

**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

**September 7, 2025**

**13th Sunday after Pentecost**



### **Introduction to the day**

Called to contemplate the cost of discipleship, we might be helped by translating Paul's request to Philemon into our prayer of the day: Refresh my heart in Christ. Strengthened by the company and forgiveness of Christ in holy communion and recalling God's grace in remembrance of baptism, we can be strengthened in this hour to "choose life"—to choose life in God as our own.

**Food pantry need: cereal and peanut butter**

**Attendance for August 31, 2025- 30**

## PRELUDE

*please stand if you are able.*

### 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 806)

. **O God, My Faithful God**

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585-1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

Music: Ahasuerus Fritsch, 1629-1701

### 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.*

Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, 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: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

A reading from Deuteronomy.

<sup>15</sup> “See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. <sup>16</sup> If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. <sup>17</sup> But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup> I declare to you today that you shall

certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup> I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, <sup>20</sup> loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm: Psalm 1**

<sup>1</sup> Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel <sup>1</sup> of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats <sup>1</sup> of the scornful!

<sup>2</sup> **Their delight is in the law <sup>1</sup> of the Lord,  
and they meditate on God’s teaching <sup>1</sup> day and night.**

<sup>3</sup> They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that <sup>1</sup> do not wither; everything they <sup>1</sup> do shall prosper.

<sup>4</sup> **It is not so <sup>1</sup> with the wicked;  
they are like chaff which the wind <sup>1</sup> blows away.**

<sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when <sup>1</sup> judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council <sup>1</sup> of the righteous.

<sup>6</sup> **For the Lord knows the way <sup>1</sup> of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked shall <sup>1</sup> be destroyed.**

### **Second Reading: Philemon 1-21**

A reading from Philemon.

<sup>1</sup> Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,  
To our beloved coworker Philemon, <sup>2</sup> to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your house:

<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers,  
<sup>5</sup> because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup> I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. <sup>7</sup> I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love,

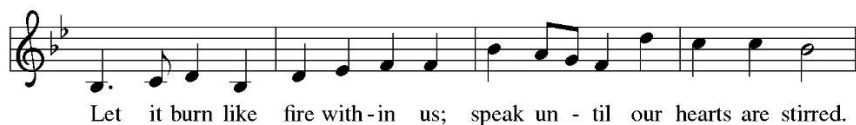
because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

<sup>8</sup> For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, <sup>9</sup> yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. <sup>10</sup> I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment.

<sup>11</sup> Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. <sup>12</sup> I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. <sup>13</sup> I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, <sup>14</sup> but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. <sup>15</sup> Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, <sup>16</sup> no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

<sup>17</sup> So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. <sup>18</sup> If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. <sup>19</sup> I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. <sup>20</sup> Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. <sup>21</sup> Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation



## **GOSPEL: Luke 14:25-33**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>25</sup> Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup> “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup> Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup> For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup> Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, <sup>30</sup> saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ <sup>31</sup> Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup> If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. <sup>33</sup> So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

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 584)**

**The Son of God, Our Christ**

Text: Edward M. Blumenfeld, b. 1927, alt.

Music: Alfred M. Smith, 1879–1971

## **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**

**Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world,  
and all in need.**

*A brief silence.*

**We pray for the church to follow in your ways, that it may be a  
witness to your love for all people. Help us choose all that is life-  
giving and confront the forces of death. God of grace,  
receive our prayer.**

We pray for creation, that it may be cherished and nurtured. Sustain farmlands, animals, and waters; restore places affected by calamities; and shield coastlands from rising seas. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

We pray for those in authority. Grant them wisdom to govern justly and compassion to care for the marginalized. Equip them for actions that further the common good. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

We pray for those who are sick, hungry, unhoused, or lonely. May they find healing through your love and the care of those around them. Lead us to be your hands and feet in the world. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation, that we may be united in love and faith. Refresh our hearts in Christ, and deepen our support of one another. We pray that our sharing of faith may transform lives. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We thank you for those who have died and now dwell with the saints. Surround them with your divine mercy, that they find peace and rest in your loving embrace. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.  
**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

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.  
**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

*The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the day or season:*

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.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff ends with a whole note, the second with a half note, the third with a half note, and the fourth with a full bar line.

## 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 Song

## Where Charity and Love Are Shown

### *Donde hay caridad*

*Refrain / Estribillo*



*Don-de hay ca - ri - dad y\_a - mor, a - llí es -*  
Where char-i - ty and love are shown, our God is

*tá\_el Se - ñor, a - llí es - tá\_el Se - ñor.*  
there made known, our God is there made known.

