



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A Protestant church in the worldwide
Anglican Communion.

The Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 23, 2026

*Before the Service — Speak quietly to God
During the Service — Let God speak to you
After the Service — Speak to one another*

LITURGICAL SEASON EXPLAINED

The Season after Pentecost is not actually a liturgical season with a common focus, rather, it is just the weeks between the Day of Pentecost and the First Sunday of Advent. This period is often referred to as “Ordinary Time” and the liturgical color is **green**. These are the ordinary days in which we live our Christian faith in the regular routine of daily life. This seems simple enough, but the way the Sundays are counted on the calendar gets a bit confusing. It begins with the First Sunday after Pentecost and then counts sequentially until the 24th Sunday after Pentecost which is Christ the King, the Sunday before Thanksgiving. If it stopped here that would be clear, but each Sunday during this time is also given another title: Proper 7-29 where the numbers do not coincide with the numbered Sundays after Pentecost. This proper numbering system is based on the moveable date of Easter. Honestly, there is no need to be concerned about this numbering framework, just focus on the ordinary daily life of Jesus as he goes about teaching, healing, and loving people as you live your ordinary life each day!

TO JOIN SERVICES ONLINE OR BY PHONE

To join the 8:30 service online, visit our website at gracechurchmtclemens.org and follow the links.

To join the 8:30 service by phone, call 312-626-6799

8:30 AM Service: Meeting ID: 881 8016 9300 Password: 246040

Follow the link on our website to watch the 10:30 service on YouTube.

Rector: The Rev. Steven Steinberger-Domienik
Cell: 203-641-2068

Clergy Emerita: The Rev. Deacon Betty Brogan
Mr. Josh Dulin, Minister of Music
115 South Main Street, Mt Clemens, MI 48043
Office 586-465-4573

Email: gracemtclemens@yahoo.com

Visit us on the web at
www.gracechurchmtclemens.org

OPENING HYMN: This Is The Home Of Freedom

Please stand as you are able



1. This is the home of free - dom; the
2. This is the home of jus - tice; the
3. This is the home of prom - ise; we



ta - ble has been spread with wine of lib - er -
ta - bles turned at last. The low - ly are ex -
do not dine a - lone. "For - ev - er, I am



a - tion, with bound - 'ry - break - ing bread.
alt - ed; the might - y are down - cast.
with you," Christ says to all his own.



So, come, all you who hun - ger, who
So, come, all you who hun - ger, you
So, come, all you who hun - ger for



yearn to be set free, come, share the food of
have an hon - ored place; each seat is set with
true com - mu - ni - ty, come, share Com - mun - ion's



free - dom, the taste of lib - er - ty.
jus - tice, each cup is filled with grace.
prom - ise, Christ's pres - ence: taste and see.

ACCLAMATION

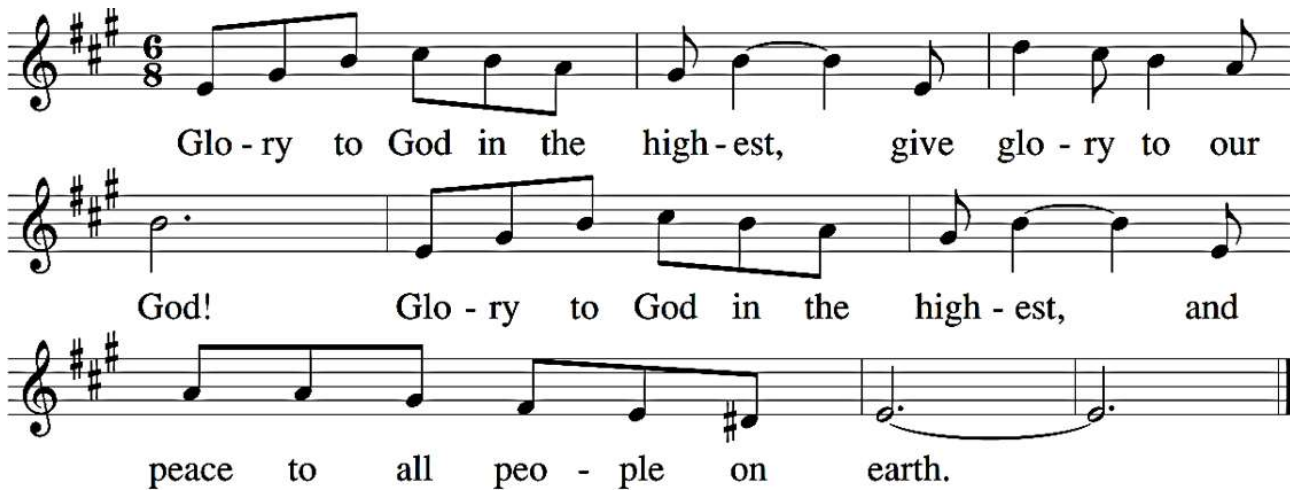
Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. AMEN.**

Celebrant continues:

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.
AMEN.

