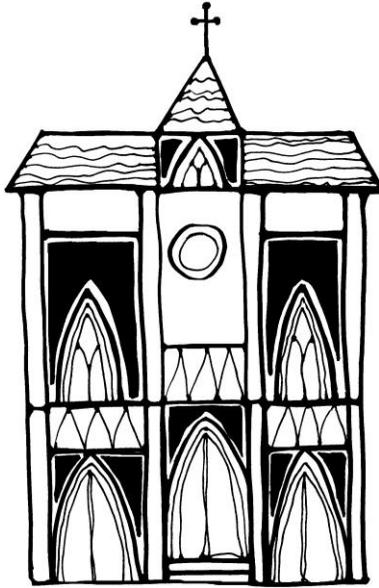


August 22nd, 2021
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost



LORD · TO · WHOM · SHALL · WE · GO?
YOU · HAVE · THE · WORDS · OF · ETERNAL · LIFE

J O H N 6 : 6 8

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 true tradition of the Church is the Gospel, which is the preaching and administration of Christ Jesus. Other traditions, although not commanded by God, may serve and support that sacred tradition of the Gospel. But the Church dare not “[reject] the commandment of God” in order to establish or hold to “the tradition of men” (Mark 7:8–9). Sinful people attempt to draw near to the Lord “with their mouth” and to honor Him “with their lips,” while their hearts are far removed from Him (Is. 29:13). Yet, He is “the Holy One of Israel,” who brings about salvation by His cross. Therefore, “the wisdom of their wise men shall perish,” but “the deaf shall hear” and “the eyes of the blind shall see” (Is. 29:14–19). This mystery of Christ is profound, for He is the husband of the Church, and He is her Savior. Not because of any works that she has done, but solely for the sake of His great love, He “gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word” (Eph. 5:25–26).*

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

Alleluia! Let Praises Ring

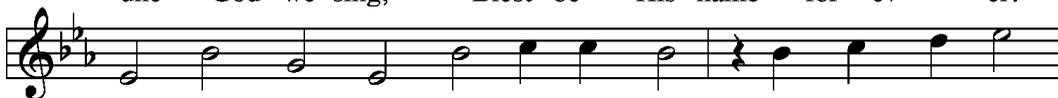
LSB 822



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais - es ring! To God the Fa -
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais - es ring! Un - to the Lamb
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais - es ring! Un - to the Ho -
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais - es ring! Un - to our tri -



ther let us bring Our songs of ad - o - ra - tion.
 of God we sing, In whom we are e - lect - ed.
 ly Ghost we sing For our re - gen - er - a - tion.
 une God we sing; Blest be His name for - ev - er!



To Him through ev - er - last - ing days Be wor - ship, hon -
 He bought His Church with His own blood, He cleansed her in
 The sav - ing faith in us He wrought And us un - to
 With an - gel hosts let us a - dore And sing His prais -



or, pow'r, and praise, Whose hand sus - tains cre - a - tion.
 that bless - ed flood, And as His bride se - lect - ed.
 the Bride - groom brought, Made us His cho - sen na - tion.
 es ev - er - more For all His grace and fa - vor!



Sing - ing, ring - ing: Ho - ly, ho - ly, God is ho - ly;
 Ho - ly, ho - ly Is our u - nion And com - mu - nion.
 Glo - ry! Glo - ry! Joy e - ter - nal, Bliss su - per - nal;
 Sing - ing, ring - ing: Ho - ly, ho - ly, God is ho - ly;



Spread the sto - ry Of our God, the Lord of glo - ry.
 His be - friend - ing Gives us joy and peace un - end - ing.
 There is man - na And an end - less, glad ho - san - na.
 Spread the sto - ry Of our God, the Lord of glo - ry!

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.
C Amen.

Service of the Word

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

Ps. 26:1–2, 6–7; antiphon: Ps. 26:8

O LORD, I love the habitation of your house
and the place where your glory dwells.

**Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity,
and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.**

Prove me, O LORD, and try me;
test my heart and my mind.

