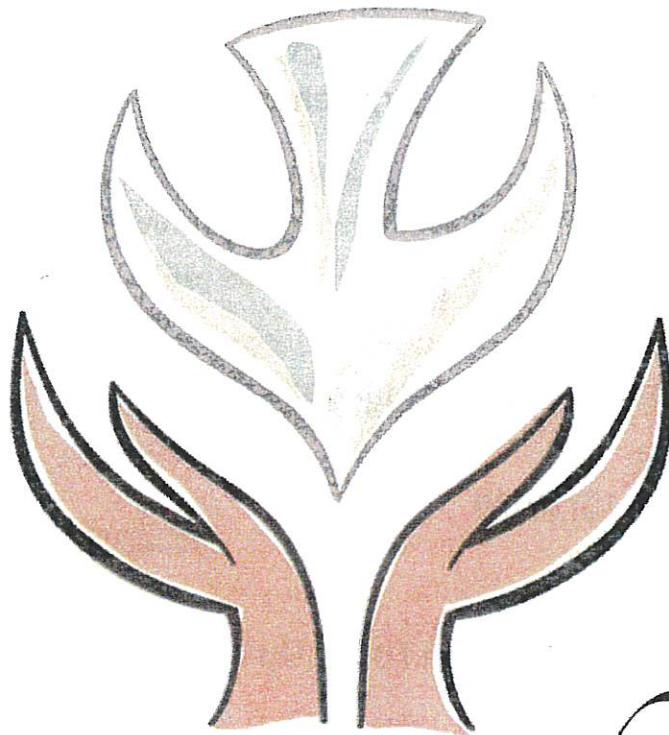


*Grace Lutheran Church
Welcomes you to
The Great Thanksgiving*



*Join Us for
WORSHIP*

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

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

12th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 20, 2023

Pastor Jim Helgren

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Hymn

LBW Hymn # 559

“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

Brief Order for Confession & Forgiveness	Page 77	
Kyrie	Page 78	
Hymn of Praise	Page 81	
Prayer of the Day	See Insert	
First Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8	See Insert	
Psalm 67	See Insert	
Second Reading: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32	See Insert	
Gospel Response	Page 83	
Gospel: Matthew 15:10-28	See Insert	
Children’s message		
Sermon		
Hymn of the Day “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”	LBW Hymn # 479	
Nicene Creed	Page 84	
Prayers of the Church	Page 85	
Offering		
Offertory	“Jesus Loves Me!”	See Back Page
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 “Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”	LBW Hymn # 423	

We carry the “light” out into the world! Depart to serve!



Today's Readings

Sunday, August 20, 2023

12th Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer of the Day

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

Thus says the **LORD**:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶And the foreigners who join themselves to the **LORD**,
to minister to him, to love the name of the **LORD**,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,
and hold fast my covenant—

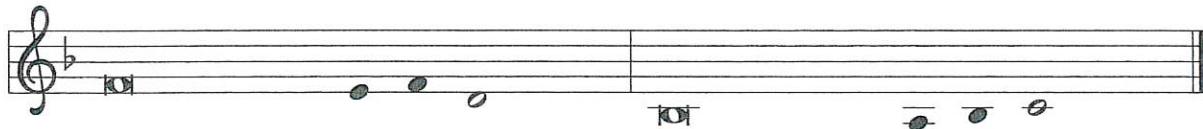
⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices

will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

⁸Thus says the Lord **God**,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

Psalm

Psalm 67; tone 3



May God be merciful to us
and bless us;
may the light of God's face
shine upon us.
²Let your way be known
upon earth,
your saving health
among all nations.
³Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
⁴Let the nations be glad
and sing for joy,

for you judge the peoples
with equity
and guide all the nations
on earth.

⁵Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁶The earth has brought forth
its increase;
God, our own God,
has blessed us.

⁷May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth
stand in awe.

[Paul writes:] I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ²God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you

were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Gospel

Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

[[Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand: ¹¹it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” ¹²Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?” ¹³He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” ¹⁵But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.” ¹⁶Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false

witness, slander. ²⁰These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”]

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

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 . . .

*Luetta Bruns, Linda Daniels, Gayleen Eden, Eric Fass,
Haleigh Werner & Will Yank*

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*

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

Today 8/20/23

Worship w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday 8/23/23

Tower Echoes Deadline

Next Sunday 8/27/23

Worship – 8:30 a.m.

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

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 are happening!

Jesus Loves Me!

1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;
 2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;
 3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;

lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.
 he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.
 when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

Refrain

Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,

yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.