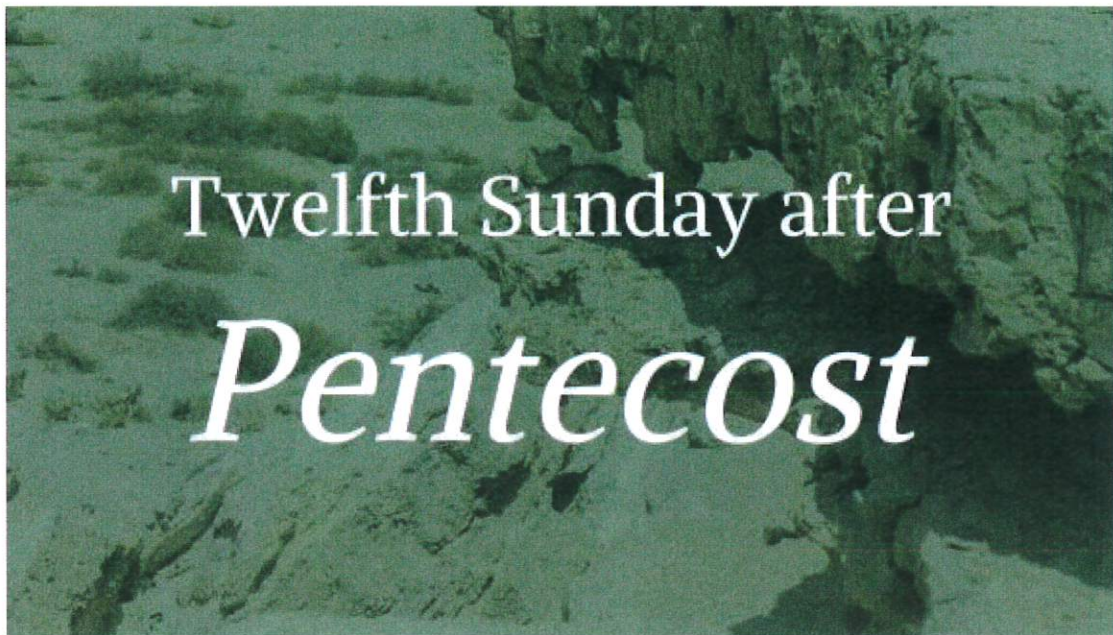


*Grace Lutheran Church  
Welcomes You!*



*Join Us for*  
**WORSHIP**

*By Grace you have been saved!  
"We have decided to follow Jesus and  
There's no turning back!"*

# Grace Lutheran Church

\*\*\*\*\*

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

August 31, 2025

Pastor Jim Helgren

\*\*\*\*\*

**PRELUDE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING SONG** - ELW #532 – “Gather Us In”

**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.

**FIRST READING** – Proverbs 25:6-7a Please see insert. Response after the reading:

R: Word of God, word of life.

A: Thanks be to God.

**PSALM 112** - Please see insert and read responsively

**SECOND READING** – Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 Please see insert. Response after the reading:

R: Word of God, word of life.

A: Thanks be to God.

**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 14:1, 7-14 Please see insert.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

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## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

### **SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** - ELW #651 – “Oh, Praise the Gracious Power”

**APOSTLES CREED** - p. 105

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

### **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.

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

P: Lord, in your mercy,

**A: hear our prayer.**

**LORD'S PRAYER** – p. 208 – *Please stand in body or spirit for the Lord's Prayer.*

**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.**

**BLESSING** - p. 209 - Response after the blessing:  
**A: Amen.**

**DISMISSAL** - p. 209 - Response after the blessing:  
**A: Thanks be to God. *The assembly sits.***

**SENDING SONG** – ELW #716 – “Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace”

**POSTLUDE**

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

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

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

*Winfrida, Juliana, Hassan, and Evance, orphans sponsored in Tanzania*

## *Announcements*

**TODAY 8/31/25** 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Worship - 8:30 a.m.

Coffee & Fellowship Following Worship

**WEDNESDAY 9/3/25**

Confirmation - 6:00 p.m.

**THURSDAY 9/4/25**

ELCW Meeting – 7:00 p.m. All Women are welcome

**NEXT SUNDAY 9/7/25** 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Worship with Communion – 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

Coffee & Fellowship Following Worship

## **Sunday School**

Sunday School will resume on September 7<sup>th</sup> following the Sunday Worship Service at approximately 9:30 a.m.

Please help us share the wonderful story of Jesus with your children.