**I wash my hands in innocence and go around your altar, O LORD,
proclaiming thanksgiving aloud, and telling all your wondrous deeds.**

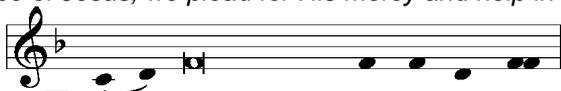
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;**

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

O LORD, I love the habitation of your house
and the place where your glory dwells.

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.)

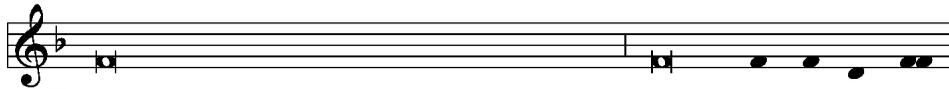
LSB 152



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



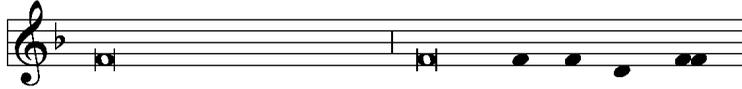
A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



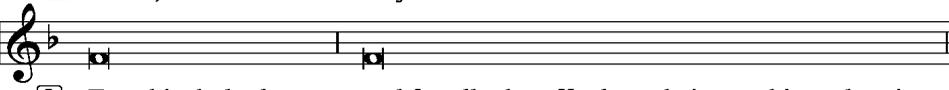
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



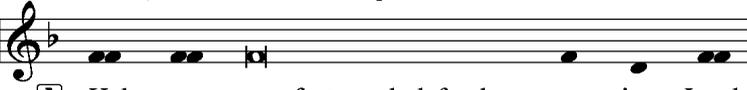
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



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

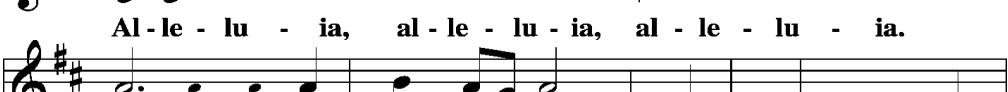
Refrain



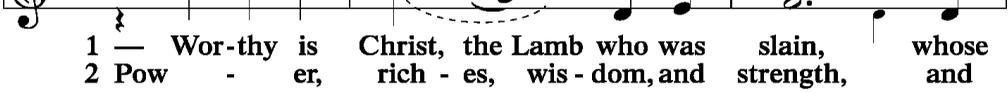
C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



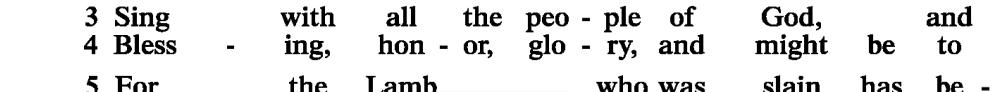
Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.



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 -



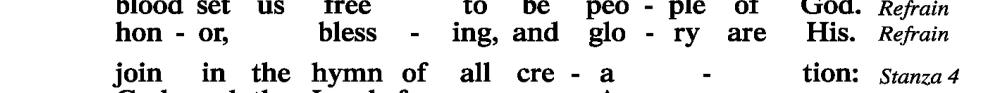
blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



Final Refrain



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

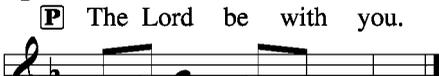


Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

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.

Almighty and merciful God, defend Your Church from all false teaching and error that Your faithful people may confess You to be the only true God and rejoice in Your good gifts of life and salvation; 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

Isaiah 29:11–19

P Today's Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, the twenty-ninth chapter.

¹¹And the vision of all this has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed. When men give it to one who can read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot, for it is sealed." ¹²And when they give the book to one who cannot read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot read."

¹³And the Lord said:

"Because this people draw near with their mouth
and honor me with their lips,
while their hearts are far from me,
and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men,
¹⁴therefore, behold, I will again
do wonderful things with this people,
with wonder upon wonder;
and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish,
and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden."

