July 9th, 2023 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost



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

Guest Pastor James Woelmer



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: Though we have died with Christ in Holy Baptism, and we are raised to new life in Him, we find "another law waging war" in our body and life, that is, between our old Adam and the new man (Rom. 7:23). By the Spirit of Christ, we "desire to do what is right," but we are not able to do so because "nothing good" dwells in our sinful flesh (Rom. 7:18). "Thanks be to God," therefore, "through Jesus Christ our Lord," who delivers us from "this body of death" (Rom. 7:24–25). We rejoice in Him, our gentle King, who comes "righteous and having salvation" (Zech. 9:9). He speaks peace to our embattled hearts, and by His blood of the New Testament He sets us "free from the waterless pit," and He returns us to the stronghold of our Baptism (Zech. 9:10–12). Though we "labor and are heavy laden," He calls us to Himself and gives rest to our souls through His free and full forgiveness (Matt. 11:28), not because we are "wise and understanding," but by the "gracious will" of God the Father, whom "the Son chooses to reveal" in love (Matt. 11:25–27).

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



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 Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.
- P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

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

- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I 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.)

Psalm 91:2, 9-10

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

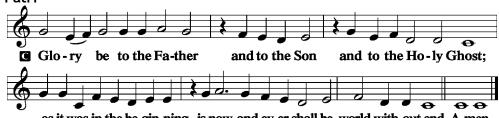
I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—the Most High, who is my refuge—

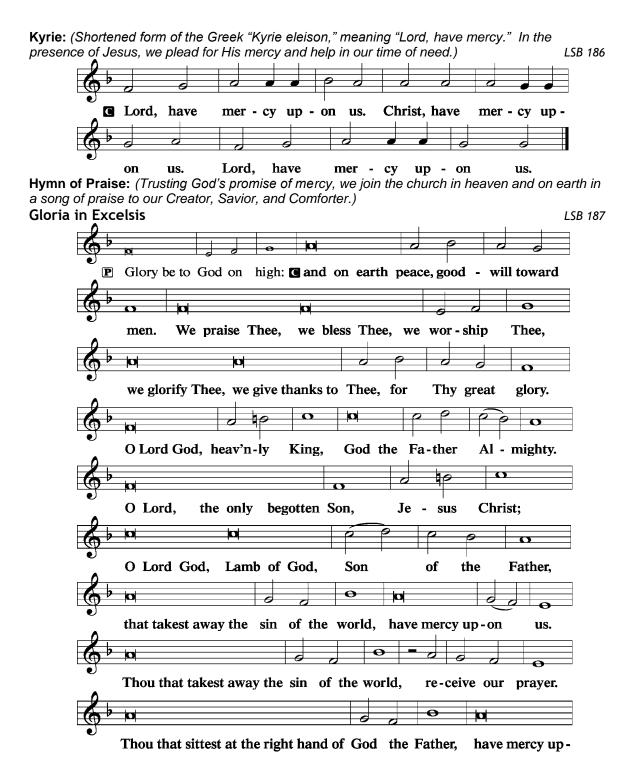
no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent.

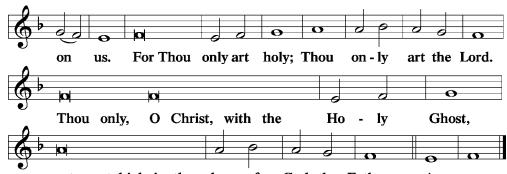
He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

Gloria Patri



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.





art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

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



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.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, Your mercy attends us all our days. Be our strength and support amid the wearisome changes of this world, and at life's end grant us Your promised rest and the full joys of Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

Scripture Readings: (Jesus speaks to us in His Word as our crucified and risen Savior.) **Old Testament Reading**Zechariah 9:9-12

P Today's Old Testament reading is from Zechariah, the nineth chapter.

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!
behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
¹⁰I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

PThis is the Word of the Lord.

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.)

Romans 11:33, 36

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! For from him and through him and to him are all things.

To him be glory forever. Amen.

Epistle Romans 7:14-25a

P Today's Epistle reading is from Romans, the seventh chapter.

¹⁴We know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. ¹⁵I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. ¹⁷So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

PThis is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand



Holy Gospel Matthew 11:25-30

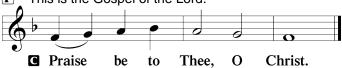
P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.



G Glo-ry be to Thee, O Lord.

²⁵At that time Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."





