

***September 24<sup>th</sup> 2023***  
***Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost***



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

**Pastor David 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:** Those who are sent as “*laborers for his vineyard*” (Matt. 20:1) depict the wide diversity of vocations to which the disciples of Christ Jesus are called. Whatever our particular stations in life may be, we are called to live and serve by faith in His promises. Our labors do not merit anything before Him, for He is already generous to one and all without partiality. In mercy, He has chosen to bear “*the burden of the day and the scorching heat*” on our behalf, to make us equal to Himself and to give us what belongs to Him, that is, the kingdom of heaven (Matt. 20:12–15). This way of the Lord is foolishness to the world and foreign to our thoughts, but He draws near, so that “*he may be found*” (Is. 55:6), “*have compassion*” and “*abundantly pardon*” (Is. 55:7). So it is that we are found in Christ Jesus, and He is honored in our bodies, “*whether by life or by death*” (Phil. 1:20), by “*fruitful labor*” (Phil. 1:22) or by suffering. It is by faith in His forgiveness that our works are “*worthy of the gospel*” (Phil. 1:27).

**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**

# Salvation unto Us Has Come

LSB 555 sts. 1-6



1 Sal - va - tion un - to us has come By God's free grace and  
 2 What God did in His Law de - mand And none to Him could  
 3 It was a false, mis - lead - ing dream That God His Law had  
 4 From sin our flesh could not ab - stain, Sin held its sway un -



fa - vor; Good works can - not a - vert our doom, They  
 ren - der Caused wrath and woe on ev - 'ry hand For  
 giv - en That sin - ners could them - selves re - deem And  
 ceas - ing; The task was use - less and in vain, Our



help and save us nev - er. Faith looks to Je - sus  
 man, the vile of - fend - er. Our flesh has not those  
 by their works gain heav - en. The Law is but a  
 guilt was e'er in - creas - ing. None can re - move sin's



Christ a - lone, Who did for all the  
 pure de - sires The spir - it of the  
 mir - ror bright To bring the in - bred  
 poi - soned dart Or pu - ri - fy our



world a - tone; He is our one Re - deem - er.  
 Law re - quires, And lost is our con - di - tion.  
 sin to light That lurks with - in our na - ture.  
 guile - ful heart— So deep is our cor - rup - tion.

5 Yet as the Law must be fulfilled  
 Or we must die despairing,  
 Christ came and has God's anger stilled,  
 Our human nature sharing.  
 He has for us the Law obeyed  
 And thus the Father's vengeance stayed  
 Which over us impended.

6 Since Christ has full atonement made  
 And brought to us salvation,  
 Each Christian therefore may be glad  
 And build on this foundation.  
 Your grace alone, dear Lord, I plead,  
 Your death is now my life indeed,  
 For You have paid my ransom.

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,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** 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,

**C** 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.*)

*Psalms 116:12-13, 15-16; antiphon: v. 17*

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and call on the name of the LORD.

**What shall I render to the LORD  
for all his benefits to me?**

I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the LORD.

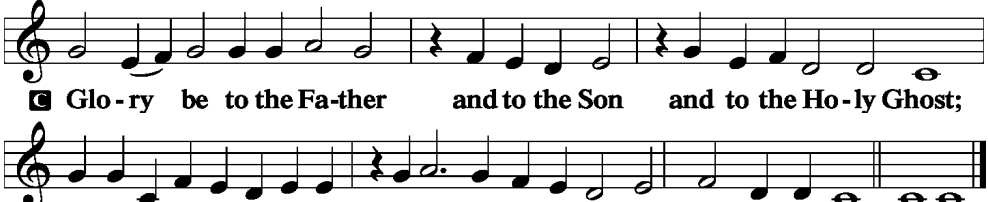
**Precious in the sight of the LORD  
is the death of his saints.**

O LORD, I am your servant;

I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have loosed my bonds.

