

**September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021**  
**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**



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 Lord proclaims the Gospel “to those who have an anxious heart” to comfort and encourage them with His presence. He comes not only with threats of “vengeance” and “recompense,” but with His gracious salvation (Is. 35:4). He opens “the eyes of the blind” and “the ears of the deaf,” and He loosens “the tongue of the mute” to “sing for joy” (Is. 35:5–6). Like water on thirsty ground, He speaks His life-giving Word to people of all nations. With His Word and the touch of His hand, He does “all things well,” so that you may now speak “plainly” (Mark 7:31–37). You confess the truth of God in Christ to the glory of His holy name, and you call upon His name in every trouble, confident that He will hear and answer. As you pray and confess with your tongue, so also “love your neighbor as yourself” (James 2:8). Show your faith “in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory,” by loving without partiality. For God has “chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom” (James 2:1–5).*

**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**

# Word of God, Come Down on Earth

LSB 545



1 Word of God, come down on earth, Liv - ing rain from  
2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to  
3 Word that caused blind eyes to see, Speak and heal our  
4 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, One with God be -



heav'n de - scend - ing; Touch our hearts and bring to birth  
life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,  
mor - tal blind - ness; Deaf we are: our heal - er be;  
yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove,



Faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,  
Cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, Sav - ing Word, the  
Loose our tongues to tell Your kind - ness. Be our Word in  
God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to



we re - vere You; Word made flesh, we long to hear You.  
world re - stor - ing, Speak to us, Your love out - pour - ing.  
pit - y spo - ken, Heal the world, by sin now bro - ken.  
all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

*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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\cdot\ddagger\cdot$  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. 28:1–2, 6–7; antiphon: Ps. 28:8*

The LORD is the strength of his people;  
he is the saving refuge of his anointed.

**To you, O LORD, I call; my rock, be not deaf to me,  
lest, if you be silent to me, I become like those who go down to the pit.**

Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to you for help,  
when I lift up my hands toward your most holy sanctuary.

**Blessèd be the LORD!**

**For he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.**

The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped;  
my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.

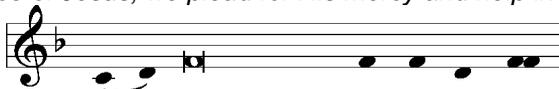
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;**

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

The LORD is the strength of his people;  
he is the saving refuge of his anointed.

**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.)*

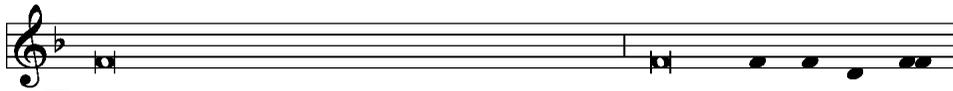
LSB 152



**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.



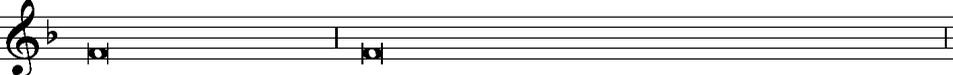
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



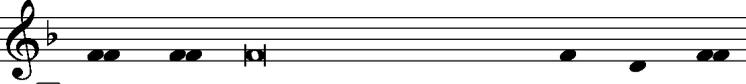
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



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.

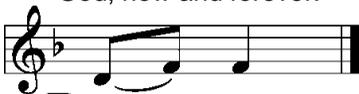


**C** And al - so with you.

**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.

O Lord, let Your merciful ears be open to the prayers of Your humble servants and grant that what they ask may be in accord with Your gracious will; 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 35:4–7*

**P** Today's Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, the thirty-fifth chapter.

<sup>4</sup>Say to those who have an anxious heart,

“Be strong; fear not!

Behold, your God

will come with vengeance,

with the recompense of God.

He will come and save you.”