*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 😊***

Hello Tanzania Sponsors,

Thank you again for sponsoring students at a school in Tanzania! If you would like to send a letter to your students, you may do so now. You can send a photo and **up to \$20 in cash** to each student if you would like to, but it is not required. Please have letters back to the church office **no later than September 2<sup>nd</sup>**, to be delivered to Sheridan by the 6<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of all of these students in Tanzania!





# Today's Readings

Sunday, August 31, 2025

12th Sunday after Pentecost

## Prayer of the Day

O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## First Reading

Proverbs 25:6-7a

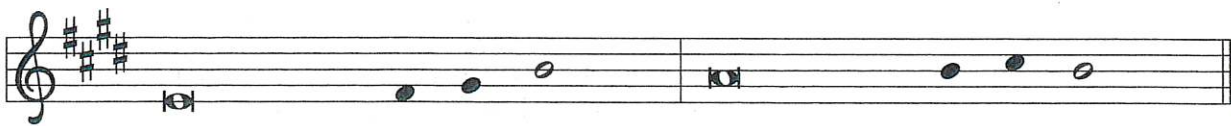
Do not put yourself forward in the  
king's presence  
or stand in the place of the great;

<sup>7a</sup>for it is better to be told,  
"Come up here,"  
than to be put lower in the  
presence of a noble.

or Sirach 10:12-18 [not printed]

## Psalm

Psalm 112; tone 4



Hallelujah!  
Happy are they who <sup>1</sup>fear the LORD  
and have great delight  
in <sup>1</sup>God's commandments!

<sup>2</sup>Their descendants  
will be mighty <sup>1</sup>in the land;  
the generation of the upright  
<sup>1</sup>will be blessed.

<sup>3</sup>Wealth and riches  
will be <sup>1</sup>in their house,  
and their righteousness  
will <sup>1</sup>last forever.

<sup>4</sup>Light shines in the darkness  
<sup>1</sup>for the upright;  
the righteous are merciful  
and full <sup>1</sup>of compassion.

<sup>5</sup>It is good for them  
to be gener- <sup>1</sup>ous in lending  
and to manage their af- <sup>1</sup>fairs  
with justice.

<sup>6</sup>For they will nev- <sup>1</sup>er be shaken;  
the righteous will be kept  
in everlast- <sup>1</sup>ing remembrance.

<sup>7</sup>They will not be afraid  
of any <sup>1</sup>evil rumors;  
their heart is steadfast,  
trusting <sup>1</sup>in the LORD.

<sup>8</sup>Their heart is established  
and <sup>1</sup>will not shrink,  
until they see their desire  
up- <sup>1</sup>on their enemies.

<sup>9</sup>They have given freely to the poor,  
and their righteousness stands <sup>1</sup>fast  
forever;

they will hold up their <sup>1</sup>head  
with honor.

<sup>10</sup>The wicked will see it and be angry;  
they will gnash their teeth  
and <sup>1</sup>pine away;  
the desires of the wick- <sup>1</sup>ed  
will perish.

Let mutual love continue. <sup>2</sup>Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. <sup>3</sup>Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. <sup>4</sup>Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. <sup>5</sup>Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you."

<sup>6</sup>So we can say with confidence,  
"The Lord is my helper;  
I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

<sup>7</sup>Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup>Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. <sup>15</sup>Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. <sup>16</sup>Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

## Gospel

## Luke 14:1, 7-14

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

<sup>7</sup>When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. <sup>8</sup>"When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; <sup>9</sup>and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup>But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes,

he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. <sup>11</sup>For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

<sup>12</sup>He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. <sup>13</sup>But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. <sup>14</sup>And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

TODAY'S READINGS August 31, 2025 (Lectionary 22)

Volume 56, Number 4

Next Sunday's Readings: Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 1; Philemon 1-21; Luke 14:25-33.

TODAY'S READINGS (ISSN 1069-0166, USPS 009628) is published quarterly by Augsburg Fortress, 411 Washington Avenue North, Third Floor, Minneapolis, MN, 55401. Periodicals postage paid in St. Paul, MN and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to Today's Readings, Augsburg Fortress Publishers, P.O. Box 1553, Minneapolis, MN 55440-8730. Printed in U.S.A. Price per weekly part \$3.90 per 100 copies; price in Canada subject to exchange rates. Minimum order 50 copies of each issue; all orders must be in multiples of 50. Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts. Readings from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha. © 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Prayer of the day and psalm from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* © 2006, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Psalm tone accompaniment is in *Psalter for Worship, Year C* (Augsburg Fortress, 2006). Please visit our website at [augsburgfortress.org](http://augsburgfortress.org). Lectionary year C.