¹⁵Ah, you who hide deep from the LORD your counsel,
whose deeds are in the dark,
and who say, "Who sees us? Who knows us?"

¹⁶You turn things upside down!
Shall the potter be regarded as the clay,
that the thing made should say of its maker,
"He did not make me";
or the thing formed say of him who formed it,
"He has no understanding"?

¹⁷Is it not yet a very little while
until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field,
and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest?

¹⁸In that day the deaf shall hear
the words of a book,
and out of their gloom and darkness
the eyes of the blind shall see.

¹⁹The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the LORD,
and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.

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. 34:9, 19, alt.

Fear the LORD, you his saints,
for those who fear him lack nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

Epistle

Ephesians 5:22–33

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

²²Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior.

²⁴Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

²⁵Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. ²⁸In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, ³⁰because we are members of his body. ³¹"Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." ³²This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. ³³However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

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 7:1–13

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

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹When the Pharisees gathered to [Jesus], with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, ²they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. ³(For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands, holding to the tradition of the elders, ⁴and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) ⁵And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” ⁶And he said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written,

“This people honors me with their lips,
but their heart is far from me;
⁷in vain do they worship me,
teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’

⁸You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.”

⁹And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition! ¹⁰For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’ ¹¹But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or his mother, Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban’ (that is, given to God)— ¹²then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, ¹³thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do.”

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.



1 Speak, O Lord, Your ser - vant lis - tens, Let Your Word to
 2 Oh, what bless - ing to be near You And to lis - ten
 3 Lord, Your words are wa - ters liv - ing When my thirst - ing
 4 As I pray, dear Je - sus, hear me; Let Your words in



me come near; New - born life and spir - it give me,
 to Your voice; Let me ev - er love and hear You,
 spir - it pleads. Lord, Your words are bread life - giv - ing;
 me take root. May Your Spir - it e'er be near me



Let each prom - ise still my fear. Death's dread pow'r, its in - ward
 Let Your Word be now my choice! Man - y hard - ened sin - ners,
 On Your words my spir - it feeds. Lord, Your words will be my
 That I bear a - bun - dant fruit. May I dai - ly sing Your



strife, Wars a - gainst Your Word of life; Fill me, Lord, with
 Lord, Flee in ter - ror at Your Word; But to all who
 light Through death's cold and drea - ry night; Yes, they are my
 praise, From my heart glad an - thems raise, Till my high - est



love's strong fer - vor That I cling to You for - ev - er!
 feel sin's bur - den You give words of peace and par - don.
 sword pre - vail - ing And my cup of joy un - fail - ing!
 praise is giv - en In the end - less joy of heav - en.

Sermon "Upside Down"

Isaiah 29:11-19

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

Votum

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

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.

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

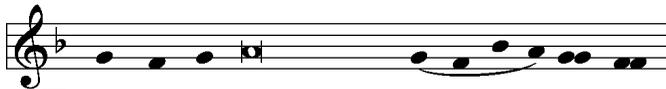
Preface: (*The Service of the Sacrament begins with praise and thanksgiving for what God has done and is about to do for us in the Lord's Supper.*)

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;

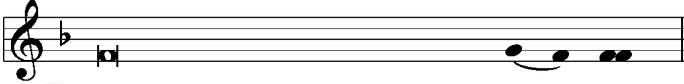
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

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



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

Distribution

Wide Open Stand the Gates

LSB 639



1 Wide o - pen stand the gates a - dorned with pearl, While
2 He speaks the Word the bread and wine to bless: "This
3 The cher - u - bim, their fac - es veiled from light, While



round God's gold - en throne The choirs of saints in
is My flesh and blood!" He bids us eat and
saints in won - der kneel, Sing praise to Him whose



end - less cir - cles curl, And joy - ous praise the Son!
drink with thank - ful - ness This gift of ho - ly food.
face with glo - ry bright No earth - ly masks con - ceal.



