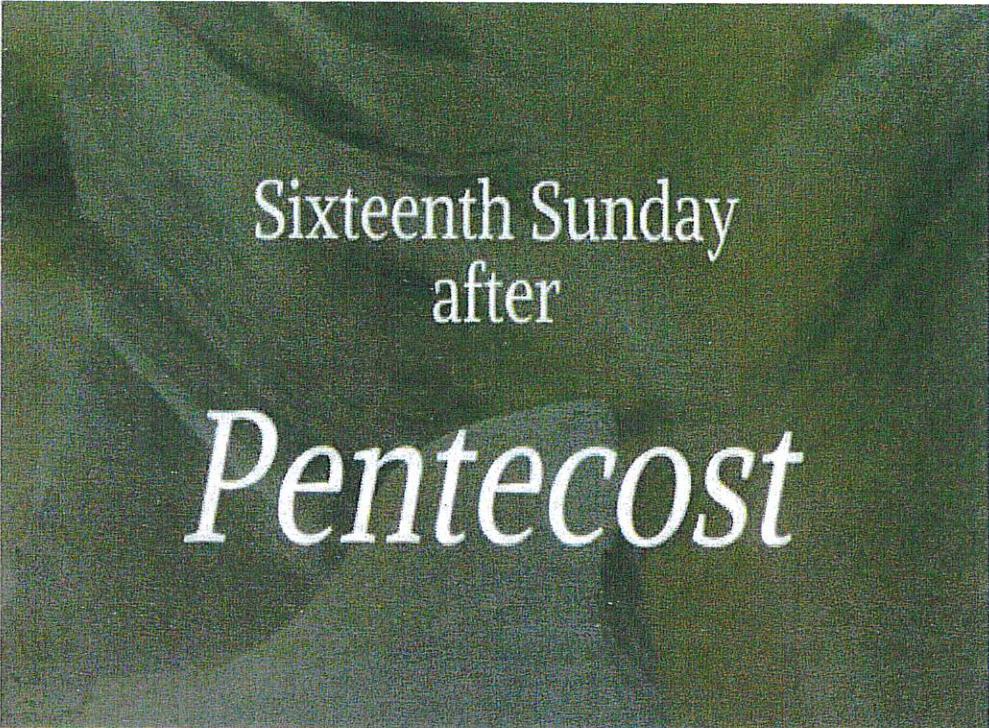


*Grace Lutheran Church
Welcomes You!*



Sixteenth Sunday
after

Pentecost

By Grace you have been saved!

*“We have decided to follow Jesus and
There’s no turning back!*

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

16th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 8, 2024

Pastor Jim Helgren

Prelude Announcements

Opening Hymn

LBW Hymn # 558

“Earth and All Stars!”

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First Reading: Isaiah 35:4-7a	See Insert
Psalm 146	See Insert
Second Reading: James 2:1-17	See Insert
Gospel: Mark 7:24-37	See Insert
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Sermon	
Hymn of the Day	LBW Hymn # 212
	“Let Us Break Bread Together”
Apostles' Creed	Page 65
Offering	
Offertory “Spirit of Gentleness” (Refrain, vs. 2, refrain)	See Insert
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Benediction & Dismissal	
Closing Hymn	LBW Hymn #559
	“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

We pray always for . . .

*Luetta Bruns, Linda Daniels, Katie Eggers, Becky Knake,
Haleigh Werner & Annette West*

We also remember in our prayers . . .

*Winfrida, Juliet, Vanesa & Evance, orphans we are sponsoring
in Tanzania*



Today's Readings

Sunday, September 8, 2024
16th Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.

First Reading

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you."

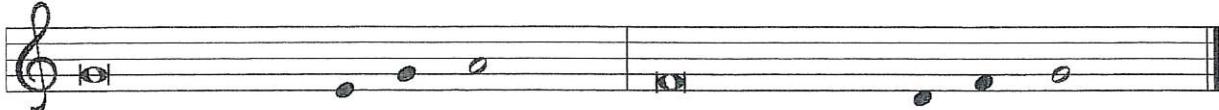
⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be
opened,

Isaiah 35:4-7a

and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing
for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the
wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water.