**I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and call on the name of the LORD.**


## Gloria Patri



**G** Glo - ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;  
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

**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 186

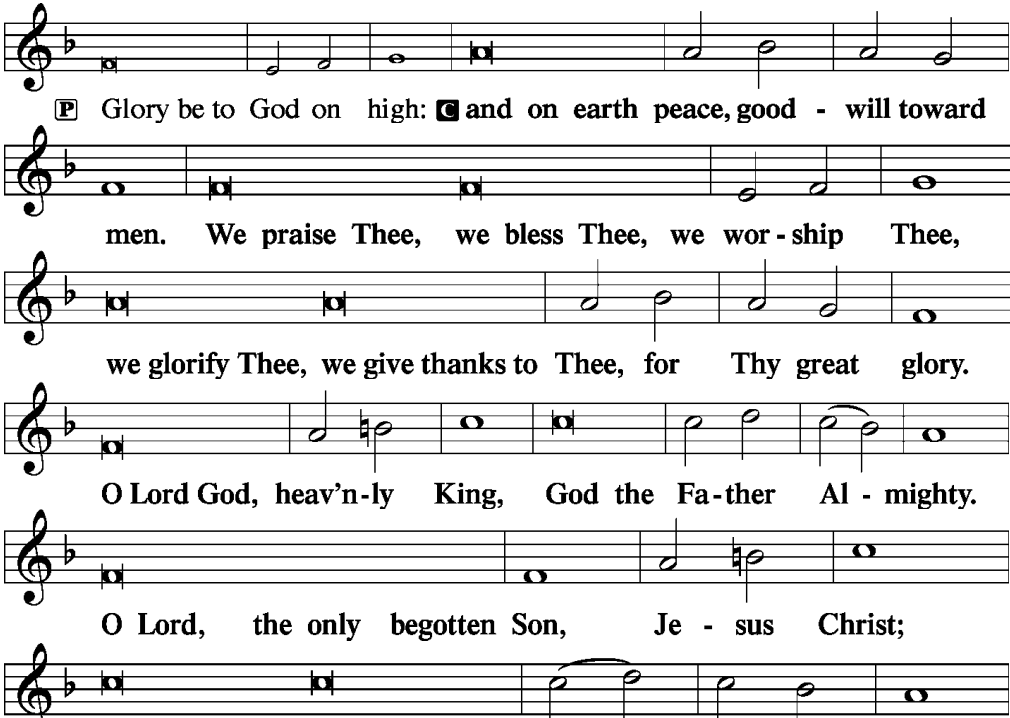


**G** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

**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.)

## Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187



**P** Glory be to God on high: **G** and on earth peace, good - will toward  
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,  
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.  
O Lord God, heav’n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.  
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,

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.)*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spir - it.

**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

Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; 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.

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

**Old Testament Reading**

*Isaiah 55:6-9*

<sup>6</sup>"Seek the LORD while he may be found;  
call upon him while he is near;  
<sup>7</sup>let the wicked forsake his way,  
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;  
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him,  
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.  
<sup>8</sup>For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.  
<sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts."

**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.)*

*Psalms 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**

*Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30*

<sup>12</sup>I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, <sup>13</sup>so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. <sup>14</sup>And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. . . .

<sup>19</sup>For I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, <sup>20</sup>as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. <sup>21</sup>For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup>If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. <sup>23</sup>I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. <sup>24</sup>But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. <sup>25</sup>Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, <sup>26</sup>so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

<sup>27</sup>Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, <sup>28</sup>and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. <sup>29</sup>For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, <sup>30</sup>engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**



**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

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



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, <sup>4</sup>and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' <sup>5</sup>So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. <sup>6</sup>And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' <sup>7</sup>They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' <sup>8</sup>And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' <sup>9</sup>And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. <sup>10</sup>Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. <sup>11</sup>And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, <sup>12</sup>saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' <sup>13</sup>But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius?' <sup>14</sup>Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. <sup>15</sup>Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' <sup>16</sup>So the last will be first, and the first last."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise be to Thee, 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  $\dagger$  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.)*

# Salvation unto Us Has Come

LSB 555 sts. 7-10

7 Let me not doubt, but tru - ly see Your Word can - not be  
 8 The Law re - veals the guilt of sin And makes us con - science-  
 9 Faith clings to Je - sus' cross a - lone And rests in Him un -  
 △ 10 All bless - ing, hon - or, thanks, and praise To Fa - ther, Son, and  
 bro - ken; Your call rings out, "Come un - to Me!" No  
 strick - en; But then the Gos - pel en - ters in The  
 ceas - ing; And by its fruits true faith is known, With  
 Spir - it, The God who saved us by His grace; All  
 false - hood have You spo - ken. Bap - tized in - to Your  
 sin - ful soul to quick - en. Come to the cross, trust  
 love and hope in - creas - ing. For faith a - lone can  
 glo - ry to His mer - it. O tri - une God in  
 pre - cious name, My faith can - not be  
 Christ, and live; The Law no peace can  
 jus - ti - fy; Works serve our neigh - bor  
 heav'n a - bove, You have re - vealed Your  
 put to shame, And I shall nev - er per - ish.  
 ev - er give, No com - fort and no bless - ing.  
 and sup - ply The proof that faith is liv - ing.  
 sav - ing love; Your bless - ed name we hal - low.

