



September 27, 2020  
**Grace Lutheran Church, Boulder, Colorado**  
Rooted in Grace + Reaching out in Christ's Love

## ***Welcome to Grace!***

*We are glad you are joining us online for this worship service. Our liturgy is printed in this worship folder so that you can follow along on [Zoom with the live Worship Service](#) or afterward on [the Grace Boulder website](#).*

*In response to Christ's boundless love for all, members of Grace share that love by inviting all – regardless of ethnicity or race, educational or religious background, economic, physical, mental or social condition, gender identity or sexual orientation – to come and participate in the life of Grace.*

*Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.*

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### **PARTICIPATING MINISTERS IN THE WORK OF GRACE**

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Presiding Minister	Pastor Matthew Weber
Assisting Minister	Katherine Alexander
Lector	Greg Niesen
Organist	Boyd Hamilton
Choir Director	Michael Hoffman
Soprano Section Leader	Ekaterina Kotcherguina
Alto Section Leader	Emma Vawter
Tenor Section Leader	Santiago Gutierrez Herrera
Bass Section Leader	Sebastian Schmidt
Pandemic Worship Cantor	Sebastian Schmidt
Office Administrator	Amy Stewart McIntosh

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### **GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

1001 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Boulder CO 80302 Phone 303.442.1883 Fax 303.442.4403  
A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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Pastor: [matthew@graceboulder.org](mailto:matthew@graceboulder.org)**

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## GATHERING

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### MUSICAL INVITATION TO WORSHIP

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. **Amen.**

Faithful God,

**have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we are captive to sin  
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We turn from your loving embrace  
and go our own ways.**

**We pass judgment on one another  
before examining ourselves.**

**We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.**

**We hoard your gift of salvation for ourselves.**

**Make us humble, cast away our transgressions,  
and turn us again to life in you**

**through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God hears the cries of all who call out in need,  
and through the death and resurrection of Christ our Savior,  
grants mercy to all creation.

Your sins are forgiven in the name of ✝ Jesus Christ.

Led by the Holy Spirit,

may we live in freedom and newness

to do God's work in the world. **Amen.**

# GATHERING SONG

Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun

ELW 557



1 A - wake, my soul, and with the sun thy  
2 All praise to thee, who safe hast kept and  
3 Lord, I my vows to thee re - new. Dis -  
4 Di - rect, con - trol, sug - gest, this day, all  
5 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise



dai - ly stage of du - ty run; shake off dull sloth, and  
hast re - freshed me while I slept. Grant, Lord, when I from  
perse my sins as morn - ing dew; guard my first springs of  
I de - sign or do or say, that all my pow'rs, with  
God, all crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye



joy - ful rise to pay thy morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
death shall wake, I may of end - less light par - take.  
thought and will; and with thy - self my spir - it fill.  
all their might, in thy sole glo - ry may u - nite.  
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711, alt.

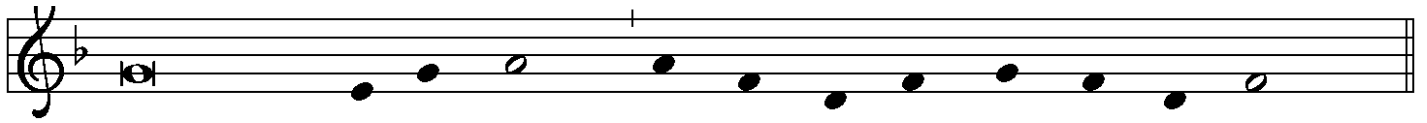
Music: MORNING HYMN, François H. Barthélémon, 1741-1808

## GREETING

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

**And also with you.**

# GLORIA



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

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## WORD

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### **FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32**

*Ezekiel challenges those who think they cannot change because of what their parents were and did, or who think they cannot reverse their own previous behavior. God insistently invites people to turn and live.*

<sup>1</sup>The word of the Lord came to me: <sup>2</sup>What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? <sup>3</sup>As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. <sup>4</sup>Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

<sup>25</sup>Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? <sup>26</sup>When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. <sup>27</sup>Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. <sup>28</sup>Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. <sup>29</sup>Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

<sup>30</sup>Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. <sup>31</sup>Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? <sup>32</sup>For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

**PSALM: Psalm 25:1-9**

<sup>1</sup>To you, O Lord,

I lift up my soul.

