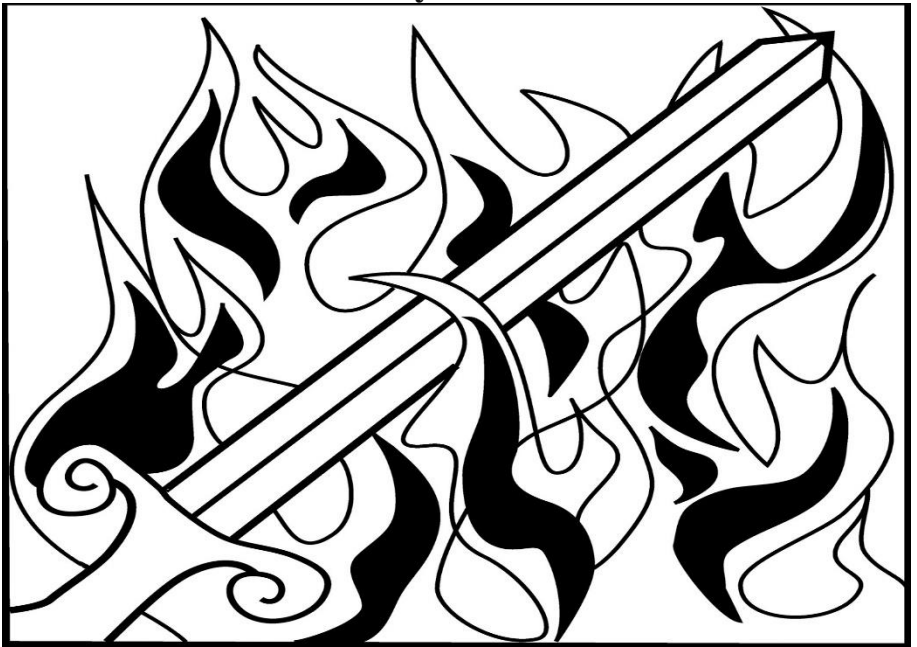


Hope Lutheran Church
2001 S 500 E, Columbia City, IN 46725
Grace Lutheran Church
204 North Main Street Columbia City, Indiana 46725
Phone: 260-244-7118 Fax: 260-248-2138
E-Mail: office.gracelutheran@gmail.com
Web Page: www.gracecolumbiacity.org
Reverend Matthew Converse, Pastor
Kirsten Jines, Preschool Director
Joyce Dubach, Organist
August 17, 2025
10th Sunday after Pentecost



Introduction to the day

The word of God is a refining fire. Jesus is the great divide in human history. He invites our undivided attention and devotion. Today in worship we are surrounded by a great “cloud of witnesses.” In the word and in holy communion we are invited yet again to look to Jesus, “the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.”

Food pantry need: cereal and peanut butter

Attendance for August 10, 2025-

PRELUDE

(please stand if you are able)

ENTRANCE HYMN

Come, Now, O God



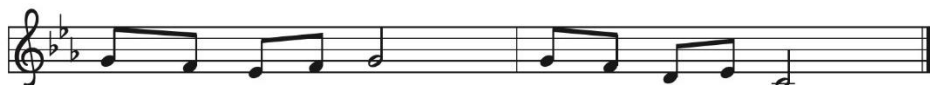
- 1 Come now, O God, when our love is for - sak - en.
- 2 Come, when we squan - der the free - dom you gave us.
- 3 Come, put an end to our self - serv - ing mad - ness.



Come, when our bed - rock of faith has been shak - en.
Come, break the sys - tems of sin that en - slave us.
Come, while the world is en - shroud - ed in sad - ness.



Come, when our deep - est of hopes are mis - tak - en.
Come, though we won - der if you can still save us.
Come, turn the tears of our mourn - ing to glad - ness.



Come, Em - man - u - el.

Come, Em - man - u - el.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: LOST IN THE NIGHT, Finnish folk tune

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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

Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Ⓢ Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

Ⓐ Chri - ste e - le - i - son: Ⓢ Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:

Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Ⓢ Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

HYMN OF PRAISE



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



☐ Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



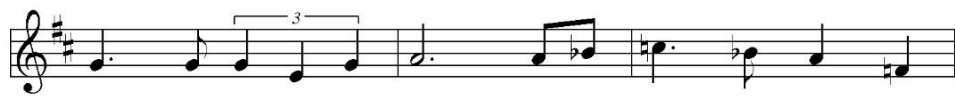
glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



☐ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re-ceive our prayer.

☒ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;

glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

I
II For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.

☒ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;

glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth,

and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:23-29

A reading from Jeremiah.