GLORIA



Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

*This Week's Readers: **Ann & Dave Farrell***

Next Sunday: Combined 10 AM service at American Lutheran Church

*In Two Weeks: **Selia Tuten & Gary Stevens***

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please be seated

FIRST READING Isaiah 51:1-6

Reader A reading from the book of Isaiah.

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,
you that seek the Lord.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

For the Lord will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places,
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the Lord;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation;
for a teaching will go out from me,
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,
my salvation has gone out
and my arms will rule the peoples;

the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.

Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;

for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats;

but my salvation will be for ever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE Psalm 138 – *Confitebor tibi*

¹I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart;*
before the gods I will sing your praise.

²I will bow down toward your holy temple
and praise your Name,*
because of your love and faithfulness;

³For you have glorified your Name*
and your word above all things.

⁴When I called, you answered me;*
you increased my strength within me.

⁵All the kings of the earth will praise you, O Lord,*
when they have heard the words of your mouth.

⁶They will sing of the ways of the Lord,*
that great is the glory of the Lord.

⁷Though the Lord be high, he cares for the lowly;*
he perceives the haughty from afar.

⁸Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;*
**you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand shall save me.**

⁹The Lord will make good his purpose for me;*
**O Lord, your love endures for ever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.**

SECOND READING Romans 12:1-8

Reader A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL HYMN: Jesus, You Are The Healing

Please stand as you are able



1. Je-sus, you are the heal-ing, you came to make us whole a - gain.
2. Je-sus, you are the free-dom, you break the chains that bind _ us.
3. Je-sus, you are the pow - er, you tri-umph o - ver sin and death.
4. Je-sus, the res-ur - rec - tion, you raise us to e - ter - nal life.



1. Je-sus, you are the heal-ing, come show us how to live.
2. Je-sus, you are the free-dom, come show us how to live.
3. Je-sus, you are the pow - er, come show us how to live.
4. Je-sus, the res-ur - rec - tion, come show us how to live.

GOSPEL Matthew 16:13-20

The Rev. Steven Steinberger-Domienik

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

***People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Celebrant The Gospel of our Lord.

***People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

HOMILY The Rev. Steven Steinberger-Domienik

Please be seated

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Please stand as you are able

*This is an ancient baptismal creed, but using the words "I give my heart,"
a truer translation of the Latin word "credo" than "I believe."*

I give my heart to God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I give my heart to Jesus Christ, God's 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, and 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 give my heart to the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic and apostolic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. AMEN.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader Holy and gracious God, you created us in your image. Help us to recognize and honor your image in ourselves and in one another, especially those whom we are at odds with. God our Creator,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Holy and life-giving God, look with compassion on all those in this world suffering from violence and broken relationships. We especially pray for women and children living in poverty and those living in fear of abuse. God of Hope,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Holy and faithful God, hear our prayers for all your people who are silent because of oppression, and for those who feel that their voices are not heard. God who speaks,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Holy and magnificent God, you have filled the earth with beauty and diversity. Look graciously upon all of us with our varied gifts, characteristics, and qualities, and give us all a respect for the dignity of others that we may treat all people with love and care. God of Grace,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader All-knowing God, you see the pain of your people who suffer and fear because of war, especially those in Ukraine, the Middle East, Haiti, and Sudan; may you comfort them and keep them safe. Open the eyes of all those who advocate for and promote war that they may see their atrocities and pursue peaceful resolutions. God of Peace,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Holy and loving God, we give you thanks for the blessings and wisdom we have received from those who have died. Receive them into eternal life and comfort those who mourn. God of Abundant Life,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Healing God, we pray for all those who have asked for our prayers, especially those on our prayer list. Are there others?