<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

<sup>6</sup>then shall the lame man leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

For waters break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;

<sup>7</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,  
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

**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

*James 2:1–10, 14–18*

**P** Today's Epistle reading is from James, the second chapter.

<sup>1</sup>My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. <sup>2</sup>For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly,

and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, <sup>3</sup>and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, “You sit here in a good place,” while you say to the poor man, “You stand over there,” or, “Sit down at my feet,” <sup>4</sup>have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup>Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup>But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup>Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

<sup>8</sup>If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well. <sup>9</sup>But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

<sup>10</sup>For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it...

<sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? <sup>15</sup>If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, <sup>16</sup>and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? <sup>17</sup>So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

<sup>18</sup>But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

**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 7:31–37

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

**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>31</sup>Then [Jesus] returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup>And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup>And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup>And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” <sup>35</sup>And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup>And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the

more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup>And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

**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.)*

### Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life  $\text{✝}$  of the world to come. Amen.

*Sit*

# Praise the Almighty

LSB 797



1 Praise the Al - might - y, my soul a - dore Him!  
 2 Trust not in rul - ers; they are but mor - tal;  
 3 Bless - ed, oh, bless - ed are they for - ev - er  
 4 Pen - i - tent sin - ners, for mer - cy cry - ing,



Yes, I will laud Him un - til death; With songs and  
 Earth - born they are and soon de - cay. Vain are their  
 Whose help is from the Lord Most High, Whom from sal -  
 Par - don and peace from Him ob - tain; Ev - er the



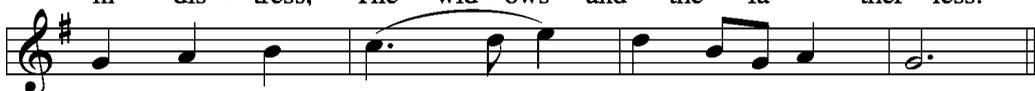
an - thems I come be - fore Him As long as  
 coun - sels at life's last por - tal, When the dark  
 va - tion can noth - ing sev - er, And who in  
 wants of the poor sup - ply - ing, Their faith - ful



He al - lows me breath. From Him my life and  
 grave en - gulf its prey. Since mor - tals can no  
 hope to Christ draw nigh. To all who trust in  
 God He will re - main. He helps His chil - dren



all things came; Bless, O my soul, His ho - ly name.  
 help af - ford, Place all your trust in Christ, our Lord.  
 Him, our Lord Will aid and coun - sel now af - ford.  
 in dis - tress, The wid - ows and the fa - ther - less.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

△5

Praise, all you people, the name so holy  
 Of Him who does such wondrous things!  
 All that has being, to praise Him solely,  
 With happy heart its amen sings.  
 Children of God, with angel host  
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!  
 Alleluia, alleluia!

# Sermon "He Has Done All Things Well"

Mark 7:31-37

*(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.

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

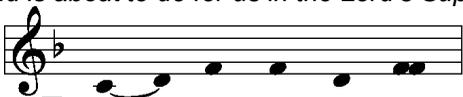
- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.

## 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.



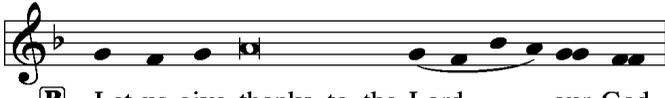
**C** And al - so with you.



**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  $\dagger$  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  $\dagger$  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!

### Jesus Comes Today with Healing

LSB 620



1 Je - sus comes to - day with heal - ing, Knock - ing at my  
 2 Christ Him - self, the priest pre - sid - ing, Yet in bread and  
 3 Un - der bread and wine, though low - ly, I re - ceive the  
 4 God de - scends with heav'n - ly pow - er, Gives Him - self to



door, ap - peal - ing, Of - f'ring par - don, grace, and peace.  
 wine a - bid - ing In this ho - ly sac - ra - ment,  
 Sav - ior ho - ly, Blood and bod - y, giv'n for me,  
 me this hour In this or - di - nar - y sign.



