

June 13th, 2021
Third Sunday after Pentecost



THE KINGDOM
of GOD IS LIKE
A MUSTARD SEED

M A R K 4 : 3 0 - 3 1

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI ~ SYNOD
308 Byrne Street
Smithville, TX 78957
512-237-2108
Divine Service 10 AM

Pastor Timothy Appel



Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church! We give thanks that our gracious Lord Jesus Christ has gathered us together here for his Divine Service. Today again our Lord comes to serve us and lavish us with his gifts of life, forgiveness, and salvation. Rejoicing in those wonderful gifts, we sing with David in Psalm 84: “How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts! A day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.”

In our readings today: *The parables of our Lord convey the mysteries of the kingdom of God to those who are “able to hear it,” that is, “to his own disciples,” who are catechized to fear, love and trust in Him by faith (Mark 4:33–34). He scatters “seed on the ground,” which “sprouts and grows” unto life, even as “he sleeps and rises” (Mark 4:26–27). “On the mountain height of Israel,” He plants a young and tender twig, and it becomes “a noble cedar.” Indeed, His own cross becomes the Tree of Life, under which “every kind of bird” will dwell, and in which “birds of every sort will nest” (Ezek. 17:22–25). His cross is our resting place, even while now in mortal bodies, we “groan, being burdened” (2 Cor. 5:1–4). Yet in faith, we live for God in Christ, who for our sake “died and was raised” (2 Cor. 5:15). We know that, in His resurrected body, “we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens” (2 Cor. 5:1).*

Hearing, Ask an usher for one of the wireless hearing assistance units.

Holy Communion is a sacred gift from Christ to His Church. In this meal, He gives His true body and blood under bread and wine into our mouths in order to forgive our sins and strengthen our union with Him and with one another (Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17). Christians receive this Sacrament trusting Jesus’ own words, repenting of all their sin, and confessing the faith taught in Holy Scripture together in unity (Matthew 5:23-24; Acts 2:42; 1 Corinthians 11:17-26). For this reason, and because those who eat and drink our Lord’s body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-34), we ask that those who have not yet been instructed and those who are not members of a congregation in fellowship with the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to speak with the pastor before receiving Holy Communion.

A Prayer Before Worship

O Lord, our creator, redeemer, and comforter, as we come together to worship You in spirit and in truth, we humbly pray that You would open our hearts to the preaching of Your Word so that we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear us for His sake. Amen

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP BELL

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

WELCOME

The Man Is Ever Blessed

LSB 705



1 The man is ev - er blessed Who shuns the sin - ners' ways,
2 But makes the Law of God His stud - y and de - light
3 He like a tree shall thrive, With wa - ters near the root;
4 Not so the wick - ed race, They no such bless - ings find;



A - mong their coun - sels nev - er stands, Nor takes the scorn - ers' place,
A - mid the la - bors of the day And watch - es of the night.
Fresh as the leaf his name shall live, His works are heav'n - ly fruit.
Their hopes shall flee like emp - ty chaff Be - fore the driv - ing wind.

- 5 How will they bear to stand Before the judgment seat
Where all the saints at Christ's right hand In full assembly meet?
- 6 He knows and He approves The way the righteous go;
But sinners and their works shall meet A dreadful overthrow.

Stand

Invocation (*God has given us our beginning in Baptism, so the Divine Service begins in His Name.*)

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Confession: (*We cannot come into the presence of our holy God on our own. We recognize our sinfulness and plead for mercy on account of Christ.*)

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

Absolution: (*God speaks His words of forgiveness to us through His servant, the pastor.*)

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit: (*Forgiven by God, He invites us into his presence as we speak words from the Psalms.*)

Ps. 92:12–15; antiphon: Ps. 92:1

It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
to sing praises to your name, O Most High.

**The righteous flourish like the palm tree
and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.**

They are planted in the house of the LORD;
they flourish in the courts of our God.

**They still bear fruit in old age;
they are ever full of sap and green,**

to declare that the LORD is upright;
he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

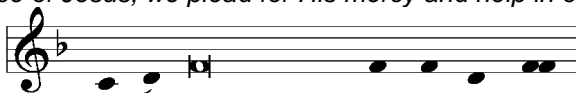
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
to sing praises to your name, O Most High.