**<sup>2</sup>My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

**<sup>4</sup>Show me your ways, O Lord,  
and teach me your paths.**

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

**<sup>6</sup>Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.**

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your  
goodness, O Lord.

**<sup>8</sup>You are gracious and upright, O Lord;  
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

<sup>9</sup>You lead the lowly in justice  
and teach the lowly your way.



## SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-13

*As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ's selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.*

<sup>1</sup>If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
<sup>7</sup>but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form,  
<sup>8</sup>he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.

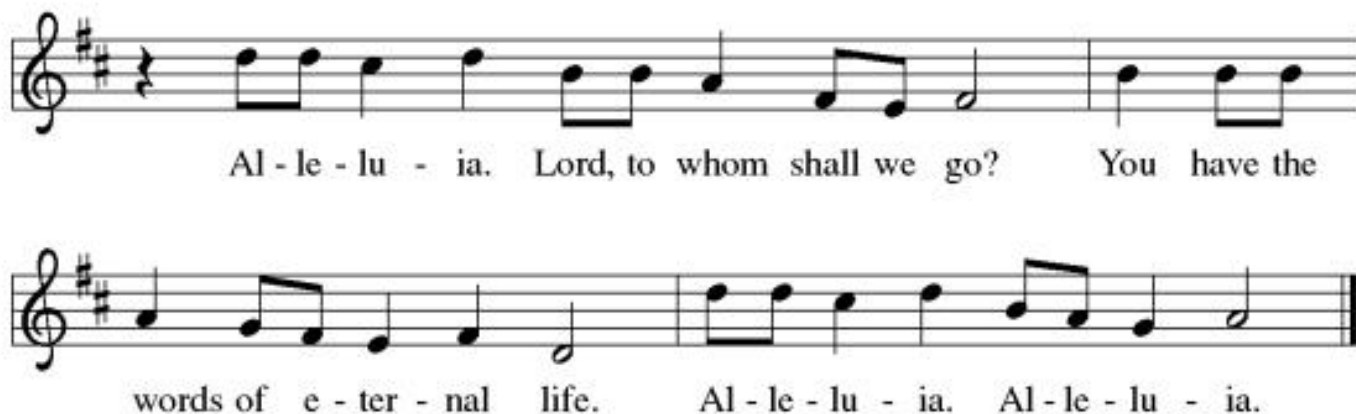
<sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
<sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup>for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32

*After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>23</sup>When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” <sup>24</sup>Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human

origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ <sup>26</sup>But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

<sup>28</sup>“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ <sup>29</sup>He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ**

**SERMON**

Pastor Matthew Weber



1 At the name of Je - sus ev - 'ry knee shall bow,  
 2 At his voice cre - a - tion sprang at once to sight,  
 3 Hum - bled for a sea - son, to re - ceive a name  
 4 In your hearts en - throne him; there let him sub - due  
 5 Chris - tians, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain



ev - 'ry tongue con - fess him king of glo - ry now.  
 all the an - gel fac - es, all the hosts of light,  
 from the lips of sin - ners un - to whom he came,  
 all that is not ho - ly, all that is not true.  
 on the clouds of glo - ry, with his an - gel train;



It is God's good plea - sure we should call him Lord,  
 thrones and dom - i - na - tions, stars up - on their way,  
 faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last;  
 Crown him as your cap - tain in temp - ta - tion's hour;  
 for all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on his brow,



who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.  
 all the heav'n - ly or - ders in their great ar - ray.  
 brought it back vic - to - rious when from death he passed.  
 let his will en - fold you in its light and pow'r.  
 and our hearts con - fess him king of glo - ry now.

Text: Caroline M. Noel, 1817–1877

Music: KING'S WESTON, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Music from *Songs of Praise*, © Oxford University Press 1925.

