

Hope Lutheran Church
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Grace Lutheran Church
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Reverend Matthew Converse, Pastor
Kirsten Jines, Preschool Director
Joyce Dubach, Organist
July 19, 2026
8th Sunday after Pentecost



Introduction to the day

It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

Food pantry need: cereal and soup
Attendance for July 12 . 2026 – 29
PRELUDE

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

GATHERING SONG O Holy Spirit, Enter In (ELW 786)

Text: Michael Schirmer, 1606-1673; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, adapt.

Music: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608

GREETING

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

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

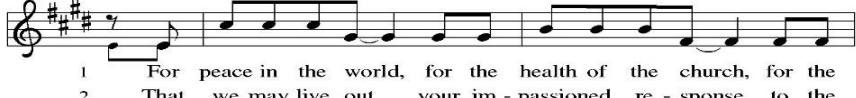
Refrain



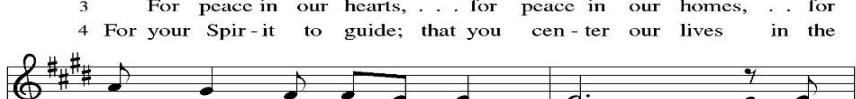
Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



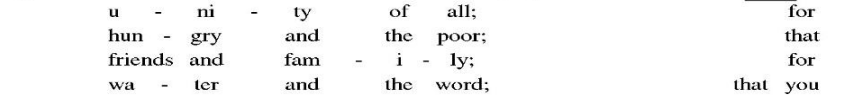
Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



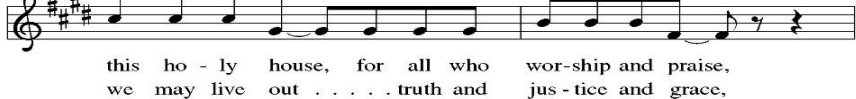
1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Refrain

Canticle of Praise

Refrain



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and



peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



1 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 in the high-



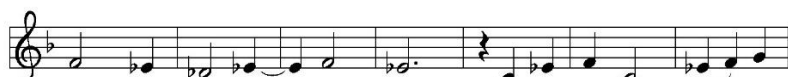
est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 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 in the high - est, the high - est, and



peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 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. A - men. A - men.
Final refrain
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's
 peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the high -
 est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 44:6-8

A reading from Isaiah.

⁶ Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,
 and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:

I am the first, and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.

⁷ Who is like me? Let them proclaim it;
let them declare and set it forth before me.

Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.

⁸ Do not fear or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!

Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 86:11-17

¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk ^l in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

¹² **I will thank you, O Lord my God, with ^l all my heart,
and glorify your name forevermore.**

¹³ For great is your ^l love toward me;
you have delivered me from the ^l pit of death.

¹⁴ **The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of
violent people ^l seeks my life;
they have not set you before their eyes.**

¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are gracious and full ^l of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kind- ^l ness and truth.

¹⁶ **Turn to me and have mercy on me;
give your strength to your servant, and save the child ^l of
your handmaid.**

¹⁷ Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see
it and be ^l put to shame; because you, LORD, have helped me and
comforted me.

Second Reading: Romans 8:12-25

A reading from Romans.

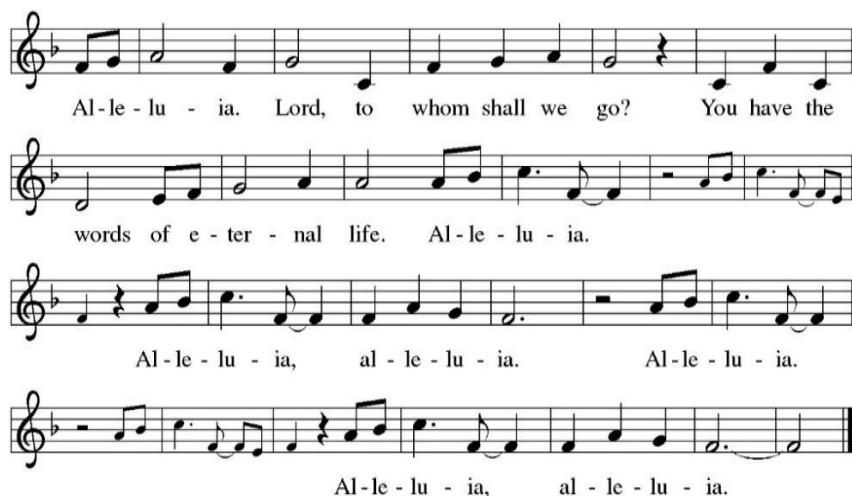
¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry,

“Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees?

²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ ²⁸ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹ But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷ He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

The assembly is seated.