Kyrie: (*Shortened form of the Greek “Kyrie eleison,” meaning “Lord, have mercy.” In the presence of Jesus, we plead for His mercy and help in our time of need.*)

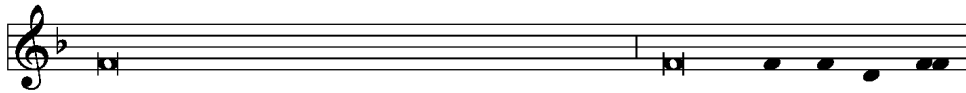
LSB 152



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



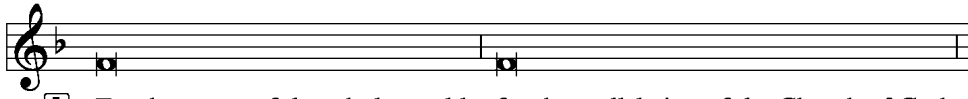
G Lord, have mer - cy.



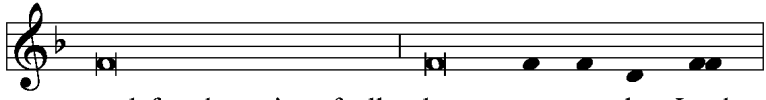
A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



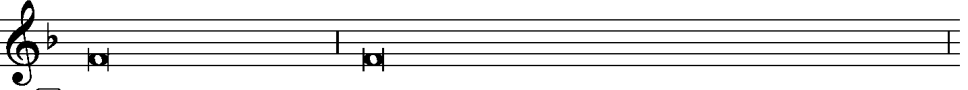
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



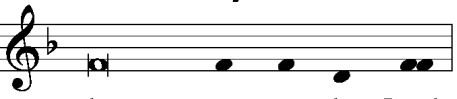
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



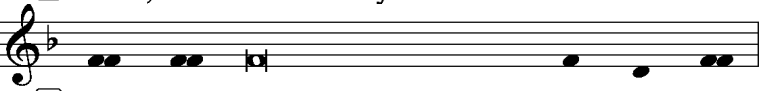
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

Hymn of Praise: (Trusting God's promise of mercy, we join the church in heaven and on earth in a song of praise to our Creator, Savior, and Comforter.)

This Is the Feast

LSB 155

Refrain



C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain



C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Salutation: (The pastor and congregation greet each other in the Lord's presence.)



P The Lord be with you.

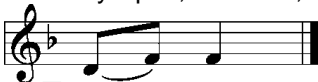


C And al - so with you.

Collect: *(Many of these prayers have been used in the church for over 1,500 years. They “collect” the Gospel theme for the day.)*

P Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

Scripture Readings: *(Jesus speaks to us in His Word as our crucified and risen Savior.)*

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 17:22–24

P Today's Old Testament Reading is from Ezekiel, the seventeenth chapter.

²²Thus says the Lord GOD: “I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar and will set it out. I will break off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one, and I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel will I plant it, that it may bear branches and produce fruit and become a noble cedar. And under it will dwell every kind of bird; in the shade of its branches birds of every sort will nest. ²⁴And all the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD; I bring low the high tree, and make high the low tree, dry up the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish. I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual: *(The Gradual is a portion of a psalm or other Scripture passage that responds to the Old Testament reading and transitions us toward the words of Jesus in the Gospel.)*

Ps. 145:3, 5b, 6b

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,

and his greatness is unsearchable.

On your wondrous works, I will meditate,

and I will declare your greatness.

Epistle

2 Corinthians 5:1–10

P Today's Epistle reading is from 2 Corinthians, the fifth chapter.

¹For we know that if the tent, which is our earthly home, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ²For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, ³if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. ⁴For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

⁶So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, ⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So

whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

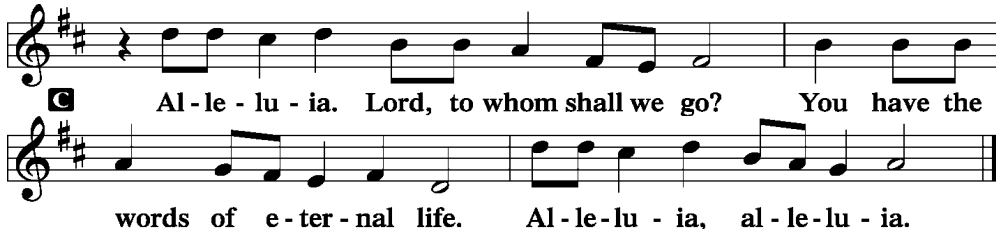
P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Common Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156



C 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.