May you bless, comfort, and heal those who are struggling with physical, emotional, social, and relational pain, especially those affected by the ongoing Ebola outbreak and the earthquakes around the world. God of Healing,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Nurturing God, we pray for the children in our lives and in our world. Grant us calm strength and patient wisdom that we may teach them to love whatever is just, true, and good. God of Caring,

People **Hear our prayer.**

CONCLUDING COLLECT

Celebrant:

In the name of the true and living Holy One, who made us for love, who saved us by love, and who loves us still. **AMEN.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with one another.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

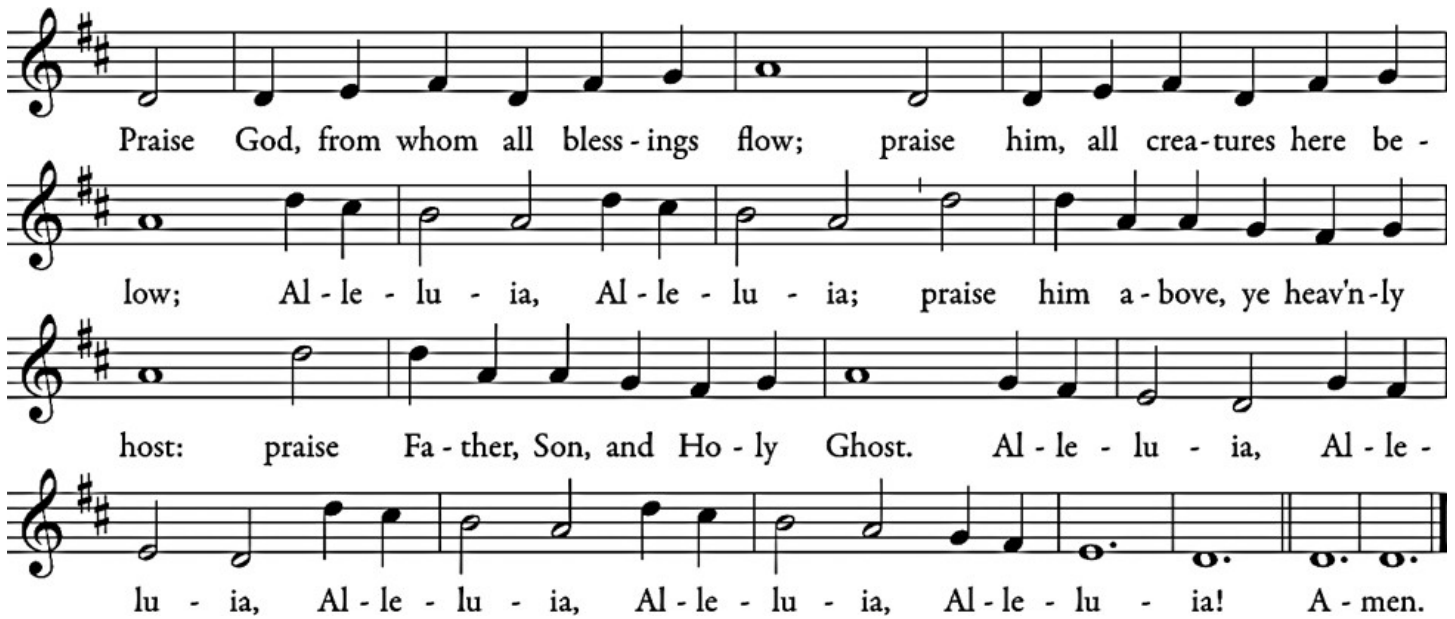
Please be seated

OFFERTORY HYMN: I Go To The Rock

Where do I go when there's no one else to
turn to? Who do I talk to when no one wants to
lis - ten? Who do I lean on when there's no foun - da - tion
sta - ble? I go to the Rock I know that's a - ble, I go to the Rock!
I go to the Rock of my sal - va - tion. Go to the Stone that the builder re -
ject - ed. Run to the Moun - tain and the Moun - tain stands by me;
The earth all a - round me sink - ing sand; On Christ, the sol - id Rock I
stand; When I need a shel - ter, when I need a friend, I go to the Rock!