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

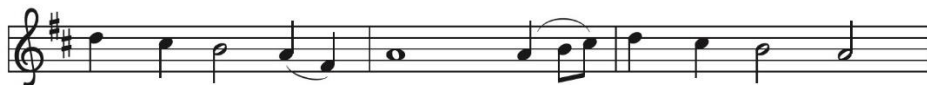
HYMN OF THE DAY

(ACS 952)

The Reign of God Like Farmer's Field



1 The reign of God, like farm - er's field, bears
 2 The reign of God is like a pearl on
 3 Though hid - den now, the reign of God may,
 4 Like mus - tard tree, the reign of God from
 5 The reign of God is come in Christ; the



weeds a - long with wheat; the good and bad are
 bar - ren land con - cealed. If once you find that
 yet un - no - ticed, grow; from deep with - in it
 ti - ny seed will spread, till birds of ev - 'ry
 reign of God is near. A - blaze a - mong us,



in - ter - twined till har - vest is com - plete.
 pre - cious pearl, go out and buy that field.
 ris - es up, like yeast in swell - ing dough.
 feath - er come to nest, and there be fed.
 kin - dling hearts, the reign of God is here!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: DUNLAP'S CREEK, Samuel McFarland, fl. 1816

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

God our source, protect your church from those who sow weeds among the wheat. Where we trade grace for judgment, restore us, and where we get lost among the complexities of life, guide us. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our creator, sustain creation in places not easily seen; the depths of oceans, microscopic plants and animals, galaxies beyond our own. May we share earth's dedication to hope for what we do not yet see. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our soil, we yearn to live on your lands and waters with justice and in righteousness. Renew the hearts of all in authority, that our leaders guide wisely toward the flourishing of all. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our rock, be a source of constancy for those whose lives have been uprooted by war, eviction, global climate change, unemployment, harassment, false witness to their character, or illness or injury. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our teacher, guide and provide for all summer camp staff and campers, daycare professionals, librarians, summer school educators and coaches, teachers preparing for the coming academic year, and youth becoming first-time babysitters. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God our hope, the message of your salvation is planted among us in all times and places. We give you thanks for the witness of all the saints who shine like the sun in your presence. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

The assembly is seated.

Meal God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering Hymn Now the Feast and Celebration (ELW 167)
Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Loving God,

we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.

**Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.**

**We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING 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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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

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

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

From age to age your creation sings your praises.

You feed even the birds of the air,
and you clothe the fields with lilies.

You gave your blessing to Abraham and his descendants,
and you spoke with Moses, Elijah, and David.

Blessed are you, Lord our God:

Blessed are you, Lord our God.

You fulfilled your covenant with us in Jesus.

He is Emmanuel, your beloved Son,
the star that guides us to wisdom,
the treasure hidden in a field.

He is the landowner who overpays the workers,
the judge who separates good from evil.

Blessed are you, Lord our God.

For us he lived, for us he died, for us he rose to eternal life.

Then and now he invites us to your banquet.

On the night in which he was betrayed, he 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.

We hear his call, we repent our ways,
and we enter with joy into the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are you, Lord our God.

Send your Holy Spirit here on your gathered disciples.
Make of this meal the body and blood of forgiveness.
Heal us and grant us your righteousness,
that we may love you and serve our neighbors.
Blessed are you, Lord our God.

Blessed are you, Lord our God,
our Father in heaven,
the Rock on which we build,
the Dove alighting on us all.
We worship you and sing our praises,
today and to the end of the age.
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

Heaven has come near.
Come, share in the feast!

COMMUNION

(Everyone is welcome to come to the communion table. If you have not received instruction in the Sacraments, come to the altar for a blessing. If you would like to receive communion where you are seated in the pews, please tell the usher and at the close of communion you will be served.)

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond **Amen.**

The ministers commune either after or before others commune.

COMMUNION SONG



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, Lamb of God.

Song during Communion

(ELW 465)

As the Grains of Wheat

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: Marty Haugen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray:

Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.
Amen.

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

BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
✝ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Neither Death nor Life

(ELW 622)

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, based on Romans 8 Music: Marty Haugen

BLESSING

The Author of life,
the Word of salvation,
the Breath of new birth,
✝ one God, bless you
and equip you for living and serving,
today and every day.
Amen.

Dismissal

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENT

BREAD LOAF OFFERING - JULY- Babe

- The Grace and Hope Lutheran Church garage sale will take place at Grace Lutheran Church on August 6, 7, and 8th (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday). We will begin accepting donations the week beginning July 26th. Normally someone is working at Grace during the day and you can gain entrance to fellowship hall by ringing the doorbell. However, if you need assistance, please call Linda Grawcock, 260-609-5037 for help. We will not accept adult clothing, but children's clothing is always needed. Shoes that are clean and in good condition are good sellers. As always, we appreciate items that are clean and not broken. The members of our two churches have always been generous with their donations and time volunteered for this fundraiser. Let your family and friends know about this project for any donations they might have, and, of course, the invitation to come shopping! Adelphi ladies will answer any questions you might have. Thank you in advance for your help in making this sale a success.

Weekly Agenda at Grace Lutheran Church

Monday, July 20, 2026

Helping hands 12:30 pm

Scout Troop 84 B/G 6:30 pm

AA 7:30 pm

Tuesday, July 21, 2026

T.O.P.S 9:30 am

Care team 10:30 am

Adelphi group 11:30 am

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

Men's Breakfast 8 am

Food Pantry 12 pm

Voucher 4 pm

Thursday, July 23, 2026

AA 7:30 pm

Al-non 7:30 pm

Friday, July 24, 2026

Pastor's Day Off

Food pantry 12 pm

Saturday, July 25, 2026

Sunday, July 26, 2026

Worship @ Hope 8:15 am

Worship @ Grace 10 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.**