and speak <sup>1</sup> of your power,

## Psalm 145:8-14; tone 8

<sup>12</sup>that all people  
may know <sup>1</sup> of your power  
and the glorious splendor  
<sup>1</sup> of your kingdom.

<sup>13</sup>Your kingdom  
is an everlasting kingdom;  
your dominion endures  
through- <sup>1</sup> out all ages.

You, LORD,  
are faithful in all your words,  
and loving in <sup>1</sup> all your works.

<sup>14</sup>The LORD upholds  
all <sup>1</sup> those who fall  
and lifts up those  
who <sup>1</sup> are bowed down.

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.<sup>16</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good.<sup>17</sup> But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.<sup>18</sup> For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it.<sup>19</sup> For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do.<sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

## Gospel

## Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] “To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the market-places and calling to one another,

<sup>17</sup>‘We played the flute for you,  
and you did not dance;  
we wailed, and you did not  
mourn.’

<sup>18</sup>For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; <sup>19</sup>the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

<sup>25</sup>At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things

<sup>21</sup>So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup>For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, <sup>23</sup>but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. <sup>24</sup>Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25a</sup>Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants;<sup>26</sup> yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.  
<sup>27</sup>All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

<sup>28</sup>“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.<sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.  
<sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

AN INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE:

We believe that with the bread and wine one receives the true body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins. We welcome other Christians to receive Holy Communion with us. Children who have not had first Communion instruction may come forward for a blessing.

***We pray always for . . .***

*Judy Brinkman, Luetta Bruns, Linda Daniels, Eric Fass,  
& Haleigh Werner*

***We also remember in our prayers . . .***

*Anna, Vanessa, Meshack & Evance, orphans we are sponsoring  
in Tanzania.*

*Please put items for the bulletins & newsletter in the secretary's  
box in the south office. You may email the church office  
[grace68329@gmail.com](mailto:grace68329@gmail.com)*

***You may contact Pastor Helgren by calling 402-864-4201 (church)  
402-864-2113 (home) or 402-826-0613 (cell)***

**Today 7/9/23**

*Worship w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.  
Osage UCC Ice Cream Social – 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.*

**Monday 7/10/23**

*Bible Study – 1:30 p.m.*

**Monday – Friday July 10 – 14**

***Community Vacation Bible School – 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.  
at Grace Lutheran Church***

**Next Sunday 7/16/23**

**COOK WINDMILL CITY DAYS  
Community Worship in the PARK**

**9:00 a.m. Please note the time for Worship**

*Cook Rescue Squad Breakfast @ Cook Firehall – 8:00–11:00 am  
Cook Museum Bake Sale & Raffle – Raffle Drawing @3:00 pm  
Museum Food Stand @ CCC - 11 am to 2 pm*

*Please join us for fellowship in the basement  
following worship ☺*

**Vacation Bible School** sponsored by Osage UCC, Grace Lutheran & Hope Lutheran is July 10—14 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and will be held at Grace Lutheran Church. Registration is open to children 3 years old to 6th Grade. Older students 7-12 grade are needed to help with the younger students. **VBS is offered free and all are welcome!**

Thank you all for your prayers and kind expressions of sympathy during Eugene's illness and passing.

Donna, Brian & Kimberly

School Kit items for Lutheran World Relief are being collected. The items needed are:

70 sheet spiral notebooks (4 each school kit),

Boxes of 16 or 24 crayons,

Ball point Pens,

Unsharpened #2 Pencils,

and 12 inch rulers.

School Sales will be happening soon! Donations are welcome to help purchase the items and Thrivent Action team funds will help fill these back packs.

*The August Tower Echoes will be going out early, so if you have an article for August, please have it into Diane by July 11<sup>th</sup>. Thanks*

*Even though the Grace Lutheran Church Women are not having a part in the traditional Food Stand at the Cook Days this year, they are all invited to donate pies for the Museum profits or baked goods for the bake sale.*