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## **APOSTLE'S CREED**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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 into hell.  
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.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

In all the world, give your church unity. Inspire all the baptized with the mind of Christ. Where the church is powerful and where it struggles, shape us with humility and obedience so that your love may be at work in us. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Your Son took on all of bodily life in our world, even to death. Preserve and keep your creation, O God. Mend and redeem places that are polluted and damaged, so that all of creation confesses you as Lord. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Turn the nations toward life. Where our ways are unfair, give us new hearts and new spirits. Where sin permeates our cultures and institutions, especially the sin of systemic racism, change our minds and our actions and teach us to trust your authority. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Our lives are yours, O God. Relieve the suffering of those who are ill in body, mind, or spirit. Defend the lives and welfare of children who are abused or neglected, hungry or exploited, bullied or lonely. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Turn this congregation away from our own interests toward the interests of others. Fill us with your compassion and sympathy. Make us into signs of your mercy and justice for our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Thank you for those who have gone into the kingdom ahead of us—tax collectors and prostitutes, likely and unlikely, obedient and slow to learn. By their witness, teach us to confess Jesus Christ as Lord in life and in death. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

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## MEAL

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*Your stewardship at Grace is more important now than ever. Without in-person Worship Services where offerings are collected, we hope that you will take the extra time to fulfill your pledges. Please visit the [Grace Boulder Stewardship page](#) to learn more.*

### ANTHEM

“To Thee, O Lord”

Sergei Rachmaninoff

### OFFERTORY

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful, Lord

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the  
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the  
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.  
You have set before us these gifts of your good creation.  
Prepare us for your heavenly banquet,  
nourish us with this rich food and drink,  
and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world,  
through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

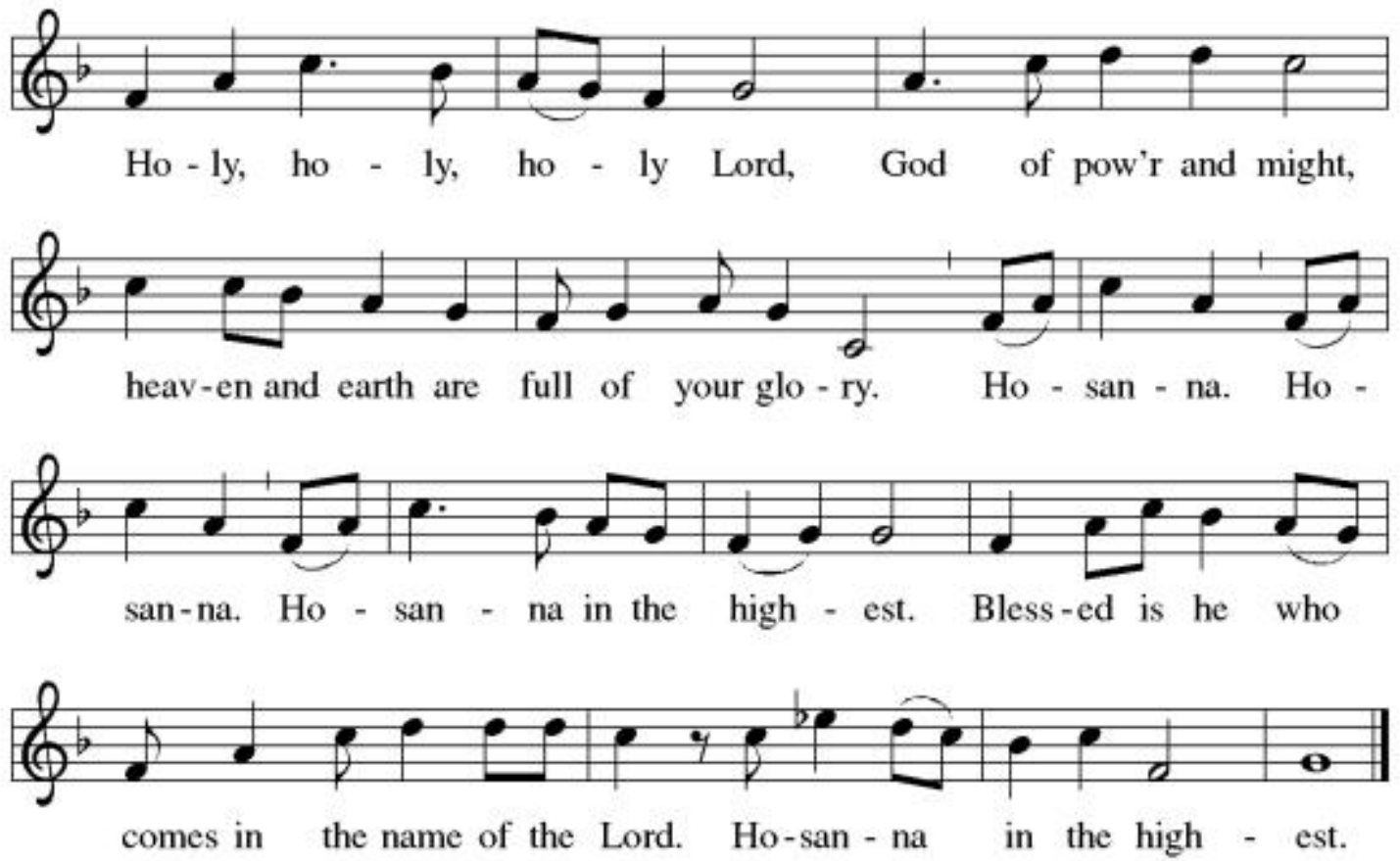
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places...

