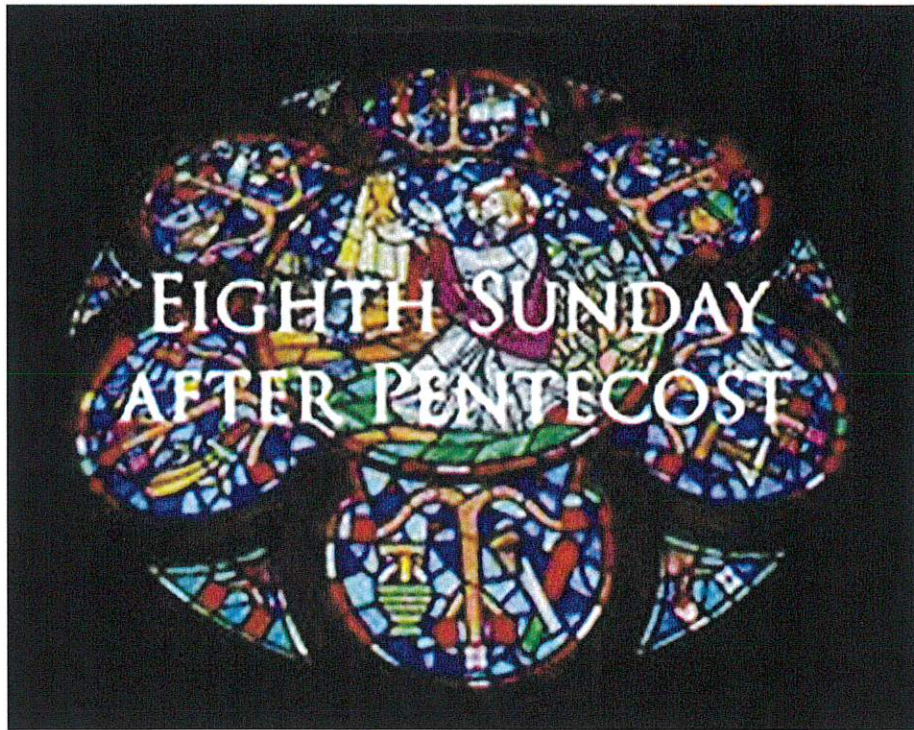


*Grace Lutheran Church  
Welcomes You!*



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

# Grace Lutheran Church

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

August 3, 2025

Pastor Jim Helgren

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## PRELUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**GATHERING SONG** - ELW #393 – “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!”

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

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩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 ☩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** – Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14, 2:18-23 Please see insert.

Response after the reading:

R: Word of God, word of life.

**A: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 49:1-12** - Please see insert and read responsively

**SECOND READING** –Colossians 3:1-11 Please see insert. Response after the reading:

R: Word of God, word of life.

**A: Thanks be to God.**

S205a

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 12:13-21 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 #655 – “Son of God, Eternal Savior”

**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 #650 – "In Christ There Is No East or West"

Postlude

## *Announcements*

### **TODAY 8/3/25** 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Worship with Communion – 8:30 a.m.

Coffee & Fellowship Following Worship

### **NEXT SUNDAY 8/10/25** 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

Worship– 8:30 a.m.

Blessing of Backpacks

Coffee & Fellowship Following Worship

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

*Pastor Steve Billington, Linda Daniels, Char Helgren, Becky Knake, Richard Roesener,  
Joan Wellensiek, Andy Wellensiek & Haleigh Werner*

### ***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 3, 2025

8th Sunday after Pentecost

## Prayer of the Day

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## First Reading

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,  
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

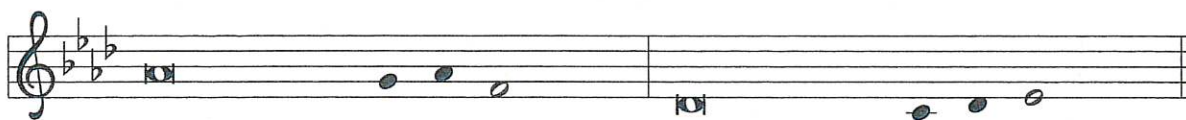
<sup>12</sup>I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, <sup>13</sup>applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. <sup>14</sup>I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

<sup>2:18</sup>I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me <sup>19</sup>— and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master

of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. <sup>20</sup>So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, <sup>21</sup>because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. <sup>22</sup>What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? <sup>23</sup>For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

## Psalm

Psalm 49:1-12; tone 3



Hear this, <sup>1</sup>all you peoples;  
give ear,  
all you who dwell <sup>1</sup>in the world,  
<sup>2</sup>you of high de- <sup>1</sup>gree and low,  
rich and <sup>1</sup>poor together.  
<sup>3</sup>My mouth shall <sup>1</sup>speak of wisdom,  
and my heart  
shall meditate on <sup>1</sup>understanding.  
<sup>4</sup>I will incline my ear <sup>1</sup>to a proverb  
and set forth my riddle  
up- <sup>1</sup>on the harp.  
<sup>5</sup>Why should I be afraid in <sup>1</sup>evil days,  
when the wickedness  
of those at my <sup>1</sup>heels surrounds me,

<sup>6</sup>the wickedness of those  
who trust in <sup>1</sup>their own prowess,  
and boast of <sup>1</sup>their great riches?  
<sup>7</sup>One can never re- <sup>1</sup>deem another,  
or give to God the ransom  
for an- <sup>1</sup>other's life;  
<sup>8</sup>for the ransom of a life <sup>1</sup>is so great  
that there would never be  
e- <sup>1</sup>nough to pay it,  
<sup>9</sup>in order to live forev- <sup>1</sup>er and ever  
and never <sup>1</sup>see the grave.  
<sup>10</sup>For we see that the wise die also;  
like the dull and stu- <sup>1</sup>pid they perish  
and leave their wealth  
to those who come <sup>1</sup>after them.

*continued*

<sup>11</sup>Their graves shall be their homes  
forever, their dwelling places  
from generation to <sup>1</sup> generation,  
though they had named lands  
af- <sup>1</sup> ter themselves.

<sup>12</sup>Even though honored,  
they cannot <sup>1</sup> live forever;  
they are like the <sup>1</sup> beasts that perish.

## Second Reading

## Colossians 3:1-11

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup>for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

<sup>5</sup>Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). <sup>6</sup>On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. <sup>7</sup>These are the ways you

also once followed, when you were living that life. <sup>8</sup>But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. <sup>9</sup>Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices <sup>10</sup>and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. <sup>11</sup>In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

## Gospel

## Luke 12:13-21

Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus], “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” <sup>14</sup>But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” <sup>15</sup>And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” <sup>16</sup>Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. <sup>17</sup>And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ <sup>18</sup>Then he

said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup>And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ <sup>20</sup>But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ <sup>21</sup>So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”