



Summer Sermon Series, Week One
Worship with Holy Communion
Grace Lutheran Church
July 7, 2024

Good morning & welcome to Grace in this time after Pentecost – Ordinary Time.

*Our mission is to invite and welcome all
to the fellowship of Christ in service to our community.*

The time after Pentecost, often called “Ordinary Time” lasts from Holy Trinity Sunday until mid-November. Even without special festivals, these Sundays are anything but “ordinary”. They are gifts to us that support and strengthen our spirituality. We continue to gather, hear the word from the Bible, share the meal, and to celebrate all of God’s blessings to us. Then, we are sent out to be Christ’s people in the world. Every Sunday is our greatest feast, with its gathering of the baptized around the risen Christ for word and meal.

We are glad you are with us for worship today, and we offer a special welcome to any guests who may be with us this morning, and to all those who are joining us via Live-Stream.

Children are welcome in worship at Grace! The voices of children only enhance worship, and they are welcome in this space! There is a Children’s Corner in the sanctuary and, if needed, a nursery off the lobby.

Your bulletin contains the worship service in its entirety, **and your parts are printed in bold type.**

In thanksgiving to God for the saving grace shown to all of us in the death and resurrection of Christ, we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion each week. All are welcome at the Table. We do come forward to the front of the sanctuary for communion. The Pastor stands in the center of the aisle with the bread. Gluten free bread is available – just ask when you come forward. Finally, communion assistants are located on both sides of the sanctuary, with both **wine (red)** and **juice (white)**. Please place your empty cup in the bowl on your way back to your seat after you commune.

For those participating from home, please have a small glass of wine or juice and a small piece of bread available for all who are planning to commune. When we come to the Meal portion of the service, and the people who are present in person are coming forward, please eat your bread and drink your cup as you are moved to do so. You may say the words: This is the body of Christ; this is the blood of Christ, as you commune yourself, and/or others.

If you have questions about our worship service, please don’t hesitate to ask someone around you. For more information about Baptism or Communion, about what Lutherans believe, or even about Grace Lutheran Church, please do not hesitate to reach out to our pastor.

Again, welcome to worship!

GATHERING ~ The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

“Hope of the World”

ACS 1085

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP *Written by Beth Merrill Neel and used with permission.*

In the east and west, the north and south.

God creates beauty and life.

From all corners of the globe.

God calls us to love and to live and to follow.

In our homes and our hearts, in this church and in the world.

We sing and serve, we hope and we pray.

Let us worship God.

We have come to worship God.

GATHERING HYMN

“How Firm a Foundation”

ELW 796

GREETING

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, the love of Christ that guards our hearts and minds, and the joy and consolation of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

SONG OF PRAISE



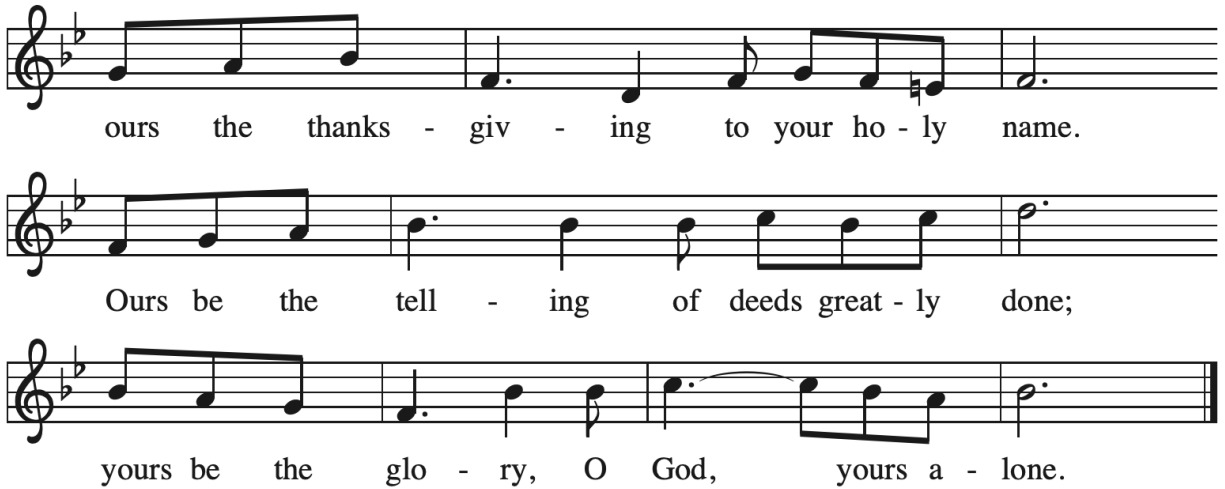
1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;



yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.



Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;



ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of all creation, we seek to know you and to know the mysteries of the universe. Help us to put our trust in you, and not ourselves, and give us eyes to see you in all we meet. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

WORD ~ God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

READING

Genesis 3:1-13 ~ The Message

¹The serpent was clever, more clever than any wild animal GOD had made. He spoke to the Woman: “Do I understand that God told you not to eat from any tree in the garden?”
²⁻³The Woman said to the serpent, “Not at all. We can eat from the trees in the garden. It’s only about the tree in the middle of the garden that God said, ‘Don’t eat from it; don’t even touch it or you’ll die.’”
⁴⁻⁵The serpent told the Woman, “You won’t die. God knows that the moment you eat from that tree, you’ll see what’s really going on. You’ll be just like God, knowing everything, ranging all the way from good to evil.”

⁶When the Woman saw that the tree looked like good eating and realized what she would get out of it – she’d know everything! – she took and ate the fruit and then gave some to her husband, and he ate.

⁷Immediately the two of them did “see what’s really going on” – saw themselves naked! They sewed fig leaves together as makeshift clothes for themselves. ⁸When they heard the sound of GOD strolling in the garden in the evening breeze, the Man and [the Woman] hid in the trees of the garden, hid from GOD. ⁹GOD called to the Man: “Where are you?”
¹⁰He said, “I heard you in the garden and I was afraid because I was naked. And I hid.”
¹¹GOD said, “Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat from that tree I told you not to eat from?”
¹²The Man said, “The Woman you gave me as a companion, she gave me fruit from the tree, and, yes, I ate it.” GOD said to the Woman, “What is this that you’ve done?”
¹³“The serpent seduced me,” she said, “and I ate.”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTION – “In the Garden”

from Bible Beach Reads (Randy Spleth)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

ELW 733

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our risen Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

At this time, you are invited to greet one another with a sign of Christ’s peace.

MEAL ~ God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

MUSICAL OFFERTORY

“Here I Am, Lord”

Mark Hayes

OFFERING

If you would like to offer a gift, the collection plate is located at the back of the sanctuary for your convenience. Thank you for your continued support of our mission and ministry.

OFFERING RESPONSE

“Be Known to Us, Lord Jesus”

ACS Setting 12

OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Those moved to do so may rise.)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The presiding minister continues with the proper preface:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below each staff. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. All creation sings your praise. Sun, moon, and stars reflect your glory. Mountains, lakes, and forests declare your wonders.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With hearts full of memories and hopes, we break this bread and share this cup, remembering the death and resurrection of Christ, and his promise to be with us always as we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

At this table make us your body. Form us to be people of justice and peace. Fill us with gratitude and generosity that we may bear the fruit of love in word and deed.

Praise to you, Author of creation. Praise to you, O Beloved One. Praise to you, O Giver of all good things. Praise to you, blessed and holy Trinity, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come! **Amen**

LAMB OF GOD

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, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS

*“To Be Your Presence”
“In Christ Called to Baptize”*

ELW 546**ELW 575****BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you, and keep you in his grace.

Amen

PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. **Amen**

SENDING ~ God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, † be upon you now and forever. **Amen**

SENDING HYMN

“This is My Song”

ELW 887**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

We will! Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“We All Are One in Mission”

ELW 576

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