

Hope Lutheran Church
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Grace Lutheran Church
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Reverend Matthew Converse, Pastor
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Joyce Dubach, Organist
October 26, 2025
20th Sunday after Pentecost



Introduction to the day

Genuine repentance and pretentious piety stand in stark contrast in the gospel and all around us. All creation stands in need of God's forgiveness. Keep the faith. God's people shall be accounted righteous for Jesus' sake. Our God is merciful to sinners. For this we worship and glorify God forever.

Food pantry need: cereal and peanut butter

Attendance for October 14, 2025- 33

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,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful and loving God,
we are your stiff-necked people.
We trample on the needy.
We grumble about your grace to others.
We turn away from the poor.
Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.
Rejoice over us as ones who were lost
and have been found.
Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.
Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.
You who were lost have been found.
In the name of † Jesus, your sins are forgiven!
Amen.

GATHERING SONG

(ELW 588)

. **There's a Wideness in God's Mercy**

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.

Music: North American, 19th cent.

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.

Holy God, our righteous judge, daily your mercy surprises us with everlasting forgiveness. Strengthen our hope in you, and grant that all the peoples of the earth may find their glory in you, 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: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

A reading from Jeremiah.

⁷ Although our iniquities testify against us,
act, O Lord, for your name's sake;
our rebellions indeed are many,
and we have sinned against you.

⁸ O hope of Israel,
its savior in time of trouble,
why should you be like a stranger in the land,
like a traveler turning aside for the night?
⁹ Why should you be like someone confused,
like a mighty warrior who cannot give help?
Yet you, O Lord, are in the midst of us,
and we are called by your name;
do not forsake us!

¹⁰ Thus says the Lord concerning this people:
Truly they have loved to wander;
they have not restrained their feet;
therefore the Lord does not accept them;
now he will remember their iniquity
and punish their sins.

¹⁹ Have you completely rejected Judah?
Does your heart loathe Zion?
Why have you struck us down
so that there is no healing for us?
We look for peace but find no good,
for a time of healing, but there is terror instead.

²⁰ We acknowledge our wickedness, O Lord,
the iniquity of our ancestors,
for we have sinned against you.

²¹ Do not spurn us, for your name's sake;
do not dishonor your glorious throne;
remember and do not break your covenant with us.

²² Can any idols of the nations bring rain,
or can the heavens give showers?

Is it not you, O Lord our God?

We set our hope on you,
for it is you who do all this.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 84:1-7

¹ How dear to me | is your dwelling,

O | LORD of hosts!

² **My soul has a desire and longing for the courts | of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the | living God.**

³ Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest where she may | lay her young, by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my king | and my God.

⁴ **Happy are they who dwell | in your house!**

They will always be | praising you.

⁵ Happy are the people whose strength | is in you,
whose hearts are set on the | pilgrims' way.

⁶ **Those who go through the balsam valley will find it a | place of
springs, for the early rains have covered it with | pools of water.**

⁷ They will climb from | height to height,
and the God of gods will be | seen in Zion.

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

A reading from 2 Timothy.

⁶ As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. ⁸ From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

¹⁶ At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! ¹⁷ But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. ¹⁸ The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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 18:9-14

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁹ [Jesus] also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt:¹⁰ “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.’ ¹³ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but was beating his breast and saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.”

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 815)

. I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934

Music: Kathleen Thomerson

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

Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

Uniting God, you draw your church together as the one body of Christ. Bring congregations into conversation and dialogue so the church is transformed and reformed in your abundant grace. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Sustaining God, you create all the beauty around us. We give you thanks for the harvest of your creation. Restore creation as the seasons change. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Governing God, you bring peace and justice through mercy. Guide judges, lawmakers, attorneys, and those in any authority to act with compassion and understanding. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Healing God, you comfort those who suffer. Console people whose lives are disrupted by cancer, disease, and illness. Bring your healing mercy to any in need. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Proclaiming God, you gift the church proclamation through music. We thank you for all music ministers of this congregation. Transform your church through the musical arts. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Resurrecting God, you crown your beloved children with righteousness. We thank you for those who have died in faith, fought the good fight, finished the race, and kept the faith. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, 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

(ELW 583)

. Take My Life, That I May Be

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, adapt.; Spanish text: Vicente Mendoza, 1875–1955 Music: William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray,

Lord of the harvest,

we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.

Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us.

Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

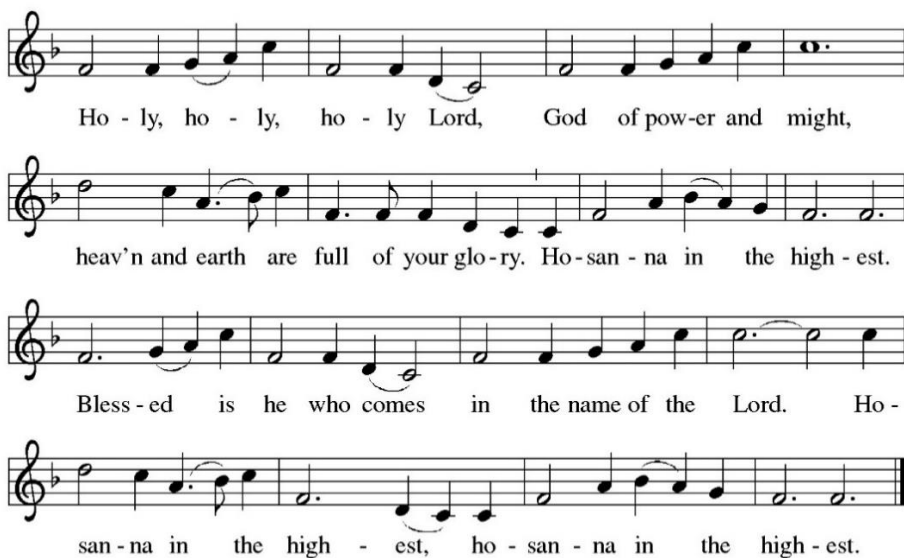
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.
Come to this meal of mercy.

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 718)

. IN A LOWLY MANGER BORN

Text: Ko Yuki, 1896-1985; tr. composite

Music: Seigi Abe, 1891-1974

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray

O God,

through this meal you have strengthened us

and appointed us to be your servants.

Send us to do good and to share our possessions

with all in need.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

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

BLESSING

The God of righteousness,

who gives justice to the oppressed,

who gives food to the hungry,

who sets the prisoners free,

✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

(ELW 208)

. Praise to You, O God of Mercy

Text and music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty

Haugen, b. 1950

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

Thanks be to God.

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BREAD LOAF OFFERING - OCTOBER – Columbia City Fire Department

- Our Food Pantry is in need of cereal and peanut butter.

ANNOUNCEMENT

This month's Bread Loaf offering will be going to the Columbia City Firefighters. They are collecting for the Christmas Candy handout



It will be a Drive-thru Event. Attendees need to remain in their vehicles, enter the designated lane from Chauncey Street (West side of Courthouse), and receive candy on Van Buren (North side of Courthouse). Cones will mark the path.



Santa will be in attendance waiving at attendees and will speak to all children that stop by to say hello before his magical trip back to the North Pole.



This continues the 140+ year tradition dating back to the 1880's! Each child will receive a 1lb bag of candy and an orange. Past participants remember traveling from Warsaw by horse and buggy to get their candy because that WAS their Christmas present.



Thanks to the Columbia City Fire Department for putting on this annual family tradition in a safe manner each and every year! Any question, see Joe Freiburger or Mark Krider

Notes

Weekly Agenda at Grace Lutheran Church

Monday October 27, 2025

Helping hands 12:30 pm

Scouting America Troop 84 B/G 6:30 pm

AA 7:30 pm

Tuesday October 28, 2025

T.O.P.S 9:30 am

Cubscouts 6:30 pm

Whitley County Quilter 6:30 pm

Wednesday October 29, 2025

No Pre-k

P/T conf

Men's Breakfast 8 am

Food Pantry 12 pm

Food Vouchers 4 pm

Thursday October 30, 2025

No Pre-k

P/T conf

AA 7:30 pm

Al-non 7:30 pm

Friday October 31, 2025

Pastor's Day Off

Halloween

Food Pantry 12 pm

Saturday November 1, 2025

Sunday November 2, 2025

Worship @ Hope 8:15 am

Worship @ Grace 10:00 am

Fellowship 11:15 am

Bp checks 11:15 am

Girl Scouts 2 pm

**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.**