## Sermon “The Kingdom of Grace, not Generosity”

*(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.)* LSB 192



**C** 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.

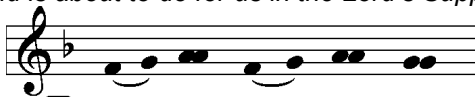
*Close of the Prayers*

- 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 194



**P** The Lord be with you.



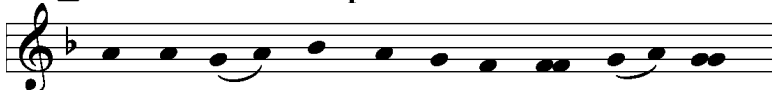
**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** 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 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 195



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,

ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,  
 bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.  
 Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, 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.*)

- 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 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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\text{✠}$  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

**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 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

## Distribution

### Your Table I Approach

LSB 628

1 Your ta - ble I ap - proach; Dear Sav - ior, hear my prayer.  
 2 Lord, I con - fess my sins And mourn their wretch - ed bands;  
 3 Your bod - y and Your blood, Once slain and shed for me,  
 4 Search not how this takes place, This won - drous mys - ter - y;  
 Let not an un - re - pen - tant heart Prove hurt - ful to me there.  
 A con - trite heart is sure to find For - give - ness at Your hands.  
 Are tak - en at Your ta - ble, Lord, In blest re - al - i - ty.  
 God can ac - com - plish vast - ly more Than what we think could be.

5 O grant, most blessed Lord,  
 That earth and hell combined  
 May not about this sacrament  
 Raise doubt within my mind.

6 Oh, may I never fail  
 To thank You day and night  
 For Your true body and true blood,  
 O God, my peace and light.



1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and bound-less; My soul, be-lieve and  
 2 By grace! None dare lay claim to mer - it; Our works and con - duct  
 3 By grace God's Son, our on - ly Sav - ior, Came down to earth to  
 4 By grace! This ground of faith is cer - tain; As long as God is



doubt it not. Why stag - ger at this word of prom - ise?  
 have no worth. God in His love sent our Re - deem - er,  
 bear our sin. Was it be - cause of your own mer - it  
 true, it stands. What saints have penned by in - spi - ra - tion,



Has Scrip - ture ev - er false - hood taught? No! Then this word must  
 Christ Je - sus, to this sin - ful earth; His death did for our  
 That Je - sus died your soul to win? No, it was grace, and  
 What in His Word our God com - mands, Our faith in what our



true re - main: By grace you too will life ob - tain.  
 sins a - tone, And we are saved by grace a - lone.  
 grace a - lone, That brought Him from His heav'n - ly throne.  
 God has done De - pends on grace— grace through His Son.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>5 By grace to timid hearts that tremble,<br/>         In tribulation's furnace tried,<br/>         By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,<br/>         The Father's heart is open wide.<br/>         Where could I help and strength secure<br/>         If grace were not my anchor sure?</p> | <p>6 By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;<br/>         In Jesus' promise I rejoice;<br/>         For though I know my heart's condition,<br/>         I also know my Savior's voice.<br/>         My heart is glad, all grief has flown<br/>         Since I am saved by grace alone.</p> |
|--|--|

*Stand*

*In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:*

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart  $\text{✠}$  in peace.
- G** 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.)*

**Nunc Dimittis**

LSB 199

**C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -  
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with out end. A - men.