They watch Him now de - scend - ing To vis - it wait-ing earth.
All hu - man thought must fal - ter— Our God stoops low to heal,
This sac - ra - ment God gives us Binds us in u - ni - ty,



The Lord of Life un - end - ing Brings dy - ing hope new birth!
Now pres - ent on the al - tar, For us both host and meal!
Joins earth with heav'n be - yond us, Time with e - ter - ni - ty!

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.

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 ✠ 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

G Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.
 Let all who seek the Lord re - jice 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.)*

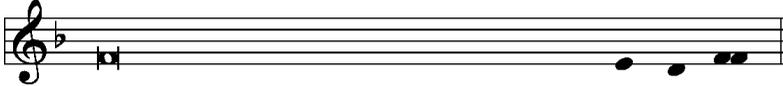
P Let us pray.

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.

Sit

Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain

LSB 865



1 Lord, help us ev - er to re - tain The Cat - e -
 2 Help us Your ho - ly Law to learn, To mourn our
 3 Hear us, dear Fa - ther, when we pray For need - ed
 4 Lord, when we fall or go a - stray, Ab - solve and



chism's ——— doc - trine plain As Lu - ther taught the
 sin and from it turn In faith to You and
 help from day to day That as Your chil - dren
 lift us up, we pray; And through the Sac - ra -



Word of truth In sim - ple style to ten - der youth.
to Your Son And Ho - ly Spir - it, Three in One.
we may live, Whom You bap - tized and so re - ceived.
ment in - crease Our faith till we de - part in peace.

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

Learning the Liturgy, Week 5

How do we confess our sins in the Divine Service?

Our sinful nature wants to try to hide our sins from God. That's why the liturgy reminds us that God is faithful to forgive those who confess their sins to Him (Psalm 32:5; 1 John 1:8-9). We begin our confession in silence, examining ourselves by considering our place in life according to the Ten Commandments. We then speak together the general confession, in which we acknowledge the truth of our sin in two ways. First, we confess that we are sinners; this is who we are by nature (Psalm 51:5; Romans 5:19). Second, we confess that we have sinned in just about every way imaginable (Mark 7:21-22). In our thoughts, words, and actions, in the good that we haven't done and the evil we have, we have sinned. For all this, we plead for God's mercy in Christ.

August 22nd, 2021

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

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Office Phone: 512-237-2108
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:	Jack Page	Organist(s):	June Parker
	Davey Kadlecek		Esther Wolff
Altar	Becky Watson		Kim Appel
Guild:	Helen Fleck		Ruth Eaton

AT GRACE THIS WEEK

<u>Sun. Aug. 22</u>	<u>Mon Aug. 23</u>	<u>Tue. Aug. 24</u>	<u>Wed. Aug. 25</u>
8:45am-Adult Bible Study 10am- Worship/Communion 11am-Family Sunday School	8am-Braille <u>NO Quilting</u>		
<u>Thurs. Aug. 26</u>	<u>Fri. Aug. 27</u>	<u>Sat. Aug. 28</u>	<u>Sun. Aug. 29</u>
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE/NOON 6pm- LWML Mtg			8:45am-Adult Bible Study 10am- Worship/Communion 11am-Family Sunday School

Ongoing Worship Services at Grace

At their August meeting, the Board of Elders elected to postpone further changes to our worship practices that we had hoped to implement. The Board of Elders continues to monitor pandemic conditions in the hopes that, in the coming months, we will resume communing at the altar rail and remove the barriers on every other pew. We will make such announcements in advance so that you can be prepared. When that time comes, based on your feedback, we know and respect that some may continue to desire greater precautions, we plan to set aside the space in the parish hall for those who desire greater social distancing, masks, and other preventative measures. In the meantime, please continue to show Christian care and concern for others here at Grace by remaining home and watching the service online when you are not feeling well and by remaining patient in your interactions with others. Above all else, please continue to pray for the Lord's mercy in the face of this pandemic, both physically and spiritually, that He would keep us in repentance and faith no matter what trials He allows us to undergo.

