

*Grace Lutheran Church
Welcomes You!*



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

Grace Lutheran Church

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 21, 2025

Pastor Jim Helgren

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG - ELW #655 – “Son of God, Eternal Savior”

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 – Amos 8:4-7 Please see insert.

Response after the reading:

R: Word of God, word of life.

A: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 113 - Please see insert and read responsively

SECOND READING – 1 Timothy 2:1-7 Please see insert.

Response after the reading:

R: Word of God, word of life.

A: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – p. 205a

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.

Please stand in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

P: The holy gospel according to

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL – Luke 16:1-13 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 #589 – “All Depends on Our Possessing”

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 – ELW p.206

Response after each portion of the prayer:

P: Lord, in your mercy,

A: hear our prayer.

PEACE – ELW 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 – ELW 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 – ELW p. 208

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION FOLLOWED by READING – ELW 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 – ELW p. 209 - Response after the blessing:

A: Amen.

DISMISSAL - ELW p. 209 - Response after the dismissal:

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

SENDING SONG - ELW #669 – "Rise Up, O Saints of God! "

Postlude

Announcements

TODAY 9/21/25 15th Sunday after Pentecost
Worship with Communion – 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
Luther League Planning Meeting – 9:30 a.m.
Coffee & Fellowship Following Worship

TUESDAY 9/23/25

Tower Echoes Deadline

WEDNESDAY 9/24/25

Kids for Christ – 4:00 p.m.
Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY 9/28/25 16th Sunday After Pentecost

Worship– 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
Coffee & Fellowship Following Worship

We pray always for . . .

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

*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 ☺

Congratulations to **Pastor Jim**
as he celebrated his
40th Anniversary of
Ordination yesterday!!

Calling all high schoolers in grades 9-12,

Luther League will have a planning
meeting after church
TODAY at 9:30 a.m. If you cannot
attend contact Nick Weber
at 402-310-2136.

Nebraska Synod Justice Priorities: In Person Listening Posts

Grace Lutheran Church will be hosting this program on Monday,
September 29th at 7:00 p.m. Please open the link below to learn more
about this learning opportunity for Grace and surrounding Nebraska
Churches.

<https://nebraskasynod.org/deiaa-listening-posts/>



Today's Readings

Sunday, September 21, 2025

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer of the Day

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading

Amos 8:4-7

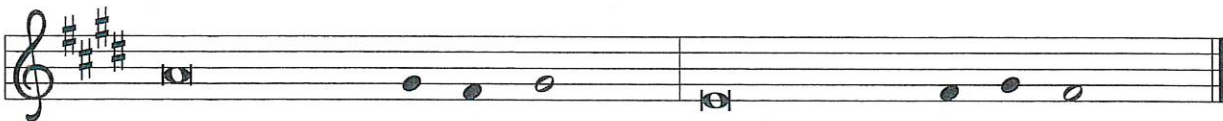
Hear this, you that trample on the
needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the
land,
⁵saying, "When will the new moon be
over
so that we may sell grain;
and the sabbath,
so that we may offer wheat for sale?
We will make the ephah small and
the shekel great,

and practice deceit with false
balances,
⁶buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals,
and selling the sweepings of the
wheat."

⁷The LORD has sworn by the pride of
Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their
deeds.

Psalm

Psalm 113; tone 5



Hallelujah!
Give praise, you servants ¹ of the LORD;
praise the name ¹ of the LORD.
²Let the name of the
¹ LORD be blessed,
from this time forth
for- ¹ evermore.
³From the rising of the sun
to its ¹ going down
let the name of the
¹ LORD be praised.
⁴The LORD is high a- ¹ bove all nations,
God's glory a- ¹ bove the heavens.

⁵Who is like the ¹ LORD our God,
who sits en- ¹ throned on high,
⁶but stoops ¹ to behold
the heavens ¹ and the earth?
⁷The LORD takes up the weak
out ¹ of the dust
and lifts up the poor
¹ from the ashes,
⁸enthroning them ¹ with the rulers,
with the rulers ¹ of the people.
⁹The LORD makes the woman
of a ¹ childless house
to be a joyful mother of children.
¹ Hallelujah!

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For

there is one God;
there is also one mediator
between God and
humankind,
Christ Jesus, himself human,
⁶who gave himself a ransom
for all

—this was attested at the right time.
⁷For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

Gospel

Luke 16:1-13

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ²So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' ³Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' ⁵So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' ⁷Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers

of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' ⁸And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

TODAY'S READINGS: September 21, 2025 (Lectionary 25)

Volume 56, Number 4

Next Sunday's Readings: Amos 6:1a, 4-7; Psalm 146; 1 Timothy 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31.

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