Psalm

Psalm 146; tone 1



Hal-¹ lelujah!
Praise the LORD, ¹ O my soul!
²I will praise the LORD as long ¹ as I live;
I will sing praises to my God
while I ¹ have my being.
³Put not your ¹ trust in rulers,
in mortals in whom there ¹ is no help.
⁴When they breathe their last,
they re-¹ turn to earth,
and in that day ¹ their thoughts perish.
⁵Happy are they who have
the God of Jacob ¹ for their help,
whose hope is in the ¹ LORD their God;
⁶who made heaven and earth, the seas, and
all that ¹ is in them;
who keeps promises ¹ es forever;

⁷who gives justice to those
who are oppressed,
and food to ¹ those who hunger.
The LORD sets the ¹ captive free.
⁸The LORD opens the eyes of the blind;
the LORD lifts up those
who ¹ are bowed down;
the LORD ¹ loves the righteous.
⁹The LORD cares ¹ for the stranger;
the LORD sustains
the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way ¹ of the wicked.
¹⁰The LORD shall ¹ reign forever,
your God, O Zion, throughout
all generations. ¹ Hallelujah!

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

⁸You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ⁹But if you

show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. ^[11]For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.]

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Gospel

Mark 7:24-37

[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

TODAY'S READINGS September 8, 2024 (Lectionary 23)

Volume 55, Number 4

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 116:1-9; James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38.

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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 9/8/24

*Worship w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School Begins!! - 9:30 a.m.*

Wednesday 9/11/24

*KIDS FOR CHRIST – 4:00 p.m.
Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.*

Next Sunday 9/15/24

*Worship w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.
Special Meeting following Worship
Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
Anniversary Dinner @ New Sidelines – 11:00 a.m.*

Senior members if you wish to share a meal with our Kids for Christ on Wednesday, September 11th, please call the church @ 402-864-4201, by tomorrow noon.

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

Heartfelt thoughts and prayers go out to the following families Cheryl & Larry Grundman, Dave & Diane Smith, Bruce & Carol Armknecht, Jim Armknecht, Dave Armknecht, & Jan Rader. Their Aunt Irene Treaster passed away on August 30th at the age of 97.

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 15, 2024, following worship to discuss the Church Council recommendation to purchase “Cranberry” Hymnals.

75th ANNIVERSARY LUNCH

The actual date of Grace Lutheran's 75th anniversary is September 12th, so let's celebrate again! The church council is inviting all members to join us for lunch at the New Sidelines on Sunday September 15th at 11:00 a.m. A hot beef meal followed with anniversary cake will be served. We appreciate having assistance from Thrivent for the meal. The church council wishes to thank everyone for making the July 23, 2024, celebration a beautiful and successful event.

You **must** RSVP to Cheryl Grundman at 402-873-2468 or Sarah Purcell at 402-269-5593 by September 9th to attend.

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Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

Refrain

D G A D Bm

Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle-ness, blow through the wil - der-ness

E A D G A D

call-ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest-less-ness,

D Bm G A⁷ D G D

stir me from plac - id-ness, wind, wind on the sea.

D G A G D A

- 1 You moved on the wa - -ters, you called to the deep,
- 2 You swept through the des - -ert, you stung with the sand
- 3 You sang in a sta - -ble, you cried from a hill,
- 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.

D Bm E A

then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;
From the bond-age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;

D G A G D

and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing:
and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,
and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,
our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.

Bm Gmaj⁷ Em⁷ A⁷ D Refrain

“A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings.”
then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.
With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo-ple a - rise.

THERE ARE

Youth Retreats

FOR ALL AGES!

This Fall, there will be youth retreats for all ages! Our youth retreats are a great way for your camper to build relationships, learn about themselves, and grow in their faith.



EXPLORE! DAY RETREAT

October 5, 2024

Register at CJHCenter.org/explore



FAMILY CAMPOUT

September 20-22, 2024

Register at CJHCenter.org/campout



FATHER SON RETREAT

November 2-3, 2024

Register at CJHCenter.org/father-son



MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT

November 8-10, 2024

Register at CJHCenter.org/ms-retreat



MOTHER DAUGHTER

November 16-17, 2024

Register at CJHCenter.org/mother-daughter



Carol Joy Holling
Camp, Conference & Retreat Center

For questions or more information contact, Laura Stalder at
LStalder@NLOM.org or 402-944-2544



All New! COUPLE'S RETREAT

OCTOBER 18 - 20, 2024
at Carol Joy Holling Camp,
Conference & Retreat Center

Use this time to refresh your
connection with your partner. Reconnect
in a place that provides a quiet and
relaxing space with nature as a background.

For questions, contact our Adult Programs Specialist,
Jessica, at JWeltz@NLOM.org or 402-944-2544.