

Grace Lutheran Church Welcomes You!



By Grace you have been saved!

*"We have decided to follow Jesus and
There's no turning back!"*

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 24, 2023

Pastor Jim Helgren

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Hymn

WOV Hymn # 687

"Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading"

Greeting

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Scripture Song

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Prayer of the Day

See Insert

The First Lesson: Jonah 3:10—4:11

See Insert

Psalms 145:1-8

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The Second Lesson: Philippians 1:21-30

See Insert

The Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

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Gospel Acclamation

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Children's message

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "In the Morning When I Rise" WOV Hymn # 777

Response to the Word

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Offering

Offertory "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

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Prayers of the Church

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The Lord's Prayer

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Benediction & Dismissal

Closing Hymn

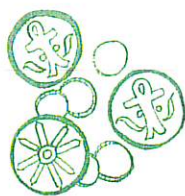
WOV Hymn # 723

"The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve"

Postlude

Noisy coin offering will be collected Today.

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



Today's Readings

Sunday, September 24, 2023

17th Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading

Jonah 3:10—4:11

When God saw what [the people of Nineveh] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

⁴But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

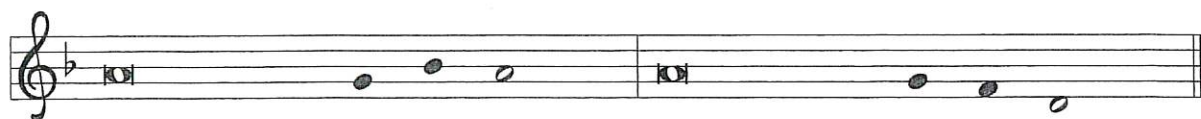
⁶The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give

shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Psalm

Psalm 145:1-8; tone 9



I will exalt you, my ¹ God and king,
and bless your name
forev- ¹ er and ever.

²Every day ¹ will I bless you
and praise your name
forev- ¹ er and ever.

³Great is the LORD
and greatly ¹ to be praised!
There is no end ¹ to your greatness.

⁴One generation shall praise
your works ¹ to another
and shall de- ¹ clare your power.

⁵I will speak of the glorious splendor
¹ of your majesty
and all your ¹ marvelous works.

⁶They shall tell of the might
of your ¹ wondrous acts,
and I will re- ¹ count your greatness.

continued

⁷They shall publish the remembrance
of ¹ your great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully
¹ of your righteousness.

⁸The LORD is gracious
and full ¹ of compassion,
slow to anger
and abounding in ¹ steadfast love.

Second Reading

Philippians 1:21-30

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy

of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—³⁰since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay,

beginning with the last and then going to the first.' ⁹When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

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.*

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

*Please put items for the bulletins & newsletter in the secretary's box in the
south office. Church office email grace68329@gmail.com*

Today 9/24/23

Worship – 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday 9/27/23

Kids for Christ – 4:00 p.m.

Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.

Next Sunday 10/1/23

Worship w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

CROP Walk – 2:00 p.m.

*Erna Johns passed away on September 18th at the age of
89 ½ years. Her funeral will be held on Monday,
September 25th at Sheridan Lutheran Church, Lincoln.*

*Viewing is the 25th at 1:00 p.m. and the
funeral service is at 2:00 p.m. at the church.*

***If you wish to join in the meal with our Kids for
Christ on Wednesday, September 27th, please
call the church @ 402-864-4201, on Monday.***

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

Refrain F C⁷

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show

F Gm C⁷ F

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

F Dm Gm C

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their
 2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and
 3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will
 4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their

F Dm Dm⁷ Gm C⁷ F *Refrain*

feet, mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
 race, neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.
 love; all these are neigh-bors to us and you.
 feet: this is the way we will live with you.