Holy Gospel

Mark 4:26-34

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the fourth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

²⁶And he said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground.

²⁷He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how.

²⁸The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear.

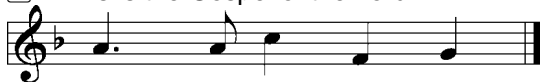
²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."

³⁰And he said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? ³¹It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it.

³⁴He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Creed: *(God works faith in us by His Word that we hear in Scripture. We confess that faith using one of three creeds that the church has used throughout the years and across the world.)*

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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.
 The third day He rose again from the dead.
 He ascended into heaven
 and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
 From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Sit

Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide

LSB 585



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, with us a - bide, For round us
 2 In these last days of great dis - tress Grant us, dear
 3 To hope grown dim, to hearts turned cold Speak tongues of
 4 May glo - rious truths that we have heard, The bright sword



falls the e - ven - tide. O let Your Word,
 Lord, true stead - fast - ness That we keep pure
 fire and make us bold To shine Your Word
 of Your might - y Word, Spurn Sa - tan that



that sav - ing light, Shine forth un - dimmed in - to the night.
 till life is spent Your ho - ly Word and Sac - ra - ment.
 of sav - ing grace In - to each dark and love - less place.
 Your Church be strong, Bold, u - ni - fied in act and song.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>5 Restrain, O Lord, the human pride
 That seeks to thrust Your truth aside
 Or with some man-made thoughts or
 things
 Would dim the words Your Spirit sings.</p> | <p>6 Stay with us, Lord, and keep us true;
 Preserve our faith our whole life
 through—
 Your Word alone our heart's defense,
 The Church's glorious confidence.</p> |
|--|--|

Sermon "The Word Grows"

Mark 4:26-34

(Based on one of the Scripture readings, the pastor proclaims God's Word of Law and Gospel for our lives today.)

Votum

- P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
C Amen.

Stand

Offertory (*The congregation responds to God's forgiveness with a sacrifice of praise.*)

Create in Me

LSB 956

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Stand

Prayer of the Church: (*The congregation joins together to pray for ourselves, for the Church, and for people throughout the world.*)

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

Close of the Prayers

- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface: (*The Service of the Sacrament begins with praise and thanksgiving for what God has done and is about to do for us in the Lord's Supper.*)

LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.



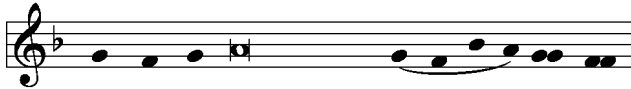
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus: (Latin for "holy." The division between heaven and earth is gone, and we cry out to God with the heavenly host, "Holy, Holy, Holy!" to welcome our Savior Jesus (Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9).) LSB 161



C 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.

Lord's Prayer: (*We pray the words that Jesus gave us to pray, trusting that our Father will hear and answer us.*) LSB 162

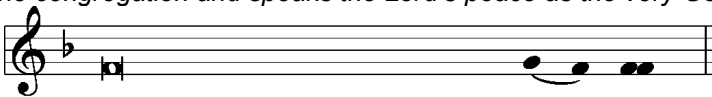
- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
C **Our Father who art in heaven,**
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

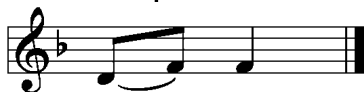
Words of Our Lord: (*We hear Jesus' words that in the Sacrament He gives us His very body and blood in, with, and under the bread and the wine.*) LSB 162

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini: (*Latin for "The peace of the Lord." The pastor holds the body and blood of Jesus before the congregation and speaks the Lord's peace as the very Gospel.*) LSB 163



- P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



- C** A - men.