**Thanksgiving**

LSB 200

**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

**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.



**C** A - men.

### Benedicamus



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

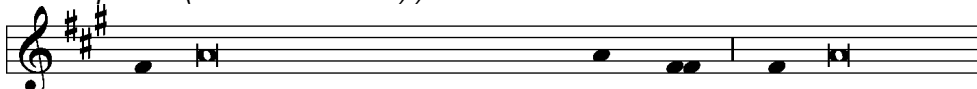


**A** Bless we the Lord.

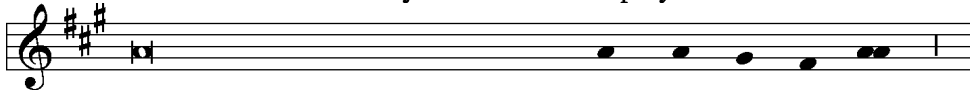


**C** Thanks be to God.

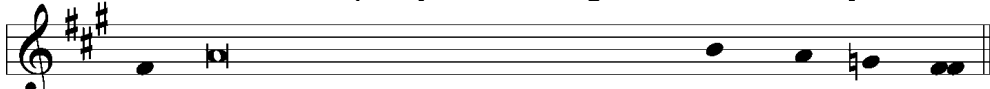
**Benediction:** *(Just as the Divine Service began, so it ends. We go forth with our Lord's blessing and His name upon us (Numbers 6:22-27).)* LSB 202



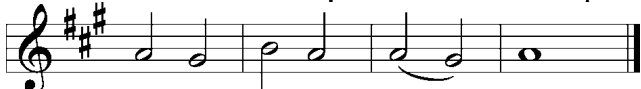
**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.



# Through Jesus' Blood and Merit

LSB 746



1 Through Je - sus' blood and mer - it I am at peace with God.  
 2 There's noth - ing that can sev - er From this great love of God;  
 3 For nei - ther life's temp - ta - tion Nor death's most try - ing hour  
 4 Nor an - y crea - ture ev - er Shall from the love of God



What, then, can daunt my spir - it, How - ev - er dark my road?  
 No want, no pain what - ev - er, No fam - ine, per - il, flood.  
 Nor an - gels of high sta - tion Nor an - y oth - er pow'r  
 This ran - somed sin - ner sev - er; For in my Sav - ior's blood



My cour - age shall not fail me, For God is on my side;  
 Though thou - sand foes sur - round me, For slaugh - ter mark His sheep,  
 Nor things that now are pres - ent Nor things that are to come  
 This love has its foun - da - tion; God hears my faith - ful prayer



Though hell it - self as - sail me, Its rage I may de - ride.  
 They nev - er shall con - found me, The vic - t'ry I shall reap.  
 Nor height, how - ev - er pleas - ant, Nor dark - est depths of gloom  
 And long be - fore cre - a - tion Named me His child and heir.

## 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

**September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

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

Grace Lutheran Church  
308 Byrne, Smithville, TX.78957

Office Phone: 512-237-2108

Fax Number: 512 237-2832

Email: [gracelutheransmithville@gmail.com](mailto:gracelutheransmithville@gmail.com)

Web Site: [www.glcs.org](http://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](mailto:gracelutheranlearningcenter@gmail.com)

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

**Elders:**

**Corey Macks**

**Jaysen Swartz**

**Organist(s):**

**June Parker**

**Esther Wolff**

**Kim Appel**

**Ruth Eaton**

**Altar**

**Tammy Campion**

**Guild:**

**Becky Watson**

**AT GRACE THIS WEEK**

<b><u>Sun. Sept. 24</u></b>	<b><u>Mon Sept. 25</u></b>	<b><u>Tue. Sept. 26</u></b>	<b><u>Wed. Sept. 27</u></b>
8:45am-Sunday School & Bible Class 10am- Worship/Communion 11:30am-Adult Instruction Class	6pm-GLLC Mtg 7pm-Evangelism		10am-GLLC Chapel 5:30pm-Youth Confirmation Class
<b><u>Thurs. Sept. 28</u></b>	<b><u>Fri. Sept. 29</u></b>	<b><u>Sat. Sept. 30</u></b>	<b><u>Sun. Oct. 1</u></b>
			8:45am-Sunday School & Bible Class 10am- Worship/Communion 11:30am-Adult Instruction Class

Attendance

Sunday Worship (9/17) 113

**Visit with Pastor**

If you need to contact Pastor Woelmer, you can do so via e-mail ([rev.davidwoelmer@gmail.com](mailto:rev.davidwoelmer@gmail.com)) or phone (214-218-8354). Pastor Woelmer is normally in the office Monday through Thursday. He is available in the afternoons, but often uses that time to make nursing home, hospital or home visits.

