

SPIRIT OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

**November 11-12, 2023
24th 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

MINISTRY MINUTE

"25th Anniversary Tickets"

Ellie Brooks

VETERAN'S TRIBUTE:

"Stars and Stripes Forever"

Fred Bornhoeft

INVOCATION

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

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 96:1-4)

O sing to the LORD a new song;

Sing to the LORD, all the earth.

Sing to the LORD, bless God's name;

Tell of God's salvation from day to day.

Declare God's glory among the nations,

God's marvelous works among all the peoples.

For great is the LORD,

And greatly to be praised!

GATHERING HYMN "Jesus Shall Reign"

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun / does its successive journeys run; / his
kingdom stretch from shore to shore, / till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To him shall endless prayer be made, / and praises throng to crown his head; / his
name like sweet perfume shall rise / with ev'ry morning sacrifice.

Blessings abound where'er he reigns: / the pris'ners leap to lose their chains, / the
weary find eternal rest, / and all who suffer want are blest.

Let ev'ry creature rise and bring / peculiar honors to our king; / angels descend
with songs again, / and earth repeat the loud amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are not awake for you. We are often not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings and to often do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

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

ANTHEM

"Give Me Jesus"

Joyful Spirit Singers

THE FIRST READING: Amos 5:18-24

¹⁸Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light; ¹⁹as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake. ²⁰Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? ²¹I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. ²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. ²³Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. ²⁴But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

¹³But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with

them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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 25:1-13

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: ³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. ⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The gospel of the Lord,

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

"Be Prepared"

Pastor Gary Benson

HYMN OF THE DAY "Soon and Very Soon"

Soon and very soon / we are goin' to see the King, / soon and very soon / we are goin' to see the King, / soon and very soon / we are goin' to see the King. /
Hallelujah, hallelujah, / we're goin' to see the King!

No more cryin' there, / we are goin' to see the King, / no more cryin' there, / we are goin' to see the King, / no more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King. /
Hallelujah, hallelujah, / we're goin' to see the King!

No more dyin' there, / we are goin' to see the King, / no more dyin' there, / we are goin' to see the King, / no more dyin' there, / we are goin' to see the King. /
Hallelujah, hallelujah, / we're goin' to see the King!

Soon and very soon / we are goin' to see the King, / soon and very soon / we are goin' to see the King, / soon and very soon / we are goin' to see the King. /
Hallelujah, hallelujah, / we're goin' to see the King! / Hallelujah, hallelujah, /
hallelujah, hallelujah.

APOSTLES' CREED

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

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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WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

May God, who gives life to all things and frees us to live fully, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN "My Country 'Tis of Thee"

My country, 'tis of thee, / sweet land of liberty, / of thee I sing: /
land where my fathers died, / land of the pilgrims' pride, / from ev'ry
mountainside / let freedom ring.

My native country, thee, / land of the noble free, / thy name I love;
/ I love thy rocks and rills, / thy woods and templed hills; / my
heart with rapture thrills / like that above.

Let music swell the breeze, / and ring from all the trees / sweet freedom's song; /
let mortal tongues awake; / let all that breathe partake; / let rocks their silence
break, / the sound prolong.

Our fathers' God, to thee, / author of liberty, / to thee we sing: /

long may our land be bright / with freedom's holy light. / Protect us by thy might,
/ great God, our king.

Text: Samuel F. Smith, 1808-1895. Public Domain.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERVING AS WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Director of Music | Fred Bornhoeft |
| Online Scripture Reader | Terry Pierce |
| Video Production | Jerry Huston |
| Singers | Terry Pierce, Cathy Pierce, Nancy Newman |

Announcements & Upcoming Events

Visitors, Guests and Friends! Let us know that you are here by using this QR code. We are so happy that you have joined us in worship.



FLOWERS are given in memory and celebration of the life of Bob Fredericksen from June Fredericksen and family.

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, December 11th, 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!

HARVEST HOME DINNER GUESTS - Sunday, November 12th. Please check in and be seated by no later than 4:45pm. Doors open at 4:15 pm your ticket includes:

- **Sound of the Southwest** concert November 12 at 6:30 pm tickets cost is \$10 and will be available at the door.