Agnus Dei: (*Latin for "Lamb of God." As John the Baptist cried (John 1:29), so we sing to Christ, our Lamb who was sacrificed for our sins.*) LSB 163



- C** Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



Sit

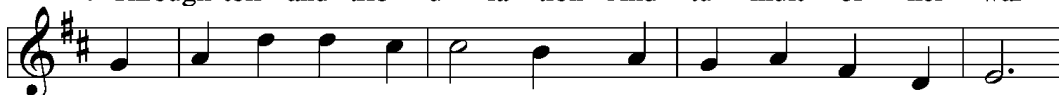
Distribution

The Church's One Foundation

LSB 644



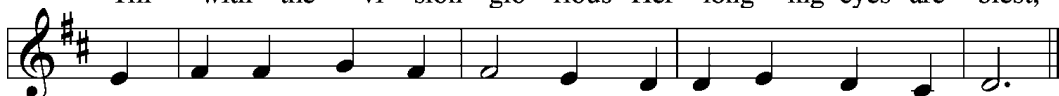
1 The Church's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der The world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion And tu - mult of her war



She is His new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the Word.
 Her char - ter of sal - va - tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth.
 By schisms rent a - sun - der, By her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for - ev - er - more



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho - ly bride;
 One ho - ly name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food,
 Yet saints their watch are keep - ing; Their cry goes up, "How long?"
 Till with the vi - sion glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest,



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
 And to one hope she press - es With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 And soon the night of weep - ing Shall be the morn of song.
 And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.

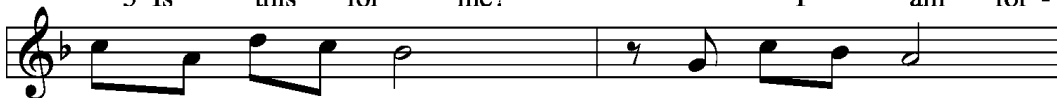
5 Yet she on earth has union
 With God, the Three in One,
 And mystic sweet communion
 With those whose rest is won.
 O blessèd heav'nly chorus!
 Lord, save us by Your grace
 That we, like saints before us,
 May see You face to face.

What Is This Bread

LSB 629



1	What	is	this	bread?	Christ's	bod - y
2	What	is	this	wine?	The	blood of
3	So	who	am	I,	That	I should
4	Yet	is	God	here?	Oh,	yes! By
5	Is	this	for	me?	I	am for -



ris - en	from the	dead:	This	bread	we	break,
Je - sus	shed	for	mine;	The	cup	of
live	and	He	should	die	Un -	der
Word	and	prom -	ise	clear,	In	mouth
giv - en	and	set	free!	I	do	be -
				lieve		



This	life	we	take,	Was	crushed	to	pay	for	our	re -
Brings	His	em -	brace	Of	life	and	love	un -	til	I
My	God,	my	God,	Why	have	You	not	for -	sak -	en
He	makes	us	whole—	Christ,	tru -	ly	pres -	ent	in	this
That	I	re -	ceive	His	ver -	y	bod -	y	and	His



lease.	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	peace.
sing!	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	King.
me?	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	free.
meal.	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	real.
blood.	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	good.

Stand

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart \dagger in peace.

G Amen.

Stand

Post-Communion Cantic: *(Having received Christ in our mouths and into our lives in the Sacrament, we give thanks and go forth in peace.)*

Thank the Lord

LSB 164

C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.
He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy
with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect: *(We thank God for all He has done in the Sacrament and ask that it would show forth in our lives.)*

P Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

Benediction: *(Just as the Divine Service began, so it ends. We go forth with our Lord's blessing and His name upon us (Numbers 6:22-27).)*

LSB 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C A - men.

On What Has Now Been Sown

LSB 921



1 On what has now been sown Thy bless - ing, Lord, be - stow;
2 To Thee our wants are known, From Thee are all our pow'rs;
3 O grant that each of us, Now met be - fore Thee here,



The pow'r is Thine a - lone To make it sprout and grow. Do Thou
Ac - cept what is Thine own And par - don what is ours. Our prais -
May meet to - geth - er thus When Thou and Thine ap - pear And fol -



in grace the har - vest raise, And Thou a - lone shalt have the praise!
es, Lord, and prayers re - ceive, And to Thy Word a bless - ing give.
low Thee to heav'n, our home. E'en so, a - men, Lord Je - sus, come!