DOXOLOGY

Please stand as you are able



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be -
low; Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia; praise him a - bove, ye heav'n-ly
host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le -
lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

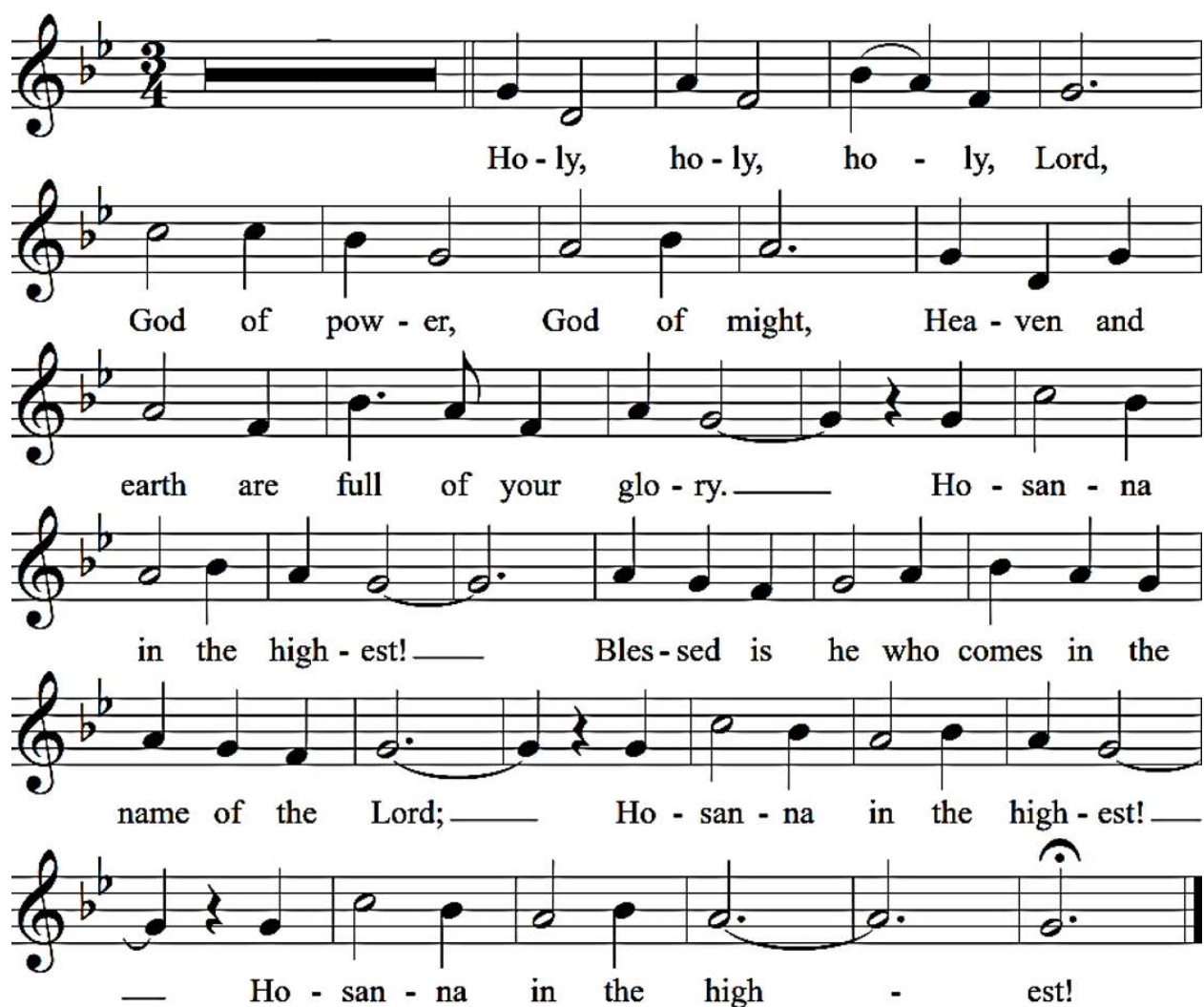
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant continues:

You are worthy of our thanks and praise, Lord God of truth, for by the breath of your mouth you have spoken your Word and all things have come into being. You fashioned us in your image and placed us in the garden of your delight.

Though we chose the path of rebellion, you would not abandon your own. Again and again you drew us into your covenant of grace. You gave your people the Law and taught us by your prophets to look for your reign of justice and mercy. In our unending joy we echo on earth the song of the angels in heaven, evermore praising you as we sing:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord,
God of pow - er, God of might, Hea - ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. — Ho - san - na
in the high - est! — Bles - sed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord; — Ho - san - na in the high - est! —
— Ho - san - na in the high - est!

Celebrant continues:

Lord, you are the most holy one, enthroned in splendor and light, yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ, who suffered for the salvation of the world, you reveal the glory and power of your love.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

Embracing our humanity, he taught us the way of salvation. Loving us to the end, he gave himself to death for us. Dying for his own, he set us free from the bonds of sin, that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

On the night you gave up your Son for us all, he took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross, we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb, and we long for his coming in glory.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption, Father, by your Holy Spirit, let these gifts of your creation be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; form us into the likeness of Christ and make us a perfect offering in your sight.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit!