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

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 $\upred{\upred}$ everlasting. Amen.

Sit

Hymn of the Day: (This hymn especially relates to the Gospel theme for the day. Each hymn provides a way for us to hear God's Word set to music.)



Sermon

(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



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,
- hear our prayer.

Close of the Prayers

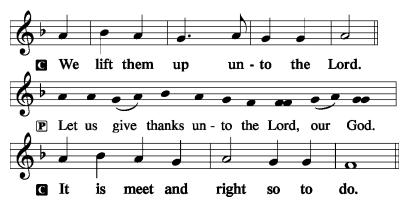
- Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

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.)

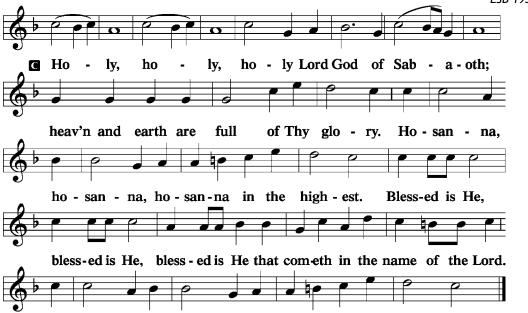
LSB 194





It is truly meet, 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, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. 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!" to welcome our Savior Jesus (Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9).)



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

- P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- Our Father who art in heaven,

hallowed be Thy name,

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;

give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

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

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.)

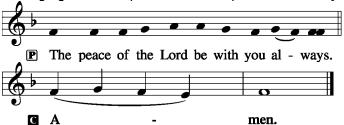
LSB 197

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."

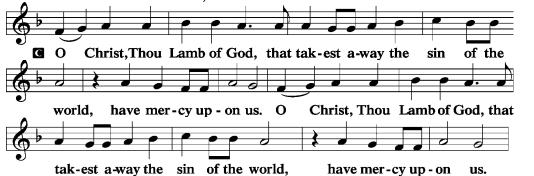
Pax Domini: (Latin for "The peace of the Lord." The pastor holds the body and blood of Jesus before the congregation and speaks the Lord's peace as the very Gospel.)

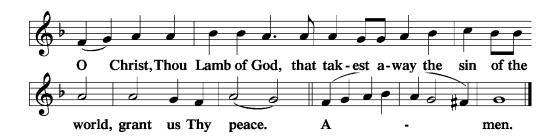
LSB 197



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 198





Sit



And

To

sole - ly

their

pre - serve

sor - rows

them

all

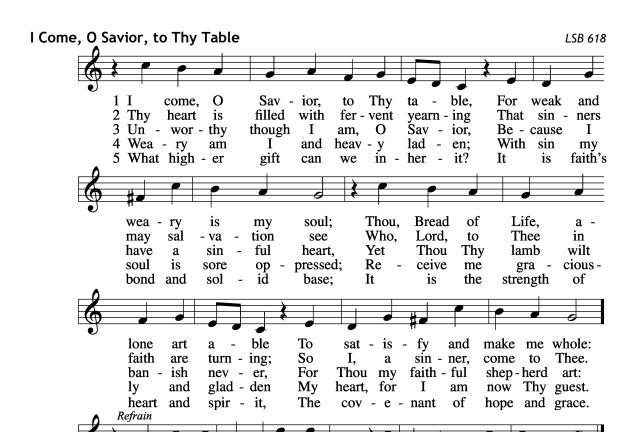
pure

He

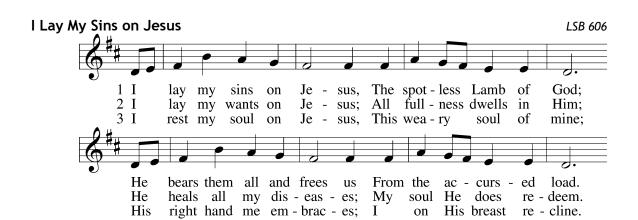
and

know - eth.

ho - ly.



Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high-est good!





His blood most pre - cious Till not Clean in a spot re - mains. He from them all leas - es: He all my sor - rows re shares. Like fra-grance on His name a - broad is the breez - es poured.

Stand

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

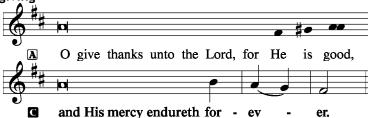
- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart

 → in peace.
- C Amen.

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



Thanksgiving LSB 200



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.