Opportunities to Receive God's Gifts Individually

When you are not able to make it to the weekly Divine Service on a regular basis, please know that opportunities to receive the gifts of God at other times are available. I encourage you to be in touch with me to let me know how I can deliver these gifts of God to you, because no Christian should go without God's gifts in Word and Sacrament. When circumstances do not allow you to join the congregation for a time, I certainly encourage you to make use of the Facebook livestream to hear the Scriptures and the sermon; I also would welcome the opportunity to set an appointment with you to study God's Word with you and bring you the Body and Blood of Jesus on an individual basis. ***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! —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).

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!

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 Lamentations 3-5 and Obadiah on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), worship with us in Daily Chapel services at 10:00 a.m. CT, study Hebrews 9-11 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and hear practical application of our Small Catechism on Concord Matters (8/28 at 10:00 a.m. CT). Find programs on demand at kfuo.org or on the KFUO Radio app!

WENDISH FEST:

The 33rd Annual Wendish Fest will be hosted by St. Paul Lutheran Church and the Texas Wendish Heritage Society on Sunday, September 26, 2021 at Serbin, Texas. The day will offer lots of Wendish history, heritage, culture and family activities at the St. Paul Picnic Grounds. The traditional Wendish noon meal will be available at 10:30 for \$12 and children \$6. To-Go and drive-thru will also be available at 9:30 – all take-out meals are \$12. Make plans to attend this annual event. For more information contact 979-366-2441 or wendish@bluebon.net or www.texaswendish.org.

August 29th, 2021

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-9

Epistle Reading: Ephesians 6:10-20

Gospel Reading: Mark 7:14-23



Opening Service

Please join us TODAY, Sunday, August 22nd, at 3 pm as we will officially open our fifth academic school year. "Transformed" based on Romans 12:2 is the theme for 2021-2022. A worship service will be held at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Warda. The service will be led by our association Pastors, with the sermon by Pr. Dustin Beck. Offering will be collected to support the FLHS Scholarship Fund. A potluck dessert and punch reception will follow.

Great Start to the School Year

We have had a great start to the school year! We love having our students back on campus and pray that their education and faith may grow abundantly this year! Registration remains on-going. Call us today - (979) 242-2889!

Free Wednesday mornings?

Join us for our weekly Chapel Worship Service every Wednesday. Mr. Jonathan Kueck will be leading chapel this week, beginning at 10:30 am.

Camp Lone Star Retreat

FLHS students are excited to spend Thursday and Friday at Camp Lone Star. The annual student retreat allows our students to participate in challenge courses, to approach conflict from a Biblical perspective, grow together as a family, and have loads of fun! Pray for this event!

5th Annual Golf Tournament

Faith Lutheran High School will be holding their annual golf tournament fundraiser on September 18th at Frisch Auf Country Club in La Grange Texas. Shotgun start at 8:00 AM. For more information on entering a 2 person team or to sign up as a sponsor, please call (979) 242-2889 or visit our website at www.flhstx.org.

Thank You!

Thank you for all the prayers and support you have offered on behalf of FLHS. As we have just begun another year, we are thankful for each of you who faithfully pray and support the ministry God has created at FLHS. Thank you, on behalf of the students who will be instilled with wisdom as they become faithful leaders tomorrow, for your generous support!

Share the Gift of Love

Faith Lutheran High School has a unique role in combining knowledge and God's love in a student's high school experience. We are partnering with families at the intersection of education and faith development. If you would like to support our ministry through a one-time or enduring gift, Thrivent Action Grant or volunteer your time and talents, please contact Mrs. Nikki Kueck.

2021 -2022 Faculty and Staff

- Mrs. Chelsea Beck - Part-time History, English, Spanish, Debate
- Pastor Dustin Beck - Part-time Religion
- Ms. Kristin Becker - Science, Math, Technology
- Mr. Jonathan Kueck - Religion, English, P.E.
- Mrs. Nikki Kueck - Administrator, History, Math, Electives
- Mrs. Jane Obersat - Part-time German, Library
- Mr. Dan Schaefer - Part-time History, Music