**Adult Bible Study**

Adult Bible study at 8:45 AM continues each week, led by the pastor. 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/](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**

**CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE.org:** Study Leviticus 23-27 on "The Holiness of God" on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), study Joshua 7-11 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and dig into Good Works in the Augsburg Confession on Concord Matters (9/30 at 10:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org) or the KFUE Radio app!

### **Adult Instruction Class**

Though this class is intended for adults who have not yet been confirmed in the Lutheran faith and who intend to become members of Grace Lutheran Church to receive the Lord's Supper, this adult catechesis class is also available to members. Please join us and invite your neighbors, family members, and friends! This class begins September 10th and will continue for 12 weeks until the week of November 26th. Please speak with Pastor Woelmer if you are interested in attending this class. The class will held at 11:30 on Sunday mornings following the service.

### **Youth Confirmation Class**

Confirmation classes began September 6th and will continue every Wednesday night from 5:30-7:00. Please speak to Pastor Woelmer if you plan for your child to attend. Parents, please plan on attending the first class on 9/6.

### **GEMS: Girls Embracing Mission Service**

GEMS: Please note that the Post Oak GEMS group (Girls Embracing Mission Service) will not be meeting at our regularly scheduled time and place for September. Instead, we will have a booth at the Wendish Festival on Sunday, September 24, doing glitter tattoos from noon until 3:00. All proceeds will go toward sending our girls to the GEMS program of the LWML convention in Corpus Christi next summer. Please stop by to support us!

### **WANTED: Conscience - Dead or Alive** **4th Annual Conference, St. Paul, Austin**

Saturday, October 14, 2023 - 9 AM - 5 PM

St. Paul Lutheran (LCMS) [3501 Red River St, Austin, TX 78705](https://www.google.com/maps/place/3501+Red+River+St,+Austin,+TX+78705)

Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller is the main teacher for college students and young adults ages 18 - 35ish. Teaching, preaching, singing, worship, games, food.

Pre- and post conference social events for Friday and Saturday nights.

Housing needs are being evaluated and must be made known by September 17, 2023.

The 2023 conference schedule will be emailed to you after the registration deadline.

To give you a general idea, look at a conference sample at the end of the registration form.

Please register now, the conference registration deadline is Sunday, October 8, 2023, Housing interest by Sunday, September 17, 2023.

Thank you.

Registration link: <https://forms.gle/aQXZb7taBnjLkxVH9>

Please contact Vera Sweet for questions: [txlutheranya@gmail.com](mailto:txlutheranya@gmail.com)

### **Voters Meeting**

We will have our next voters meeting after service on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023.



**October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023**

**Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Epistle Reading: Philippians 2:1-4 (5-13) 14-18

Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:23-27 (28-32)



### **Chapel Time Change**

Due to 7th and 8th grade visit days, our chapel time on Wednesday September 27th will be adjusted to 11:20 am. Please plan accordingly! See you there!

### **7th Grade Visit Day**

7th grade students will be joining us in the afternoon of Wednesday, September 27th. This annual visit event is a great opportunity for future students to see what FLHS is all about and what high school might look like. If you have a 7th or 8th grader, and would like to bring them for visit day, please contact Mrs. Nikki Kueck at (979) 242-2889.

### **7th and 8th Grade Game Night**

FLHS will be hosting a game night for 7th and 8th grade students on Friday, September 29 from 6:00 pm until 9:00 pm at Faith Lutheran High School. We will have lots of food, fun, and fellowship!

### **Oktoberfest Meal Tickets**

Tickets for our annual Oktoberfest celebration are now available! Meal includes brats, noodles, green beans, potato salad, kraut, bread and coffee cake. Meals will be available on Saturday, October 28 from 11 am to 1 pm at the Holy Cross Picnic Grounds. Tickets are \$15 each and available for pre-sale only! (Deadline is Thursday, October 19th.) Talk to a FLHS student, staff, board, or delegate today!!

### **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, silent and live auction, music, kids games, bounce house, and lots of fun! Find our Facebook event, or see our flier for all the details about the day!

### **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 Nikki Kueck to learn more.

### **Follow Us On Facebook!**

With a new school year underway, you may want to see the exciting things happening inside here on a daily basis! By "liking" our Facebook page and "sharing" our posts, you will be in the loop on all the great things happening and you can share them with your friends!