Look with favor on your people and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts. Bless the earth, heal the sick, free the oppressed, and fill your Church with power from on high.

Gather your people from the ends of the earth to feast with all your saints at the table in your kingdom, where the new creation is brought to perfection in Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

Amen. Alleluia!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant says:

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

Our Father in heaven, holy is your Name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. AMEN.

FRACTION



Celebrant Taste and see that our God is good; come to the banquet table with joy and thanksgiving!

COMMUNION

Please be seated

Communion at Grace is Open to Everyone

Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, there is a place for you at God's table. You may choose to receive bread (gluten free wafers available upon request). You may choose to receive wine in the silver chalice or grape juice in the white and blue chalice. You may drink from either cup or intinct (dip) the bread into the chalice. You may refrain from the bread and chalice and just receive a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest.



COMMUNION HYMN: We Gather As One



1. We come here bro-ken, ♪ we come in need, ♪ search-ing for
2. All that we car-ry, ♪ all that we bear, we bring to your
3. Light of the world, ♪ re-deem-er, and friend, ♪ Al-pha, O-



1. truth, ♪ ♪ long-ing for peace. You are the an-swer, ♪ you are the
2. al-tar, we place in your care. Take all our cha-os and turn it to
3. me-ga, be-gin-ning, and end. Life-giv-ing bread, ♪ ♪ our sav-ing



1. way. ♪ Draw us to you, ♪ be pre-sent this day. ♪
2. rest. We of-fer our hearts ♪ that we may be blessed. We
3. cup, may all those who share be u-nit-ed in love. May



1. Draw us to you, ♪ be pre-sent this day.
2. of-fer our hearts ♪ that we may be blessed.
3. all those who share be u-nit-ed in love.



May we be one with you, a peo-ple of hope and truth. In



this sac-ri-fice, the bread of life u-nites us in



love.

We gath-er as one.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Please stand as you are able

Celebrant Let us pray together our post-Communion prayer.

Celebrant and People say together:

Eternal God, comfort of the afflicted and healer of the broken, you have fed us at the table of life and hope: teach us the ways of gentleness and peace, that all the world may acknowledge the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

BLESSING

May God lead you in marvelous ways and stir your inmost being to be light and love to those around you, and may the blessing of God—God our Creator, God our Redeemer, and God our Sanctifier—be upon you this day and remain with you always. **AMEN.**

CLOSING HYMN: To The Hills We Lift Our Eyes



1. To the hills we lift our eyes when we are a -
2. Shel-t'ring us in cool - ing shade, our God, al - ways
3. Glo - ry be to God in heav'n, for mer - cy out -



fraid, to the ev - er - liv - ing God who
near, keeps us from the path of sin, from
poured; glo - ry be to Je - sus Christ, the



heav'n, earth has made. God keeps watch o'er
sor - row and tears. All our days the
true, liv - ing Word; to the Spir - it



one and all, we shall not stum - ble, slip nor fall, for
Lord shall lead us, heal our wounds and rich - ly feed us,
glo - ry be, and thank - ful praise e - ter - nal - ly the



God is pres - ent when we call, to strength - en and aid.
com - ing, go - ing, God will heed us; we can - not fear.
liv - ing God, the One in Three, for - ev - er a - dored.

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Our time of worship has now ended. Go in peace to love God and to love your neighbor! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**



The Prayers of this Congregation

Sean Rowe, our Presiding Bishop; our Bishop, Bonnie Anne Perry; Moises Quezada Mota, Bishop of the Diocese of the Dominican Republic; Elizabeth Eaton, ELCA Presiding Bishop; Donald P. Kreiss, ELCA Bishop, SE Michigan Synod; Julie E. Schneider-Thomas, ELCA Bishop, NW Lower Michigan Synod. Our retired bishop, Wendell Gibbs; our retired community, spouses, and companions. Our diocesan household: Committees, commissions, ministries, agencies, priests, deacons, lay leaders, volunteers, and staff members; Steven Steinberger-Domienik; Grace Church Mt. Clemens; Bonao, DR Church of the Pentecost.

