

SPIRIT OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 16 & 17, 2023

16th Sunday of Pentecost

Ministers: Every Member of Spirit of Grace

Pastor Scott Hackler – Pastor Gary E Benson

OUR MISSION

Proclaiming God's Love, God's Promises, and the Abundant Life

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“No One Like You, O Lord”

Fred Bornhoeft

INVOCATION

P: We worship in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit!

C: Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

“Come, Now is the Time to Worship”

Ken Carnes

Refrain:

Come, now is the time to worship.

Come, now is the time to give your heart.

Come, just as you are to worship.

Come, just as you are before your God.

Come.

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GATHERING LITANY (based on Psalm 103)

P: From the deepest places of our being, praise the Lord.

C: Praise God's holy name, and do not forget all his blessings.

P: God Forgives our sins and heals our hurts.

C: God protects us from evil and adorns us with love and compassion.

P: God satisfies our desires with good things.

C: The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

P: From the deepest places of our being, praise the Lord.

C: Praise God's holy name.

GATHERING HYMN

“Blest Be the Tie”

Blest be the tie that binds / our hearts in Christian love; / the unity of heart and mind / is like to that above.

Before our father's throne / we pour our ardent prayers; / our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, / our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes, / our mutual burdens bear, / and often for each other flows / the sympathizing tear.

From sorrow, toil, and pain, / and sin we shall be free; / and perfect love and /friendship reign through all eternity.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740-1817, alt. Public Domain..

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

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

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE “This Is the Day”

This is the day, this is the day / that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made; / we will rejoice, we will rejoice / and be glad in it, and be glad in it. / This is the day that the Lord has made; / we will rejoice and be glad in it. / This is the day, this the day that the Lord has made.

Text: Psalm 118:24. Public Domain.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

MUSICAL OFFERING “My God is Still the Same”

Ken Carnes

THE READING Genesis 50:15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

P: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? / You have the words of eternal life. / Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL Matthew 18:21-35

Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

P: Word of God, Word of Life

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Do The Math ”

Pastor Scott Hackler

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Rise, Shine, You People”

Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered / our human story; God in him is centered. / He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded, / with grace unbounded.

See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling; / he brings us freedom, light and life and healing. / All men and women, who by guilt are driven, / now are forgiven.

Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling, / your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling. / To all the world go out and tell the story / of Jesus' glory.

Tell how the Father sent the Son to save us. / Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us. / Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation / God's new creation.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt. (c) 1974 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE A-706001.

APOSTLES' CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION – After each petition: Lord, in your mercy, “Hear our prayer.”

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you.

C: We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed with your love. Form us into the body of your beloved son, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

P: Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth. You rescued your covenant people, led them on all their journeys, and taught them by the prophets. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

C: Amen.

P: 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.

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Pour out your Holy Spirit in this meal and make us one in this community of faith and with your people throughout the world. Glory and praise to you, O God, Author of life, Word made flesh, Power of the Most High, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

DISTRIBUTION

BLESSING AND PRAYER

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

P: Blessed be your name, O God,

C: for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: The God of glory, Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN "Give to our Immortal Praise!"

Give to our God immortal praise! / Mercy and truth are all his ways.
Wonders of grace to God belong; / repeat his mercies in your song.

He sent his Son with pow'r to save / from guilt and darkness and the grave.
Wonders of grace to God belong; / repeat his mercies in your song.

Give to the Lord of lords renown; / the King of kings with glory crown.
His mercies ever shall endure /when lords and kings are known no more!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748. Public Domain.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SERVING AS WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Director of Music	Fred Bornhoeft
Online Scripture Reader	Marianne White
Video Production	Jerry Huston

Announcements & Upcoming Events

WELCOME SESSIONS – are an opportunity for new and long-time visitors to learn why our church exists and how you can be more connected and committed to our ministry. You will meet other prospective members, learn about our mission and vision, and our various ministries. Our next Welcome Session is Monday, October 2nd, at 10:00 am. So that we may have sufficient materials, please call the church office (623-977-6000, ext. 100) to register. Hope to see you there!

INTERESTED IN CPR TRAINING? – Contact Faith Community Nurse Deborah Frusciano at 623-977-6000, ext. 140 or via email: deborah@spiritofgrace.com.

THIS WEEKEND: PIZZA and BINGO at 5:00 pm, Sunday—doors open at 4:30—please bring your tickets.

TREMBLE CLEFS CONCERT IS COMING – October 1, 3:00 pm. Free will offering. Free tickets are available before and after services in the Narthex.

OCTOBERFEST. Sunday, Oct 22 at 4:30 pm. Tickets are \$25 and can be found online at spiritofgrace.com from Sept.14 -Oct 6. Tickets available this weekend before and after services in the Narthex.

NEW EDITION GRIESHARE PROGRAM

We are pleased to present the new 4th edition GriefShare program this fall. Meetings are on Thursdays, Sept 7th - Nov 30, @10:00am-11:30am (exceptions: Oct 11, Nov 15 & 22 are Wednesdays). To Register, call Spirit of Grace at 623-977-6000 or griefshare.org or Deborah Frusciano at 602-909-8369. You do not need to be a member of Spirit of Grace to participate in this program. A Donation of \$20 is requested to cover the cost of your GriefShare Workbook.

MEN'S BREAKFAST will be returning on October 31st, the last Tuesday of October. It will be Halloween so lets have pumpkin muffins!! We are looking forward to another enjoyable and successful year of breakfast devotions for the men of Spirit of Grace. The staff are also looking for help in the kitchen preparing the delicious breakfast. If you'd like to help, please contact Paul Reichenbach. Sign up for the October 31st breakfast on the clip board in the Narthex will begin the first week of October.

SPIRIT OF GRACE CALENDAR ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 16 - September 23

Saturday, September 16

5:00 pm Worship Service

Sunday, September 17

9:00 am Worship Service

Monday, September 18

No activities

Tuesday, September 19

9:00 am Staff Meeting

12:00 pm Counseling Ministry*

*By appointment only
with Dr Joe Dramise

4:15 pm Joyful Spirit Singers

Wednesday, September 20

9:00 am Counseling Ministry*

*By appointment only
with Dr Joe Dramise

Thursday, September 21

10:00 am GriefShare

1:00 pm Congregation Council

Friday, September 22

9:30 am Bulletin Assembly

Saturday, September 23

5:00 pm Worship Service

Sunday, September 24

9:00 am Worship Service