He Him - self makes prep - a - ra - tion, And I hear His  
 Gives the bread of life, once bro - ken, And the cup, the  
 Ver - y Lamb of God from heav - en, Who to bit - ter  
 On my tongue His pledge re - ceiv - ing, I ac - cept His



in - vi - ta - tion: "Come and taste the bless - ed feast."  
 pre - cious to - ken Of His sa - cred cov - e - nant.  
 death was giv - en, Hung up - on the curs - ed tree.  
 grace, be - liev - ing That I taste His love di - vine.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>5 Let me praise God's boundless favor,<br/>         Whose own feast of love I savor,<br/>         Bidden by His gracious call.<br/>         Wedding garments He provides me,<br/>         With a robe of white He hides me,<br/>         Fits me for the royal hall.</p> | <p>6 Now have I found consolation,<br/>         Comfort in my tribulation,<br/>         Balm to heal the troubled soul.<br/>         God, my shield from ev'ry terror,<br/>         Cleanses me from sin and error,<br/>         Makes my wounded spirit whole.</p> |
|---|---|

*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

**C** 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

# Jesus Shall Reign

LSB 832



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun Does its suc -  
2 To Him shall end - less prayer be made, And end - less  
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue Dwell on His  
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er He reigns: The pris - 'ners  
5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring Hon - ors pe -



ces - sive jour - neys run; His king - dom stretch from  
prais - es crown His head; His name like sweet per -  
love with sweet - est song; And in - fant voic - es  
leap, un - loose their chains, The wea - ry find e -  
cu - liar to our King; An - gels de - scend with



shore to shore Till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
fume shall rise With ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
shall pro - claim Their ear - ly bless - ings on His name.  
ter - nal rest, And all who suf - fer want are blest.  
songs a - gain, And earth re - peat the loud a - men.

## 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 7

### *What is the Introit?*

The word "Introit" comes from a Latin word meaning "entrance." The Introit is the first "proper" of the Divine Service (a "proper" is a part of the Divine Service that changes depending on the day in the Church Year). The Introit includes an antiphon (a verse that is repeated at the beginning and the end), selected Psalm verses (or occasionally verses from another part of Scripture), and the Gloria Patri. The Introit introduces the theme for the day. For example, the Introit for the Ascension of Our Lord includes these words from Psalm 47: "God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet." In this way, the Introit helps us to enter into the Service of the Word, prepared to hear more of God's Word to us.

September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021

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

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**Serving the Lord During Today's Worship Service**

**Elders:** Jack Page Organist(s): June Parker  
C. Johannessen Esther Wolff  
**Altar** Marilyn Burns Kim Appel  
**Guild:** Mary Lou Oliver Ruth Eaton

**AT GRACE THIS WEEK**

<b><u>Sun. Sept. 5</u></b>	<b><u>Mon Sept. 6</u></b>	<b><u>Tue. Sept. 7</u></b>	<b><u>Wed. Sept. 8</u></b>
8:45am-Adult Bible Study 10am- Worship/Communion 11am-Family Sunday School	7pm-Elders		5:30pm-Youth Confirmation
<b><u>Thurs. Sept. 9</u></b>	<b><u>Fri. Sept. 10</u></b>	<b><u>Sat. Sept. 11</u></b>	<b><u>Sun. Sept. 12</u></b>
			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](mailto: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/](http://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](http://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](http://kfuo.org):** Begin studying Zephaniah on *Sharper Iron* (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), study Psalm 142-144 and 9-10 on *Thy Strong Word* (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and hear stories about vocation and living boldly Lutheran on *The Coffee Hour* (weekdays at 9:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org) or on our KFUO Radio app!

### WENDISH FEST:

The 33<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:wendish@bluebon.net) or [www.texaswendish.org](http://www.texaswendish.org).

### **September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

#### **Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 50:4-10

Epistle Reading: James 3:1-12

Gospel Reading: Mark 9:14-29



### **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!

### **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](http://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!

### **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 beginning to gather grants for our Oktoberfest event on October 23rd.

### **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.