

*Grace Lutheran Church  
Welcomes You!*



*Join Us for  
WORSHIP*

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

# Grace Lutheran Church

\*\*\*\*\*

10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

August 17, 2025

Pastor Jim Helgren

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## PRELUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**GATHERING SONG** - ELW #796 – “How Firm a Foundation”

**CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS** - ELW p. 94 *Please stand in body or spirit to receive forgiveness.*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the <sup>†</sup>Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Most merciful God,

A: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the <sup>†</sup>Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A: Amen. *Assembly sits.*

**GREETING** - p. 203

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

**A: And also with you.**

**KYRIE** - p. 203

**HYMN OF PRAISE** – P. 204a

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** - Please see insert. Response after the prayer: **Amen.**

**FIRST READING** – Jeremiah 23:23-29 Please see insert.

Response after the reading:

R: Word of God, word of life.

**A: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 82** - Please see insert and read responsively

**SECOND READING** – Hebrews 11:29—12:2 Please see insert. Response after the reading:

R: Word of God, word of life.

**A: Thanks be to God.**



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** – p. 205a

*Please stand in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.*

P: The holy gospel according to ....

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL** – Luke 12:49-56 Please see insert.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

**A: Praise to you, O Christ. The assembly sits.**

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### SERMON

**HYMN OF THE DAY - ELW #623 – “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”**

**NICENE CREED - p. 104**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our  
salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin  
Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he  
suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the  
scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He  
will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no  
end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and  
the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken  
through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We  
acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the  
dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - p.206** Response after each portion of the prayer:

P: Lord, in your mercy,

A: hear our prayer.

**PEACE - p. 206** *Please stand in body or spirit*

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

A: And also with you.

### OFFERING

**OFFERING HYMN - “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” hymn - ELW #884**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING - p. 206**

## **LORD'S PRAYER - p. 208**

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.

## **LAMB OF GOD - p. 208**

## **COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

### **COMMUNION FOLLOWED by READING - p. 113**

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled.

My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people:

A light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel.

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace.

### **BLESSING - p. 209 - Response after the blessing:**

**A: Amen.**

### **DISMISSAL - p. 209 - Response after the dismissal:**

**A: Thanks be to God. *The assembly sits.***

### **SENDING SONG - ELW #815 – “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”**

Postlude

## Announcements

**TODAY 8/17/25** 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Worship with Communion – 8:30 a.m.

Coffee & Fellowship Following Worship

**MONDAY 8/18/25**

Church Council – 7:00 p.m.

**TUESDAY 8/19/25**

Piecemakers Blanket Making – All Day

**FRIDAY 8/22/25**

Tower Echoes Deadline

**NEXT SUNDAY 8/24/25** 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

Worship – 8:30 a.m.

Coffee & Fellowship Following Worship

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

*Pastor Steve Billington, Linda Daniels, Char Helgren, & Richard Roesener*

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

*Winfrida, Juliana, Hassan & 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)***

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



# Today's Readings

Sunday, August 17, 2025  
10th Sunday after Pentecost

## Prayer of the Day

O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

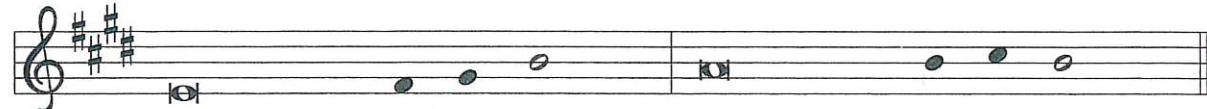
## First Reading

**Jeremiah 23:23-29**

Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? <sup>24</sup>Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. <sup>25</sup>I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" <sup>26</sup>How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their

own heart? <sup>27</sup>They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. <sup>28</sup>Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. <sup>29</sup>Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

## Psalm



God stands to charge  
the divine coun-<sup>1</sup> cil assembled,  
giving judgment  
in the midst<sup>1</sup> of the gods:  
<sup>2</sup>"How long will you<sup>1</sup> judge unjustly,  
and show favor<sup>1</sup> to the wicked?  
<sup>3</sup>Save the weak<sup>1</sup> and the orphan;  
defend the hum-<sup>1</sup>ble and needy;  
<sup>4</sup>rescue the weak<sup>1</sup> and the poor;  
deliver them  
from the power<sup>1</sup> of the wicked.  
<sup>5</sup>They do not know,  
neither do they understand;  
they wander a-<sup>1</sup> bout in darkness;  
all the foundations of the<sup>1</sup> earth  
are shaken.

## Psalm 82; tone 4

<sup>6</sup>Now I say to you, <sup>1</sup> "You are gods,  
and all of you children  
of <sup>1</sup> the Most High;  
<sup>7</sup>nevertheless,  
you shall <sup>1</sup> die like mortals,  
and fall like <sup>1</sup> any prince."  
<sup>8</sup>Arise, O God, and <sup>1</sup> rule the earth,  
for you shall take all nations  
<sup>1</sup> for your own.

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. <sup>30</sup>By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. <sup>31</sup>By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

<sup>32</sup>And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—<sup>33</sup>who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup>quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. <sup>35</sup>Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup>Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup>They

were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—<sup>38</sup>of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

<sup>39</sup>Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, <sup>40</sup>since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

<sup>12:1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup>looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

## Gospel

## Luke 12:49-56

[Jesus said:] “I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! <sup>50</sup>I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! <sup>51</sup>Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! <sup>52</sup>From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; <sup>53</sup>they will be divided:

father against son  
and son against father,  
mother against daughter  
and daughter against mother,

mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law  
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

<sup>54</sup>He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain’; and so it happens. <sup>55</sup>And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat’; and it happens. <sup>56</sup>You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

TODAY'S READINGS August 17, 2025 (Lectionary 20)

Volume 56, Number 3

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 58:9b-14; Psalm 103:1-8; Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17.

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