... So with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

To you indeed be glory, almighty God,  
 for on the night he was betrayed  
 Jesus gathered with his friends  
 for a meal that remembers and anticipates freedom

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
 shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,  
we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is Risen, Christ will come again.**

As we share this bread and cup, O God,  
and as we remember Christ's death and resurrection,  
send your Holy Spirit into our dispersed midst,  
that we who share these gifts  
may be fed, and forgiven, and strengthened to serve you.

**Amen.**

As Christ has taught us, so we pray:

**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.**

## **DISTRIBUTION**

*This is the table of God. We invite all who are hungry for God's presence in their lives to receive this gift of mercy and forgiveness at the table.*

*Those of you who are with others in your home, please serve one another saying, "The body of Christ, given for you" and "The blood of Christ, shed for you." Those of you who are watching by yourself, I invite you to wait until I say those words to you before you eat the bread and drink the wine.*

*If you don't have bread, or you don't have wine or grape juice, Martin Luther reminds us that God is fully present in each element – that receiving only the bread or only the wine is entire forgiveness.*

*Further, those of you who might not receive communion for whatever reason, please recognize and understand that God's forgiveness and mercy and love are fully and completely provided to you in ways additional to Holy Communion.*

## **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's Grace.

**Amen.**

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## SENDING

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### PRAYER

We give you thanks, gracious God,  
that once again you have fed us with food beyond compare,  
the body and blood of Christ.

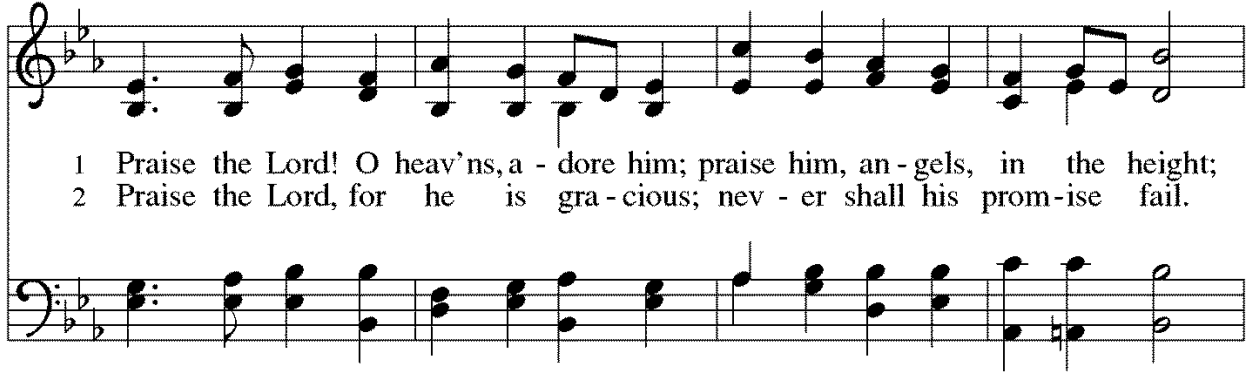
Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven,  
into your beloved vineyard  
to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst,  
guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ  
and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