Silent Prayer After Worship

Almighty and merciful God, we have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for our many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. We thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep us in faith until we inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

June 13th, 2021

The Mission of Grace Lutheran Church is to joyfully and enthusiastically Model and share the gospel with the lost.

Grace Lutheran Church
308 Byrne, Smithville, Tex.78957
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Fax Number: 512 237-2832
Email: gracelutheransmithville@gmail.com
Web Site: www.glcs.org

Learning Center Director, Angel Hurst
401 Wilkes Street, Smithville, TX 78957
Office Phone: 512-360-2800
Fax Number: 512-237-5990
Email: gracelutheranlearningcenter@gmail.com

Serving the Lord During Today's Worship Service

Elders: Davey Kadlecsek Organist(s): June Parker
Jack Page Esther Wolff
Altar Wendy Rohde Kim Appel
Guild: Nelda Rohde Ruth Eaton

AT GRACE THIS WEEK

<u>Sun. June 13</u>	<u>Mon June 14</u>	<u>Tue. June 15</u>	<u>Wed. June 16</u>
8:45am-Adult Bible Study 10am- Worship/Communion 11am-Family Bible Study	7pm-LLL		
<u>Thurs. June 17</u>	<u>Fri. June 18</u>	<u>Sat. June 19</u>	<u>Sun. June 20</u>
			8:45am-Adult Bible Study 10am- Worship/Communion 11am-Family Bible Study

Ongoing Worship Services at Grace

At the June meeting of the Board of Elders, the following updates were approved concerning our ongoing worship services at Grace:

- Pastor and the assisting elders will continue to wear masks during the distribution of the Sacrament of the Altar. Please use your own best judgment concerning the matter of wearing a mask or face-covering to worship. We especially encourage you to take into your consideration the recommendations of the CDC and other public health authorities. Please strive to continue to treat each other with Christian love and concern as we make such decisions and consider the decisions of others.
- Hymnals will once again be placed in the pews later during the month of June. The service will continue to be printed in its entirety in every bulletin for a few weeks, but we will gradually work toward using the hymnal for singing hymns as the summer progresses. The large print bulletin will continue to have the entire service printed; please reserve these bulletins for those who truly need them as we begin to make use once again of the wonderful resource our church has in its hymnal.
- As we continue to monitor the ongoing status of the pandemic, the month of August has been set as the target to discontinue roping off certain pews and to begin communing at the altar rail once again. At the same time, we respect those who may continue to desire preventative measures such as social distancing, and will provide ways for you to do so.
- As passing the offering plate involves every person gathered touching one object, we will continue to receive our offerings in the plate in the narthex and bring them forward for blessing during the service.

Please note that these matters are subject to change based on the continuing conditions of the pandemic and feedback from you. Our goal is to ease back into these practices in ways that allow for all of us to worship the Savior together at Grace. We encourage you to bring your questions, comments, and concerns regarding these matters; please be in touch with Pastor Appel or any member of the Board of Elders. We ask that you join us in giving thanks to God for the ways in which He has protected us during this pandemic and the ways He has given us and our world relief from this pandemic, particularly from advancements in vaccines and medical treatments the last several months. We also ask that you join us in prayer for our congregation as we make these transitions in the coming months, that God would grant us good health according to His mercy, that God would fill us with love and patience in our interactions with each other, that God would strengthen our faith through the Word and Sacraments He graciously gives us here, and that God would use our proclamation of His Word to bring more of our friends, family, and neighbors to faith in His Son, Jesus Christ.

Opportunities to Receive God's Gifts Individually

For those who are not yet attending in-person worship, opportunities to receive the gifts of God through other means continue to be available. Please be in touch with me to let me know how I can deliver these gifts of God to you. Even in the midst of a pandemic, no Christian should go without God's gifts in Word and Sacrament. Options include, but are not limited to:

- Live stream the 10:00 AM service on our Facebook page
- Individual appointment to receive Jesus' Body and Blood at Grace
- Socially distant outdoor home visit to receive Jesus' Body and Blood

This offer is made in earnest. ***You are not imposing on my time by requesting this of me; this is precisely why God has given time to me.*** Please let me know how I can best serve you in Christ's name during this time! –Pastor Appel

Visit with Pastor

If you need to contact Pastor Appel, you can do so via e-mail (timothyappel@gmail.com) or phone (512-237-2108 at church or 512-237-9664 at home). Pastor Appel is normally in the office between 9:00am and 12:00 noon, Monday through Thursday. He is available in the afternoons as well, but often uses that time to make nursing home, hospital or home visits. If you are unable to reach Pastor, please contact your Elder (listed on bulletin board outside of Office).

