

17th Sunday after Pentecost
Worship with Holy Communion
October 2, 2022

Good morning & Welcome to Grace in the time after Pentecost. We are so glad you are here!

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

When we consider the ideal of discipleship, we inevitably come up short. But the gift of grace frees us to be disciples in a new way. With God's law written on our hearts, we can dare to take up Paul's call to Philemon, serving our neighbor not out of duty, but on the basis of love. Discipleship is a serious calling, but also a joyful one. What are we waiting for? (From 'Sundays and Seasons', Augsburg Fortress).

Children are welcome in worship at Grace! The voices of children only enhance worship, and they are welcome in this space! There is also a Children's Message for them, just prior to the reading of scripture. And, if needed, there is a nursery available for any family to use.

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 let the pastor know and the dish will be offered to you, from which you may take your own wafer. Finally, both wine (red) and juice (white) are available, on both sides, based on your preference.

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.

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, we're glad you're here! Welcome to worship!

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

PRELUDE

"What Is the World Like"

ACS 1047

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \oplus one God, who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days. **Amen**

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy and forgiveness, we confess that sin still has a hold on us. We have harmed your good creation. We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Turn us in a new direction. Show us the path that leads to life. Be our refuge and strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen

Beloved of God: your sins are forgiven \oplus and you are made whole. God points the way to new life in Christ, who meets us on the road. Journey now in God's abiding love through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

GATHERING HYMN

"Come Down, O Love Divine"

ELW 804

GREETING

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE

Refrain: All Stanzas: Pastor

Ky-ri - e



ev-'ry

day.

e - lei - son,

Stanzas:

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, **let us pray to the Lord**. **Refrain**

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, **let us pray to the Lord**. **Refrain**

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play let us pray to the Lord, **let us pray to the Lord**. **Refrain**

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Go, Tell It On the Mountain"

Mark Hayes

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Injustice and violence in the time leading up to the Babylonian exile move this prophet to lament: How can a good and all-powerful God see evil in the world and seemingly remain indifferent? God answers by proclaiming that the righteous will live by faith. And we read:

²O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? ³Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. ⁴So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous - therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

¹The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

^{2:1}I will stand at my watchpost, and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint. ²Then the LORD answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. ³For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. ⁴Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 37:1-9 (We will read the Psalm in unison)

- ¹Do not be provoked by evildoers; do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
- ²For they shall soon wither like the grass, and like the green grass fade away.
- ³Put your trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and find safe pasture.
- ⁴Take delight in the LORD, who shall give you your heart's desire.
- ⁵Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD, and see what God will do.
- ⁶The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.

⁷Be still before the LORD and wait patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers,

the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

⁸Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.

⁹For evildoers shall be cut off,

but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.

SECOND READING

Second Timothy 1:1-14

This letter written to Timothy is a personal message of encouragement. In the face of hardship and persecution, Timothy is reminded that his faith is a gift of God. He is encouraged to exercise that faith with the help of the Holy Spirit. And we read:

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

²To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

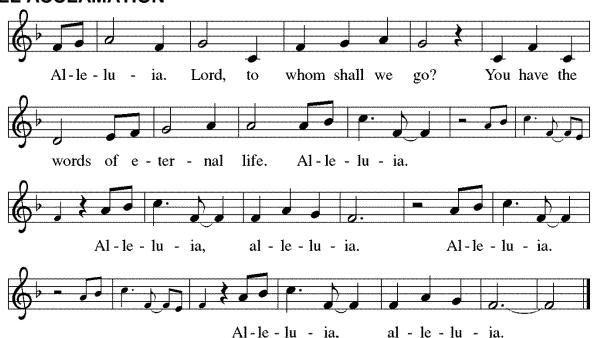
³I am grateful to God - whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did - when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within

you through the laying on of my hands; ⁷ for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

⁸Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, ⁹who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, ¹²and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. ¹³Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL Luke 17:5-10

Our lesson this morning comes from the gospel of Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus instructs his followers about the power of faith and the duties of discipleship. He calls his disciples to adopt the attitude of servants whose actions are responses to their identity rather than works seeking reward. And we read:

⁵The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" ⁶The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

⁷"Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? ⁸Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? ⁹Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pastor Jennifer Kopacz

HYMN OF THE DAY

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

ELW 759

THE CREED ~ Let us affirm our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation (a brief silence).

We pray for your holy church in every place and for those who serve following the example of Christ. Today we pray especially for our Synodical Bishop, Pedro and the ELCA Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth, and for all pastors in the Florida-Bahamas Synod, Help them, and all of us, to live by faith and walk by the light of your gospel. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For parts of the world ravaged by natural disaster and today, in particular, for those places impacted by Hurricane Ian. Give leaders, first responders, emergency services personnel, and community organizers what they need to serve those suffering and in

need in the wake of the storm. Send your peace and your comfort to the victims of this storm, and relieve those affected by other natural disasters, as well. God of grace, hear our prayer.

For every nation and for those entrusted with authority: grant our leaders self-discipline in all things, and inspire them with love for all people, as we are all beloved to you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

In this month, when we intentionally set aside time to remember those who experience violence, abuse, and neglect in their homes or their personal relationships, give us the courage to speak up for those who so often cannot speak for themselves. Heal those who have been harmed and protect those who are vulnerable. We lift up to you all who are sick or suffering, those on our prayer list, and those we name before you now in our hearts. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For this and every congregation: rekindle your gifts within your people, and inspire councils, committees, and individuals to plan and work together that all may know your love. May our primary goal always be to share the good news of your love and mercy with everyone we meet. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks that you have abolished death, and we are grateful for all those saints in our lives who have been role models of faith in action. Bring us all to eternal life with you, in the place you have prepared for us. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen**

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

OFFERTORY MUSIC

"God Is Here"

Glenn Wonacott

OFFERING

We give thanks for the faithful commitment of the people of Grace to supporting our ministry through your giving. If you would like to offer a gift, the collection plate is located at the back of the sanctuary for your convenience. Thank you again.

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all. 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 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 (THE SANCTUS)



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE & THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Holy God, our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food, you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance. You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life, and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven. You sent your Son to eat with sinners and to become food for the world.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his life given for us and his rising from the grave, we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast. By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal: strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want, and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both 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

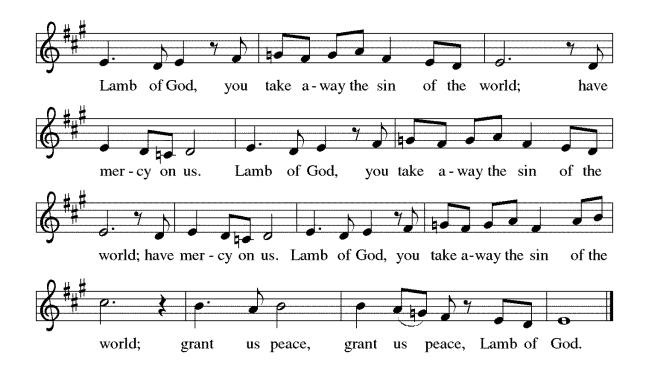
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites you to this table. Come, taste and see. Amen

COMMUNION

Please see inside of front cover for more information.

LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION HYMNS

"O Master, Let Me Walk with You"
"We Walk by Faith"

ELW 818 ELW 635

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen**

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

BLESSING

God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, \oplus one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love. **Amen**

SENDING HYMN

"Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises"

ELW 535

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

We will! Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"The God of Abraham Praise"

ELW 831

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