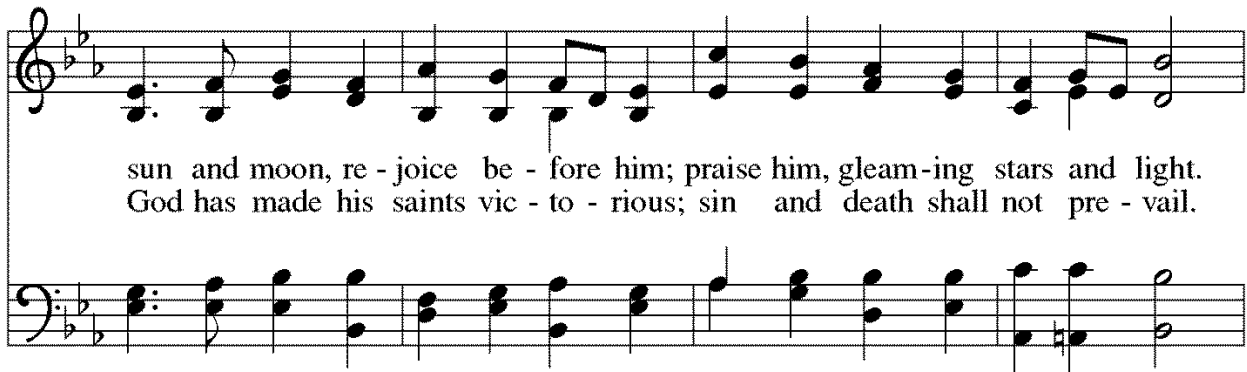
### BENEDICTION

May God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

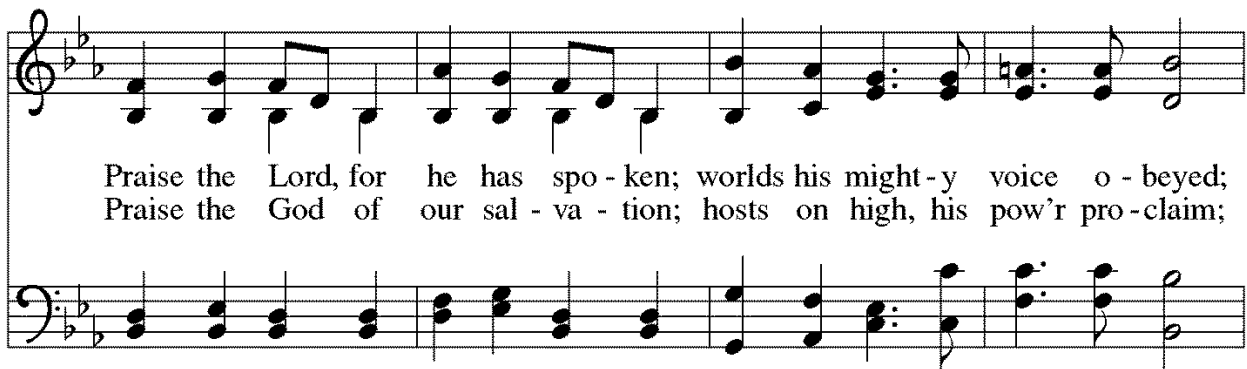
**Amen.**



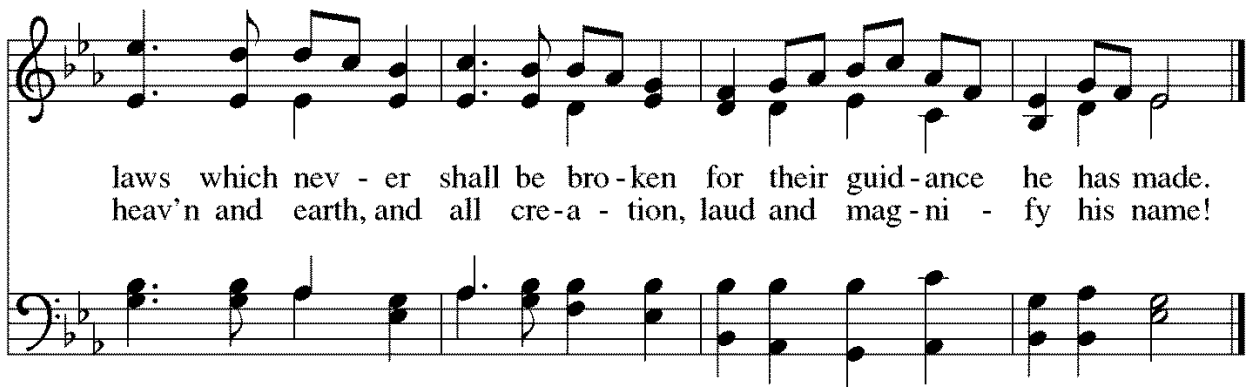
1 Praise the Lord! O heav'ns, a - dore him; praise him, an - gels, in the height;  
2 Praise the Lord, for he is gra - cious; nev - er shall his prom - ise fail.



sun and moon, re - joice be - fore him; praise him, gleam - ing stars and light.  
God has made his saints vic - to - rious; sin and death shall not pre - vail.