Online Resources

Each week, our congregation live streams the 10:00 AM Sunday morning on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/gracelutheranchurchsmithville/). If you are unable to be in worship on a particular week, this is a great way that you can still hear the Word of God. It's also a great way to introduce someone to our congregation and the good news about Jesus. You can also go back and listen to sermons from previous weeks. Bulletins and newsletters are also available online at our website, www.glcs.org.

KFUO Bible Study Resources

Please make use of the fantastic resources for growth in your Christian faith produced by the LCMS radio station, KFUO, where Pastor Appel hosts the Bible study, *Sharper Iron*, every weekday morning at 8 AM. **This week on kfuo.org**, study Jeremiah 14-21 on Sharper Iron's "A Time to Destroy and a Time to Build" (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), hear about 2 Kings 9-13 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and consider practical application of our Lutheran Confessions on Concord Matters (6/19 at 10:00 a.m. CT). Download our new KFUO Radio iOS or Android app to listen live or on demand!

Adult Bible Study

Adult Bible study at 8:45 AM has resumed! (Please note that Family Sunday School will continue each week after worship.) We will be studying God's Word in the Psalms that He invites us to speak back to Him in prayer. Please join us!

Family Sunday School



Family Sunday School continues at Grace! Please join us after the 11:00AM service each Sunday to learn and rejoice in the Word of God together as the family of Jesus here at Grace! This class is intended for anyone and everyone; whether you are single or married or have lots of kids or have no kids, you are welcome to join us to learn God's Word together. Tables are spaced appropriately throughout the parish hall, with one family per table. Pastor introduces a new Bible story each week, and our learning includes both activities done as individual families and as a large group. We also include a hymn and a craft each week. We finish about 11:45 am. Please join us to learn God's Word together as families and as a congregation!

Emergency Response Team Planning Meeting

On Sunday, June 27, a meeting will be held after worship for anyone who is interested in participating in the formation of our congregation's Emergency Response Team. Please make plans to attend; if you have any questions, please speak to Tommy Oates.

June 20th, 2021

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Old Testament Reading: Job 38:1-11

Epistle Reading: 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

Gospel Reading: Mark 4:35-41



Thank You!

Thank you for all the prayers and support you have offered during this academic year. It's hard to believe another school year is complete! We ask that you continue to remember us in your prayers and support, as preparations are made for next year and the future. God continues to bless our ministry and YOU do as well. Thank you!

Youth Camps

Summer camps are back! We are excited to offer a variety of camps for youth this spring and summer. Ages are for grades NEXT school year.

June 14-16 - Basketball - Grades K to 8 - \$15

June 21-23 - Art Camp - Grades K to 6 - \$ 30

June 28-30 - STEM Camp - Grades K to 6 - \$30

Please visit our website or Facebook page for more information! Don't wait --- Sign up today!!

Limited spots remaining!

New Student Registration

Registration for the 2021-2022 school year is underway. We are looking to add more students to our family. Are you looking for a Christ-centered education, a rigorous college prep curriculum, small class sizes? Call for a tour and check out FLHS!! Call (979) 242-2889 today!

Thrivent Action Team Grants

If you are a Thrivent member willing to submit an application for a \$250 grant to be used on projects at Faith, please contact Nikki Kueck by calling (979) 242-2889. Help us to be able to take advantage of these funds for the good of our school. *We are currently looking to utilize Action Grants to offset expenses associated with our summer camps!

Amazon Smile

Did you know Faith Lutheran High School is on Amazon Smile? After you select FLHS as the charity of your choice, everytime you purchase something from Amazon Smile, FLHS will receive a donation.

Amazon Wish List

FLHS has created a wish list on Amazon, for needed materials for the upcoming school year. The easiest way to find it is by clicking on the link on the FLHS Facebook page or website. Thank you for your generous support!