1 *U - na sa - la y\_u - na me - sa, u - na co - pa,*  
1 One as - sem - bly at one ta - ble; one the cup, the  
2 At the ta - ble we are wel - comed to the ban - quet  
3 This, the bread of life e - ter - nal; this, the sav - ing

*vi - no\_y pan, los her - ma - nos com - par -*  
bread, the wine; in one love we are com -  
from a - bove. We re - call the Lord's com -  
cup we claim, draw us close with - in one

*tien - do en a - mor y\_en u - ni - dad.*  
pan - ions, and in u - ni - ty we dine.  
mand - ment that we live and grow in love.  
fam - 'ly, make us one in Je - sus' name.

*Nos re - ú - ne la pre - sen - cia y\_el re - cuer - do*  
Brought to - geth - er by the pres - ence and the prom - ise  
As the gifts of God are giv - en, Je - sus' bod - y  
Let us tell the liv - ing sto - ry of his suf - f'ring

*del Se - ñor; ce - le - bra - mos su me -*  
of God's Word, here in joy and in re -  
and his blood, so we give our - selves to  
and his pain, and pro - claim the ho - ly

*mo - ria y la\_en - tre - ga de su\_a - mor.*  
mem - brance we re - ceive our lov - ing Lord.  
oth - ers and we seek our neigh - bor's good.  
mys - t'ry: Christ has died, yet lives to reign.

*Refrain / Estribillo*

Text: Joaquín Madurga, 1938–2017; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951

Music: DONDE HAY CARIDAD, Joaquín Madurga

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## **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 808)**

. **Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song**

Text: Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community;  
tr. Stephen Somerville, b. 1931

Music: Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

### **BREAD LOAF OFFERING - SEPTEMBER – Grace Lutheran Church Preschool**

- Grace ladies will host Adelphi Tuesday, September 16. Following the luncheon the ladies will assemble their Personal Care kits for World Relief then watch the video "ordinary to Extraordinary". This video will travel to Mali, West Africa, on a journey as these kits are distributed among the families.
- Our Food Pantry is in need of cereal and peanut butter.

- **Christmas in September – Because We Can Celebrate Anytime!**

Who says Christmas only comes once a year? This year, we're spreading the joy a little early (or maybe a little late!) with **Christmas in September** on **Sunday, September 21st**, right after worship, we will have a special Christmas brunch. We'll be painting beautiful new wooden ornaments for our church Christmas tree and lovingly retiring the well-worn ornaments that have brought us joy over the years. Yes, we know it's not December, but the cookies will still be delicious, the music will still be festive, and the memories will still be just as special! Come enjoy Christmas music, tasty Christmas cookies, and a hearty brunch while helping us create decorations that will bring joy for many seasons to come. After all, any day is a good day to celebrate the gift of being together!

- Grace Lutheran Church is now participating in First Fridays downtown in Columbia City. We are in the same spot ( Sect. 3 Space 51). I have ordered 300 more wristbands and picked up 2 tanks of helium. Mariah is tying ribbon to the wristbands which is a huge help. I still need to grab more devotional books and stamp our church name on them. If anyone else has ideas, please share with the group. We will take the preschool board with us again and hopefully we can use it. We will meet at 4:30pm at church. Let me know if you can make it or not. Thanks, Joe Freiburger

- 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 September newsletter.



## NOTES

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

### **Monday September 8, 2025**

Helping hands 12:30 pm

Finance Team 5:30 pm

Church Council 6:30 pm

Scouting America Troop 84 B/G 6:30 pm

AA 7:30 pm

### **Tuesday September 9, 2025**

T.O.P.S 9:30 am

Cubscouts 6:30 pm

Sigma Eta 6:30 pm

### **Wednesday September 10, 2025**

Men's Breakfast 8 am

Food Pantry 12 pm

Food Vouchers 4 pm

### **Thursday September 11, 2025**

AA 7:30 pm

Al-non 7:30 pm

### **Friday September 12, 2025**

**Pastor's Day Off**

Food Pantry 12 pm

### **Saturday September 13, 2025**

Delta Kappa Gamma 8:00 am

### **Sunday September 14, 2025**

Worship @ Hope 8:15 am

Worship @ Grace 10:15 am

Fellowship 11:15 am

Worship @ Oaks 1:00 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.**