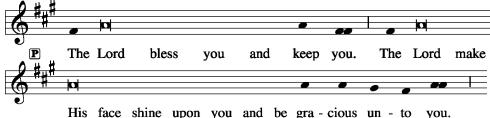
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You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

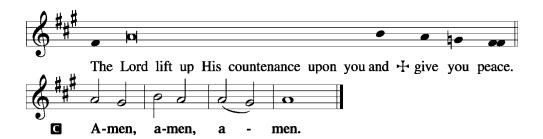


Benedicamus

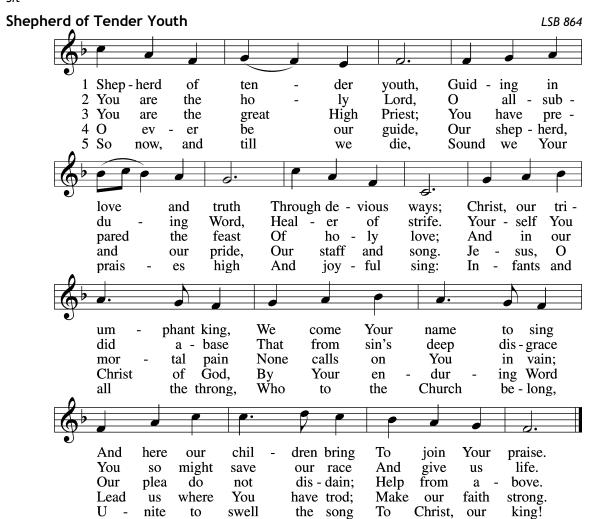


Benediction: (Just as the Divine Service began, so it ends. We go forth with our Lord's blessing and His name upon us (Numbers 6:22-27).)





Sit



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



Altar flowers today were given to the Glory of God by Rodney and Patti Langer in celebration of their 62nd wedding anniversary!

$\begin{array}{c} \text{July } 9^{\text{th}} \text{ , 2023} \\ \text{The Mission of Grace Lutheran Church is to joyfully and enthusiastically} \\ \text{Model and share the gospel with the lost.} \end{array}$

Grace Lutheran Church

Solution Smithville, Tex.78957

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Web Site: www.glcs.org

Altar

Serving the Lord During Today's Worship Service

Elders: Tommy Oates Organist(s): June Parker
Bert Bunte Esther Wolff

Kim Appel
Rose Pietsch Ruth Eaton

Guild: Frances Mynar

AT GRACE THIS WEEK

Sun. July 9	Mon July 10	Tue. July 11	Wed. July 12
8:45am-Sunday School &	7pm-LLL		
Bible Class			
10am- Worship/Communion			
3pm-Ordination/Installation			
Service with Potluck to follow			
Thurs. July 13	Fri. July 14	Sat. July 15	Sun. July 16
			8:45am-Sunday School & Bible
			Class
			10am- Worship/Communion

Attendance Sunday Worship (7/2) 87

Adult Bible Study

Adult Bible study at 8:45 AM continues each week, led by the guest pastor for that week. Join us to spend time together in God's Word.

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

CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO.org: Study "New Obedience" in the Augsburg Confession on Concord Matters (7/15 at 10:00 a.m. CT), study 2 Samuel 20-24 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and continue studying the Psalms on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT). Find these programs on demand at kfuo.org or the KFUO Radio app!

Smithville Food Pantry Veggie Boxes



A distribution of a free box of veggies will be given out at the Food Pantry in Smithville every other Wednesday at 8:30am. Limited boxes available so arrive early. The next distribution will be on 7/12 and continue to run every other Wednesday through December.

Voters Meeting



We will have our next voters meeting after service on July 23, 2023.

July 16th, 2023 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13 Epistle Reading: Romans 8:12-17 Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23



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. ** FLHS now has ACH payment options available. You can set up monthly, quarterly, or even yearly payments to FLHS without the hassle of remembering to write a check. Please contact us to learn more.

New Student Registration

Registration for the 2023-2024 school year is underway. We already have new students enrolled and would love to welcome you into our Falcon family as well. Call us at (979) 242-2889 to schedule a shadow day or visit our website at www.flhstx.org for registration information.

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 for some summer projects!

Save the Date!

FLHS's annual Oktoberfest will be Saturday, October 28th. New this year will be **The Battle of the Vines**, in addition to **The Battle of the Brew** - both are home brew competitions, so start planning your brews now. Returning will be our traditional German meal, domino tournament, cornhole tournament, music, kids games, fellowship, and lots of fun!

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!!