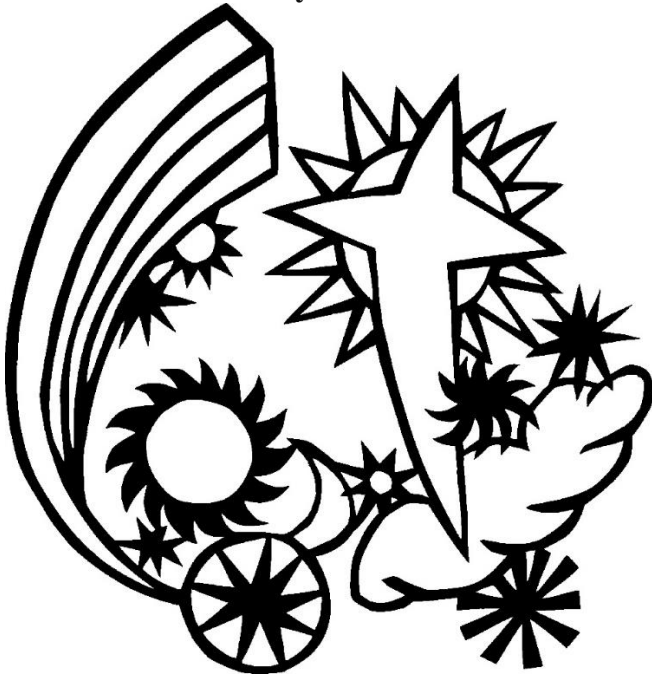


**Hope Lutheran Church**  
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**Grace Lutheran Church**  
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**Phone: 260-244-7118      Fax: 260-248-2138**  
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Reverend Matthew Converse, Pastor  
Kirsten Jines, Preschool Director  
Joyce Dubach, Organist  
**November 16, 2025**  
**23rd Sunday after Pentecost**



### **Introduction to the day**

The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right."

**Food pantry need: cereal and peanut butter**  
**Attendance for November 9, 2025-**

## PRELUDE

*please stand if you are able.*

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

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,  
as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God  
and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Faithful God,  
you have shown us the ways of your heart,  
yet we stray from your paths.  
We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression  
and do not embrace the freedom  
of your faithful promises.  
We ignore our neighbors.  
We exploit the earth.  
We reject your abundance,  
trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love.  
Repair our relationships,  
restore what we have broken,  
renew our hearts,  
and bring us to new life.  
**Amen.**

Hear the good news:  
God the Faithful One loves you,  
✙ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven,  
and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.  
**Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG

(ELW 796)

### How Firm a Foundation

Text: J. Rippon, A Selection of Hymns, 1787, alt.

Music: Early American

## 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.**

## Canticle of Praise



- 1 Come, let us join our cheer-ful songs with an-gels round the throne;
- 2 "Wor - thy the Lamb that died," they cry, "to be ex - alt - ed thus!"
- 3 Je - sus is wor - thy to re-ceive hon - or and pow'r di - vine;
- 4 Let all cre - a - tion join in one to bless the sa - cred name



ten thou-sand thou-sand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.  
"Wor - thy the Lamb," our lips re - ply, "for he was slain for us!"  
and bless-ings, more than we can give, be, Lord, for - ev - er thine.  
of God who sits up - on the throne, and to a - dore the Lamb.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

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

**FIRST READING: Malachi 4:1-2a**

A reading from Malachi.

<sup>1</sup> See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2a</sup> But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 98**

<sup>1</sup> Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done <sup>1</sup> marvelous things,  
whose right hand and holy arm have <sup>1</sup> won the victory.

<sup>2</sup> **O LORD, you have made <sup>1</sup> known your victory,  
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight <sup>1</sup> of the  
nations.**

<sup>3</sup> You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the <sup>1</sup> house  
of Israel;

all the ends of the earth have seen the victory <sup>1</sup> of our God.

<sup>4</sup> **Shout with joy to the LORD, <sup>1</sup> all you lands;  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

<sup>5</sup> Sing to the LORD <sup>1</sup> with the harp,  
with the harp and the <sup>1</sup> voice of song.

<sup>6</sup> **With trumpets and the sound <sup>1</sup> of the horn  
shout with joy before the <sup>1</sup> king, the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup> Let the sea roar, and <sup>1</sup> all that fills it,  
the world and those who <sup>1</sup> dwell therein.

<sup>8</sup> **Let the rivers <sup>1</sup> clap their hands,  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes  
to <sup>1</sup> judge the earth.**

<sup>9</sup> The LORD will judge the <sup>1</sup> world with righteousness  
and the peoples with equity.

## SECOND READING: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

A reading from 2 Thessalonians.

<sup>6</sup> Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. <sup>7</sup> For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, <sup>8</sup> and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. <sup>9</sup> This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. <sup>10</sup> For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. <sup>11</sup> For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. <sup>12</sup> Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. <sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right. The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*please stand if you are able.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## **GOSPEL: Luke 21:5-19**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>5</sup> When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, <sup>6</sup>“As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

<sup>7</sup> They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” <sup>8</sup> And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

<sup>9</sup> “When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” <sup>10</sup> Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; <sup>11</sup> there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

<sup>12</sup> “But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. <sup>13</sup> This will give you an opportunity to testify. <sup>14</sup> So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, <sup>15</sup> for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup> You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. <sup>17</sup> You will be hated by all because of my name. <sup>18</sup> But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup> By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## **SERMON**

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

*please stand if you are able.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

**(ELW 596)**

**. My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less**

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.