Praise the Lord, for he has spo - ken; worlds his might - y voice o - beyed;  
Praise the God of our sal - va - tion; hosts on high, his pow'r pro - claim;



laws which nev - er shall be bro - ken for their guid - ance he has made.  
heav'n and earth, and all cre - a - tion, laud and mag - ni - fy his name!

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

### **Scripture Readings for Next Sunday, October 4**

*Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:7-15; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46*



**GRACE NOTES**  
a guide to parish life at Grace

September 27, 2020

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*We pray for those who are ill: Carol Painter, Allan Wolfe, Jacquie Poe (friend of Sandi Stahl);*

*those undergoing treatment: Tom Graziano (friend of Tom Lawson), Ron Lundal (family friend of the Lawsons), Patrick Fallin (friend of Hiroko Akima), Coral Fay Mosbø (sister of Karen O'Loughlin), Paul Herzegh (friend of the Zabels), Elizabeth Farr, Deena Steward (daughter-in-law of the Stewards), Cheryl Fenske Prudic (niece of the Stewards), Mary Dorsett (former member of Grace);*

*hope and healing: Rich Harris (John Laitinen's cousin), Blaine Gorrell (great-grand nephew of Donna Rohde recuperating from surgery in September 24), Leon Fjestad (Anne Peterson's brother admitted to a memory care nursing home), Fran Dzilvelis (Ashley (née Stahl) Dzilvelis' mother-in-law), Christian Mueller (grandson of Anne and Stan Peterson working on the COVID19 ward at St. Joseph's hospital), Diana Anderson (former Grace member), Barry Miller (friend of the Gambles now in Hospice Care), Rodney McLennon (friend of the Zabels), Beaudin Larabee (friend of the Zabels), Ray Haux (former Grace member now in Hospice care), Mieko Akima, Myrna Montgomery (grandmother of LCM student Arin Moriarty), Mark Woods (friend of Deb Valerio), Ruth VanderMinden, Pamela Kast (sister-in-law of Patty's sister), Rick Beckman (brother of Kim).*

**The designated offering for September is: [ELCA Racial Justice Ministries.](#)**

We in the ELCA believe that Christ's church is for all people. God calls each of us by name, and it is not our job to sort, divide, categorize or exclude. But as "saints and sinners," we know and experience God's work of healing and restoring as well as the persistent human pain and injustices of racism in the world. This is where God has put us, in the thick of life, where we participate in what God is doing by

insisting on justice and upholding human dignity for the inclusion of all people in the life of the church and society.

We in the ELCA are called to be a church that embraces each person and confronts racial, ethnic, cultural, religious, age, gender, familial, sexual orientation, physical, personal and class barriers that often manifest themselves in unjust treatment, inequalities, exclusion and violence.

Thanks to the **Grace Foundation**, all gifts through our designated offerings will be matched dollar for dollar in 2020, up to \$2,000/month. Please make your check to “Grace Lutheran Church” and add “PiM: ELCA Racial Justice Ministries” to the memo line. You may place checks in the mail slot at Grace, send through the US mail, or use our electronic giving option [Simply Giving](#) on the Grace website. Thank you for your generosity.

### **A Note from Pastor Matthew**

Our world feels to me a little like it’s been, or being, turned upside down. It feels like we’re in the midst of some sort of societal change, and I don’t know how things are going to turn out.

As a society, a few significant issues have come to the fore. What I see us facing includes: the COVID-19 pandemic, systemic racism, a shifting world political stage, an increasingly contentious national political reality, devastatingly destructive wildfires, and increasingly numerous hurricanes & tropical storms.

Add to that the fact that the elections our nation is holding right now are going to go on for another almost six weeks – and elections always seem to throw us for a loop as a society.

One of the things I continually wonder is what role the church will play in society ... and these days especially, I wonder about the role of the church. It’s obvious that the church doesn’t have the same influence on society today that it did fifty years ago.



But what if we didn't lament that shift? What if, instead, we used our voice to speak up in favor of Gospel issues, and against those things in our society that run counter to the Gospel?

Trouble is, we humans have a tendency to argue. About almost everything. Especially politics, and everything that seems like it might be a political issue. Maybe the first place we start is by modeling having actual conversations about potentially difficult or uncomfortable topics.

