

SPIRIT OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

**October 7 - 8, 2023
19th 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 ANNOUNCEMENT

PRELUDE

" I Give You My Heart "

Fred Bornhoeft

INVOCATION

We worship in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit!
Amen.

GATHERING LITANY (based on Psalm 103)

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

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

God Forgives our sins and heals our hurts.

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

God satisfies our desires with good things.

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

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

Praise God's holy name.

GATHERING HYMN **"The Church of Christ, in Every Age"**

The church of Christ, in ev'ry age / beset by change, but Spirit-led, / must claim and test its heritage / and keep on rising from the dead.

Then let the servant church arise, / a caring church that longs to be / a partner in Christ's sacrifice, / and clothed in Christ's humanity.

We have no mission but to serve / in full obedience to our Lord; / to care for all, without reserve, / and spread his liberating word.

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

Amen.

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin and the sin of humankind.

Steadfast and faithful God,

You have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us and all people back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In Christ, you are already and always forgiven. **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

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.

Amen

ANTHEM

"Open the Eyes of My Heart"

Joyful Spirit Singers

THE READING Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ²He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. ³And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? ⁵And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. ⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

Word of God, word of life.

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 21:33-46

³³Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' ³⁹So

they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." ⁴²Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'?" ⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." ⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet

Word of God, Word of Life
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Our Ways/God’s Ways”

Pastor Scott Hackler

HYMN OF THE DAY “O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate.”

O Christ, your heart, compassionate, / bore ev'ry human pain. / Its beating was the pulse of God; / its breadth, God's vast domain. / The heart of God, the heart of Christ / combined in perfect rhyme / to write God's love in human deeds, / eternity in time.

As once you welcomed those cast down / and healed the sick, the blind, / so may all bruised and broken lives / through us your help still find. / Lord, join our hearts with those who weep / that none may weep alone, / and help us bear another's pain / as though it were our own.

O Christ, create new hearts in us / that beat in time with yours, / that, joined by faith with your great heart, / become love's open doors. / We are your body, risen Christ; / our hearts, our hands we yield / that through our life and ministry / your love may be revealed.

O Love that made the distant stars, / yet marks the sparrow's fall, / whose arms stretched wide upon a cross / embrace and bear us all: / come, make your church a servant church / that walks your servant ways, / whose deeds of love rise up to you, / a sacrifice of praise!

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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: God of grace, hear our prayer.

OFFERING PRAYER

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

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

INVITATION

“Come to the Table of Mercy”

Come to the table of mercy, / prepared with the wine and the bread. / All who are hungry and thirsty, / come, and your souls will be fed. / Come at the Lord's invitation; / receive from his nail-scarred hand. / Eat of the bread of salvation; / drink of the blood of the Lamb.

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

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

Blessed be your name, O God,
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

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

SENDING HYMN

“How Firm a Foundation”

How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord, / is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word! / What more can he say than to you he has said / who unto the Savior for / refuge have fled?

"Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed, / for I am your God and will still give you aid; / I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand, / upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."

"When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie, / my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply. / The flames shall not hurt you; I only design / your dross to consume and your gold to refine."

"Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove / my sov'reign, eternal, / unchangeable love; / and then, when gray hairs shall their temples adorn, / like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne."

Text: J. Rippon, A Selection of Hymns, 1787, alt. 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	Dave Sitzman
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, November 6, 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.

NEW EDITION GRIEF SHARE 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.

HARVEST HOME DINNER & CONCERT This weekend is your chance to get registered for our harvest home dinner & concert Nov. 12. We'll be in the narthex to register you by check or by credit card! Remember this event opens to the public Oct. 13! You have two options from which to select:

1. Dinner & Concert with reserved seating-\$25.
2. Concert only-\$10 no reserved seating. Don't miss the SOUNDS OF THE SOUTHWEST SINGERS!

WOMEN'S MINISTRY You are invited to join us, the WELCA ladies, for our Bible study kickoff for women on October 12 at 1:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Pastor Scott will be leading our study. Hope to see you there.

CHIMES WORKSHOP OCTOBER 28th from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm there will be chimes worship led by Sandy Hobbs and Barbara Stenberg. The workshop will cover basic techniques for playing and additional techniques to enhance. If you are interested in learning to play, all welcome includes current members. It's a lot of fun to give it a try, you might be surprised.

FOOD BANK: Saturday October 28th from 9:30 – 11:30 AM. Join us to sort food for distribution at Valley View Community. SOG volunteers will be the only group working there and we can use up to 15 people. Please RSVP so they can plan workstations accordingly by emailing marsha.gilford@gmail.com. Wear closed-toe shoes and meet at the food bank located at 10771 W. Peoria Ave. (Directions: Grand Ave. to right at 111th Ave; then turn left on Peoria Ave).

MEN'S BREAKFAST will be returning on October 31st, the last Tuesday of October. It will be Halloween so let's 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. In October there will be a clipboard in the lobby to sign up.

SPIRIT OF GRACE CALENDAR
October 7 - October 15

Saturday, October 7

5:00 pm Worship Service

Sunday, October 8

9:00 am Worship Service

Monday, October 9

10:00 Welcome Session

Tuesday, October 10

9:00 am Staff Meeting
12:00 pm Counseling Ministry*
*By appointment only
with Dr Joe Dramise

Wednesday, October 11

9:00 am Counseling Ministry*
*By appointment only
with Dr Joe Dramise
10:00 am GriefShare

Thursday, October 12

1:00 pm WELCA
Bible Study Kick-off

Friday, October 13

9:30 am Bulletin Assembly

Saturday, October 14

5:00 pm Worship Service

Sunday, October 15

9:00 am Worship Service