For our Wednesday and Sunday supper guests; Donna Hanes; Frankie Dion; Elliott Belair; Charlotte Kalligeros; Jennifer Holland; Joan Walsh; Elizabeth Gage; Logan & Teresa Davidson; Jeanne Nowak; Donna Powell; Pamela Sherry; Linda Fields; Michael Woodard; Sara Mattocks; Gene Skladnowski; Sherie Borsa; Joan Donald; Rob Haynes; Scott Kadets; Brenda Steinberger-Domienik; Laurisa; Pat Ruditis; Jean & Terry Hitchcock; Laura Mary Lake; Allen Clay; Martha Wehba; Jody Gorney; Tammy Murphy; Eka & Kiana Bassey; Suzanne LaMontagne; Vito Fontana; Christa Carpenter; Nancy & Bob Johnson; Rick Gherisi; Rory Heinz; Carole Schwertman; Tish Germain; Shirley & Nelson Rumpel; Helen Fitzgibbon; Joyce & Roy Schafer; Danielle; Betty Brogan; Ulrike Lamb; Debbie H.; Beverly Wolff; Beth Jarvis; Dave Salyer; Al Gazoul; Sharon Fedchenko; Joyce Geiger; Steve Burns; Betty Moore; Sandy Krell; Bobby Coutts; Sharon Potter; Rita Vermeersch; Sallie Coffey; Frank Davis; Shelly Volpe; Bud Denham; John Schober; Tish Mastro-Burns; Gary Cynowa; Linda Hurley; Fran Merlo; Betty Gillis; David Schihl; Stacy Wagenknecht; Matthew Smith; Robert Tuten; Daniel Ranger; Gary Keranen; Leslie Sasges; Louise Lambert; Norris Satterly.

Do you know someone who can use our prayers?

Please contact the office to add them to or keep them on the prayer list.

The MINISTRIES of GRACE CHURCH

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays, in person & online 8:30 & 10:30 AM. Visit our website for more information.
Bible Study: Sundays at 9:30 AM in the Guild Room

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Community Suppers:

Wednesdays at 4:00

Sunday Suppers: Sundays at 4:00, November-March

Food Pantry:

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 10 AM-12 noon, curbside pickup
Serving from 250-500 people every month

Fueling Kids' Futures:

Tuesdays at 11:30 AM at Oakley Industries, Inc. Plant 4
35088 Automation Drive, Clinton Township, MI 48035
Packing for the 2026-27 school year begins in October

**All outreach ministries welcome volunteers,
financial donations, or food and clothing donations.**

***Call the office to learn about helping or giving:
586-465-4573***

CURRENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please send all bulletin submissions to bulletins@gracechurchmtclemens.org

COMBINED SERVICE

Please join us for a single combined service with our friends at American Lutheran Church next **Sunday, August 30** at **10 AM**.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Please sign up for altar flowers on the bulletin board in the hallway leading to the sanctuary.

COFFEE HOUR

Please volunteer to host a coffee hour; the sign-up sheet is in the hallway. The host(s) makes and sets up the coffee and any snacks and then cleans up afterwards. You may also be reimbursed for any money you spend for snacks—just let Marchea (in the office) know! Thank you for sharing in the hospitality ministry of our parish!

BIBLE STUDY

Please join us on **Sundays** at **9:30 AM** in the Guild Room for our Bible study. No preparation needed; just come and listen and join in the conversation. Each session is self-contained so you do not have to attend each week; come when you can. We learn a great deal about Scripture, our faith, ourselves, and each other! Hope to see you there!

BOOK CLUB

The book club will meet at Grace on **Thursday, September 10** at **6 PM** to discuss *The Shadow Box* by Luanne Rice. Reviews of this book describe it as a thriller mystery with multiple and seamless twists and turns. If you have any questions, please call Ann Strevel. Looking forward to seeing you!

For the Work of Discovery

God of wisdom, who **has given us** minds to seek understanding and **a world filled with mysteries** yet to be revealed, **we give thanks** for all who labor in the work of **scientific discovery**. We lament research interrupted, grants terminated or delayed, laboratories losing workers, and promising studies left waiting for resources. **We grieve** not only the work disrupted, but also the questions left unasked, the experiments left unfinished, and the **discoveries delayed**. **We remember** especially **those waiting** for a cure, a treatment, or a better way to prevent disease. **Remind us** that a year lost in research is not simply a budgetary delay, but time that cannot always be recovered in the search to **relieve suffering** and save lives. **Grant wisdom** to those entrusted with public resources, that they may recognize scientific research as a long-term work of stewardship. **Protect scientific inquiry** from short-term political considerations, and sustain those whose patient work expands human knowledge. Through Jesus Christ, who calls us to seek truth and to use our gifts for the healing of the world. Amen.