²³ Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? ²⁴ Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. ²⁵ I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, “I have dreamed! I have dreamed!” ²⁶ How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? ²⁷ They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. ²⁸ Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. ²⁹ Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 82

- ¹ God takes his stand in the council of heaven;
he gives judgment in the midst ¹ of the gods:
- ² **“How long will you ¹ judge unjustly,
and show favor ¹ to the wicked?**
- ³ Save the weak ¹ and the orphan;
defend the humble and needy;
- ⁴ **rescue the weak ¹ and the poor;
deliver them from the power ¹ of the wicked.**
- ⁵ They do not know, neither do they understand; they go ¹ about in darkness; all the foundations of the ¹ earth are shaken.
- ⁶ **Now I say to you, ¹ ‘You are gods,
and all of you children of ¹ the Most High;**
- ⁷ nevertheless, you shall ¹ die like mortals,
and fall like ¹ any prince.’ ”
- ⁸ **Arise, O God, and ¹ rule the earth,
for you shall take all nations ¹ for your own.**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:29—12:2

A reading from Hebrews.

²⁹ By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned.

³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

³² And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

³⁵ Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection.

³⁶ Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground.

³⁹ Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

^{12:1} Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(please stand if you are able)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Gospel: Luke 12:49-56

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 12th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ⁴⁹“I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! ⁵⁰I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵²From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³they will be divided:

father against son

and son against father,

mother against daughter

and daughter against mother,

mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law

and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

⁵⁴He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain,’ and so it happens.

⁵⁵And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. ⁵⁶You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

(please stand if you are able)

Hymn of the Day

(ELW 704)

. When Pain of the World Surrounds Us

Text: Jim Strathdee, b. 1941 Music: Jim Strathdee

THE PRAYERS

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God,
for God is near.

A brief silence.

Raise up faithful leaders for your church around the world. Inspire
global missionaries with a spirit of accompaniment, as they walk
alongside our partners in the gospel in solidarity, interdependence, and
mutuality. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Safeguard rivers and lakes from pollution. Sustain the work of
conservationists, policy makers, and advocacy groups seeking to
protect fresh water sources. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Bridge divisions across partisan lines. Strengthen cooperative efforts
among lawmakers who enact policies that protect our neighbors who
are most vulnerable. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Embrace all who suffer in isolation: for those who are incarcerated or
detained, those who are fleeing from unsafe environments, and those
who are sick or homebound. Reassure them of your care in all times
and places. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Guide the leaders of this congregation. In these late summer weeks,
inspire their planning for a new program year ahead. Kindle in us a
spirit of collaboration and support for their work. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With thanksgiving, we remember the cloud of witnesses who surround us. By the example of their faith, enable us to run with perseverance the race set before us, until that day when we join their unending praise. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

The ministers and congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Creator God,

**in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
and the harvest is plentiful.**

**Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth
and our labor,**

that we may work for the good of all;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Dialogue

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.

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:

SANCTUS

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

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Holy God,
our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,
in the harmonious world of your creation,
the plants and animals,
the seas and stars
were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world,
you sent your Son to heal our ills
and to form us again into one.

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 acts of healing,
his body given up,
and his victory over death,
we await that day when all the peoples of the earth
will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal:
as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,
so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth,
that all may be fed with the Bread of life, 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

LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

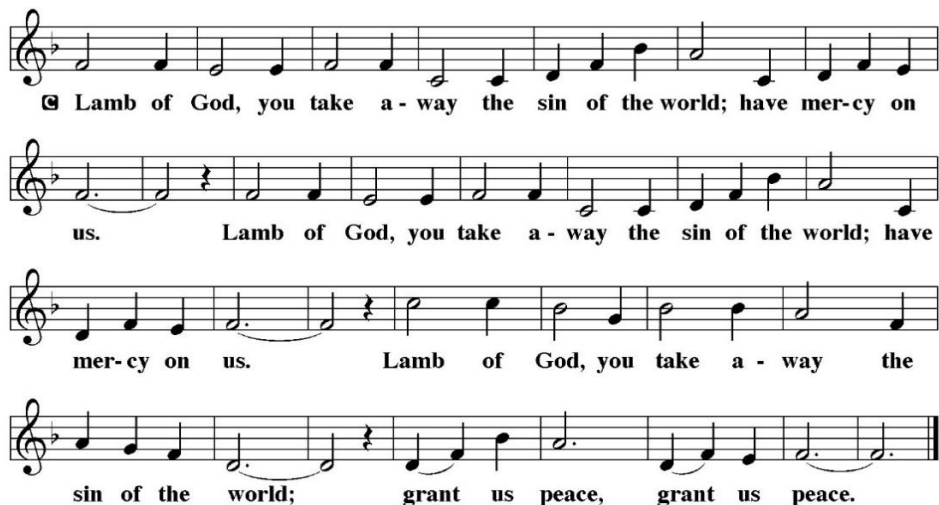
Communion

The communion follows. The bread may be broken for distribution. As the ministers give the bread and cup to each communicant, they say these words:

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen**

Communion Hymn



☐ 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 Song

(ELW 491)

. Come, Let Us Eat

Text: Billema Kwillia, b. 1925, sts. 1–3; Gilbert E. Doan Jr.,
b. 1930, st. 4, alt.; tr. Margaret D. Miller, b. 1927, sts. 1–3,
alt. Music: Billema Kwillia, adapt.

Post-Communion Cantic



☞ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
one what God has done. Let all who seek the
Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and
lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray,
Mothering God,
you gathered us to your table
and we drank deeply of your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit
to love our neighbors as ourselves
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.
Amen.

Blessing

The love of God abound in you;
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
and the life of the Spirit
✠ bless you and give you peace.
Amen.

Sending Hymn

(ELW 603)

. God, When Human Bonds Are Broken

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: William H. Monk, 1823-1889

Dismissal

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

BREAD LOAF OFFERING -AUGUST – Lutheran Senior Care Ministry

- Our Food Pantry is in need of cereal and peanut butter.
- We believe that every voice matters. Your experiences, insights, and dreams are vital as we seek to understand where God is at work and how we can better support one another in ministry and mission. Please feel free to share this invitation with other members of your congregation that may have missed the in-person sessions.

Please join us at this virtual meeting:



Date: August 18, 2025



Time: 7-9 PM EST



Platform: Topic: IN-KY Synod Listening Session

Join from computer or

mobile: <https://iu.zoom.us/j/89814112825>

Meeting ID: 898 1411 2825

One tap mobile: +16469313860,,89814112825# US

- **Bread Loaf Offering**

We are making a change to the Bread Loaf Offering for the month of August as the director for the Salvation Army has resigned. For the month of August our bread loaf offering will go to the Lutheran Senior Care Ministry. Lutheran Senior Care Ministry meets weekly and serves over 600 residents in 35 locations with 18 chaplains and has 30 church partners. The chaplain provides a worship service for residents that include hymn singing, scripture, readings, prayers, a sermon and a benediction. These are Lutheran chaplains, and all are in the Fort Wayne area. If you have any questions, see Pastor Matt or Joe Freiburger.

- Hope ladies will host the luncheon for Adelphi Tuesday, August 19. Our guest, September McConnell from Whitley County Foundations will present the on going programs they sponsor for Whitley County.
- Grace Lutheran Church is now participating in First Fridays downtown in Columbia City. We are not selling anything, just promoting what we do well. Talking about our Preschool, Food Pantry and spreading God's word. The next event will be on Sept 5th from 6pm to 9pm. We meet at church at 4:30 and walk down to the courthouse where we set up on the west side. We need some volunteers each month thru October. If you are interested, please see Pastor Matt, Joe Freiburger or any member on Church Council.
- Adelphi Women have a new project coming up in September. We will be collecting household goods and furnishings for a newly housed families and individuals. Detailed information will be given in the August Newsletter, but in the meantime, please consider items in your own home that would be good donations to this worthy cause. We are looking for bath and bedroom linens, kitchen needs, furniture, tables and chairs, etc. Items should be clean and still functional. Talk with Linda Grawcock, Linda Trowbridge or any of the Adelphi members with your questions and look for details in the August newsletter.

NOTES

Weekly Agenda at Grace Lutheran Church

Monday August 18,2025

Helping Hands 12:30 pm

Scouting America Troop 84 B/g 6:30 pm

AA 7:30pm

Tuesday August 19,2025

T.O.P.S 9:30 am

Care Team 10:30 am

Adelphi Group 11:30 am

Pre-k Parent Meeting 6 pm

Wednesday August 20,2025

Men's Breakfast 8 am

Food Pantry 12 pm

Food Vouchers 4 pm

Pre-k Parent Meeting 6 pm

Thursday August 21,2025

AA 7:30 pm

Al-non 7:30 pm

Friday August 22,2025

Pastor's Day Off

WCCS first day

Food Pantry 12 pm

Saturday August 23,2025

Sunday August 24,2025

Worship @ Hope 8:15 am

Worship @ Grace 10:15 am

Fellowship 11:15 am

We have new sign-up sheets in the parish hall, for coffee hour. Coffee hour will be after church service, for anyone that would like to stay.