Music: William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868

## **CREED**

**We believe in one God,**

**the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

**the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

God of roots and branches, defend the leaders of your church as they proclaim the gospel using discernment, wisdom, and brave testimony. Keep all the baptized on righteous paths in response to Christ's call. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of roaring seas, in a world of earthquake, famine, and plague, use your mighty power to nurture the land and all that lives upon it. Restore peoples and places experiencing natural disasters. Strengthen organizations who provide aid to any in crisis. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of victory, among quests for power, guide those in government, courts, law enforcement agencies, and the military. Turn them from war and violence to actions of care that build up the common good. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of healing, where injustice and exploitation result in populations that are marginalized or underserved, accompany those abandoned by friends, hurt by family, and harmed by violence or oppression. Care for all who are ill, anxious, or in pain of any kind. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of new songs, in a congregation of faithful believers, energize us for compassionate service and delight us through worship and inspired prayer. Encourage your people in building equitable community where all are valued. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*



God of every generation, we remember the saints with steadfast love and faithfulness. Confident in Christ's victory over death, may we be inspired by the example of the faithful. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**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*

*The assembly is seated.*

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

## OFFERING HYMN

### Lift Up Your Heads

1 Lift up your heads, all you bowed low,  
2 Lift up your hands, your voices raise,  
3 Lift up your hearts, your great A - men;  
4 Be - hold, the Spir - it here a - bides,

hear the liv - ing wa - ter flow: quench - ing  
bold in plead - ing, bright with praise. Weep no  
Mer - cy feeds her guests a - gain: bread e -  
bear - ing God's a - bun - dant life: peace be -

spring and cleans - ing pool, heal - ing riv - er, clear and  
more, your God has come; greet the wound - ed, ris - en  
nough to break and share, fes - tive wine that scents the  
tween you, love with - in, grace be - side you loos - 'ning

cool. How fresh it falls up -  
One, who bless - es you with  
air, Oh, taste and see what  
sin. Be - lov - ed, Christ a -

on your face, stream - ing from the font of grace.  
joy com - plete, dwell - ing in the Word of peace.  
once was lost, ris - ing in this feast of love.  
mong you stands, mov - ing through your hearts and hands.

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952

Music: WEST LEESTAD, Zebulon M. Highben, b. 1979

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Music © 2013 Zebulon M. Highben, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray,

**God of healing and hope,**

**you bless those who are hungry,**

**promising to fill them with good things.**

**Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts.**

**Nourish us with the abundance of your feast**

**and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior,**

**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-er and might,  
heav'n 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.

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

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**

## **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

There is a place for you at the table of God.  
Come, receive the food that does not perish,  
a taste of life eternal.

## 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.

## COMMUNION SONG



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

## COMMUNION HYMN

(ELW 423)

. **Shall We Gather at the River**

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899

Music: Robert Lowry

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray,

God of field and flower, wheat and grape,  
you have nourished us with the bread of heaven  
that gives life to the world.

Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son,  
send us out to gather your good gifts for all who  
hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name.

**Amen.**

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

## BLESSING

The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you,  
God the Son save you,  
and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead.  
The holy Trinity bless you ✚  
and grant you a faithful and courageous heart  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

(ELW 785)

. **When Peace like a River**

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828-1888

Music: Philip P. Bliss, 1838-1876

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

**Thanks be to God.**

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

### BREAD LOAF OFFERING - NOVEMBER – Giving Tree

- Our Food Pantry is in need of cereal and peanut butter.
- Hanging of the Greens will happen after church service Sunday Nov 23
- Hope ladies will host Adelphi Tuesday, November 18. Following the luncheon Beth Moss, our Parish Nurse will talk to the group about her work with the congregations.
- **Bread Loaf Offering**  
The November Bread Loaf offering will be going to our Giving Tree. Thanks to Linda Trowbridge, we will be partnering with Mission 25 and giving gifts for 2 families and also towels and linens. The money collected in the Bread Loaf will help buy gifts for any tags left on the tree and also help pay for the towels and linens. Since the Salvation Army does not have a director for Whitley County, we had to turn to other charities that needed help. The giving tree will be going up the weekend before Thanksgiving. Thank You for your generous giving. Any questions please ask Joe Freiburger, Linda Trowbridge or Pastor Matt
- **Holiday Service Location and Time**  
Last year there was concern that we did not have a late Christmas Eve Service.  
We have brought that back this year.  
Thanksgiving 9am Hope  
Christmas Eve 7pm Grace no communion  
9pm Hope no communion  
11pm Grace no communion

## **Weekly Agenda at Grace Lutheran Church**

### **Monday November 10, 2025**

Helping hands 12:30 pm

Finance team 5:30 pm

Scouting America Troop 84 B/G 6:30 pm

Church Council 6:30 pm

AA 7:30 pm

### **Tuesday November 11, 2025**

T.O.P.S 9:30 am

Sigma Eta 6:30 pm

Cubscouts 6:30 pm

### **Wednesday November 12, 2025**

Men's Breakfast 8 am

Food Pantry 12 pm

Food Vouchers 4 pm

### **Thursday November 13, 2025**

AA 7:30 pm

Al-non 7:30 pm

### **Friday November 14, 2025**

**Pastor's Day Off**

Food Pantry 12 pm

### **Saturday November 15, 2025**

### **Sunday November 16, 2025**

Worship @ Hope 8:15 am

Worship @ Grace 10:00 am

Fellowship 11:15 am

Girl scouts 2 pm

**sheets in the parish hall, for coffee hour. Coffee hour will be after church service, for anyone that would like to stay.**