One of the things that made the early church (before Constantine decided that Christians are ok) stand out in a pluralistic world was that they completely threw the values of their society out the window. When the most important economic concern was getting rich, the church cared for the poor. When the sick and infirm were shunned or ignored, the church took care of them. The societal boundaries between Jew and Greek, slave and free, male and female, poor and rich, old and young, and probably many others were ignored by the church.

The early church flouted societal conventions in favor of the Gospel ... particularly that pesky part of the Gospel where we care about other people. I wonder what it would be like for us, at Grace Lutheran, to have some intentional and pointed conversations about where and how we're being called to flout societal conventions in favor of the Gospel. And maybe these conversations would be framed around the issues that we're facing as a nation in the run-up to the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November.

Let me know what you think. And in the meantime, remember to stay well, wash your hands, and keep on trusting in Jesus.

~ pr. m

## Rooted in Grace

The **Grace Choir** will be holding rehearsals [via Zoom](#) on Wednesday evenings from 7:30-9 pm. Anyone is welcome to join us regardless of musical experience. Spread the word to any friends who may be interested in joining us for any or all of our rehearsal, or to see how our music program works. Please [let Michael know if you are interested](#). We're happy to share music with all of you!

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We've added an **Evening Prayer Liturgy** to our schedule at Grace. Every other Wednesday evening we meet in the courtyard at 5:30 pm for a service of instrumental music, prayer, scripture, and silence. [Sign up for Wednesday, October 7th here](#). If you would like to participate remotely, please use the [Worship Service link](#).

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**Lectionary Bible Study** continues on Wednesday, September 30 at 10:30 am [via Zoom](#). The study focuses on the lectionary texts for the next Sunday's worship, taking a deeper dive than is possible within the constraints of the service. Join us for spirited discussion and fellowship time!

The readings for Sunday, October 4, 2020 are:

- **Isaiah 5:1-7** *The song of the vineyard*
  - **Psalms 80:7-15** *Look down from heaven, O God; behold and tend this vine. (Ps. 80:14, 15)*
  - **Philippians 3:4b-14** *Nothing surpasses the value of knowing Christ*
  - **Matthew 21:33-46** *The parable of the vineyard owner's son*
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## Reaching Out in Christ's Love

**New Beginnings** also invites us to attend the virtual Chow Hall Gala. Mark your calendar for Friday, October 9 from 6:00-7:30 pm.

Their baseball themed event will feature musical entertainment, guest speakers from both inside and outside the prison, and—new this year—paddle raiser games. You'll hear from bestselling author Nadia Bolz-Weber who preaches and teaches inside Denver Women's as a New Beginnings volunteer. You will also hear from Dean Williams, the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Corrections, who will speak about changing the prison culture in Colorado. Help them hit a home run! Information on tickets and other opportunities to support New Beginnings during the gala can be found [here](#).

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Thank you for your donations of blank greeting cards for the inmates of [New Beginnings](#). Your cards allow the women to communicate with loved ones.

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Remember [Harvest of Hope](#) food pantry when you shop for groceries this week. Our donations make a difference for those who struggle to find food each week.

*i pray we may remain soft enough to grieve  
and hold space too for the rage  
rage mixed with grief  
and exhaustion  
and fear  
screaming and weeping  
and rising up and digging deep  
and holding close, holding close  
all that matters most  
these precious lives  
beloved  
beloveds*

-rev. anna blaedel  
theologian in residence at [enfleshed.com](http://enfleshed.com)

## **This Week at Grace**

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### Sunday, September 27

9:15-11:45 am Office Administrator Hours, Remotely

**10 am Worship Service [via Zoom](#)**

### Monday, September 28

*Nothing Scheduled*

### Tuesday, September 29

11 am-2 pm Office Administrator Hours, Remotely

### Wednesday, September 30

**10:30-11:30 am Lectionary Bible Study [via Zoom](#)**

11 am-6 pm Office Administrator Hours, Grace Office

12-1 pm Staff Meeting [via Zoom](#)

### Thursday, October 1

11 am-2 pm Office Administrator Hours, Remotely

### Friday, October 2

11 am-2 pm Office Administrator Hours, Remotely

### Saturday, October 3

*Worship Packet Deliveries*

### Sunday, October 4

9:15-11:45 am Office Administrator Hours, Remotely

**10 am Worship Service [via Zoom](#)**