WELCA FALL THANKOFFERING LUNCHEON is November 16, at 11:00 am in fellowship hall. The cost is \$15.00. Checks are preferred. Lunch will be catered by Wild Bunch Catering. Our speaker is from Doves, the center for Aging. She will also speak about the Mosaic Program. Bring you thank offering and any new hygiene items to donate.

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

GRIEFSHARE

Meetings are on Thursdays through Nov 30, @10:00am-11:30am (exceptions: Nov 15 & 22 are Wednesdays). To Register, call Spirit of Grace at 623-977-6000 or call Deborah Frusciano at 602-909-8369 or go to griefshare.org. 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.

BLOOD PRESURE CHECKS High blood pressure is no laughing matter. So before heading out to your favorite restaurant for breakfast, get your blood pressure checked. It only takes a few minutes! Blood pressures will be checked Sunday, November 19, in the conference room from 10:00 am to 10:30am.

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS November 14, at 10:00am-12pm Our Surviving the Holidays seminar is especially for people who are grieving a loved one's death. The death can be in the past or recent. The seminar will include a video, workbook, and discussion. This is offered by GriefShare and is the new 4th edition with relevant and updated information:

*How to deal with the many emotions you'll face during the holidays*What to do about traditions and other coming changes *Helpful tips for surviving social events. This event will be held in the fellowship hall. Refreshments will be served. Please call the church office 623-977-6000 to register so we have enough materials for everyone. Contact Deborah Frusciano for more information 623-977-6000 ext 140 or 602-909-8369 cell. Please join us for this encouraging seminar and ask your family and friends to attend with you.

BLOOD PRESURE CHECKS High blood pressure is no laughing matter. So before heading out to your favorite restaurant for breakfast, get your blood pressure checked. It only takes a few minutes! Blood pressures will be checked Sunday, November 19, in the conference room from 10:00 am to 10:30am.

ADVENT GIVING TREE 2023 GIFT CARD COLLECTION For this year's Advent Giving Tree, we will once again be sharing the light and hope of Advent with Military Families at Luke Air Force Base. We will be collecting gift cards and Christmas cards to give to the families. Thank you for your continued support of the Advent Giving Tree. Your prayers and generosity show our Military Families how much their service and sacrifice mean to our congregation. Please bring gift cards and Christmas cards by December 12. for further information Contact Deborah 623-977-6000 ext 140 or 602-909-8369 cell.

COMFORT COVERS QUILTING GROUP will meet again Tuesday November 28 from 9am-1:00pm.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING: We will be preparing the church for Advent and Christmas December 1st from 9am-noon. We need many elves to help decorate the fellowship hall, narthex (lobby) and outdoors. Treats will be available for sustaining elf workers. Sign up on the clipboard in the narthex.

CAROLING/SOUP SUPPER December 10th at 2:00 pm Cost \$10. Tickets are available today in lobby. Checks only.

AVAILABLE NOW IN SOG'S LIBRARY Copies of Pastor Vern Anderson's 2016 presentations on the Quran and the three divisions of Muslim people in the world. (Pastor Vern is a former SOG Senior Pastor.) The CDs are now available for check out.

THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION BREAKFAST Tickets will be on sale beginning Wednesday, November 15 online at www.Spiritofgrace.com. They will also be available before and after worship services November 18 & 19 and November 25 & 26. The cost of the tickets is \$25. Checks only. Thank you for all the generous contributions to support the 25th anniversary celebration.

SPIRIT OF GRACE CALENDAR
November 11 – November 19

Saturday, November 11

5:00 pm Worship Service
10:00 am Chimes Clinic

Sunday, November 12

9:00 am Worship Service
5:00 pm
Harvest Homecoming Dinner
6:30 pm Concert

Monday, November 13

Carol Tannheimer Memorial Service
9:30 Visitation
10:30 Memorial Service

Tuesday, November 14

9:00 am Staff Meeting
12:00 pm Counseling Ministry
*By appointment only
with Dr Joe Dramise
10:00am GriefShare
"Surviving the Holiday"
3:00 pm Chimes Rehearsal
4:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, November 15

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

Thursday, November 16

8:45 am Online Worship
video production
11:00 am WELCA Fall Luncheon
1:00 pm Congregation Council

Friday, November 17

9:30 am Bulletin Assembly

Saturday, November 18

5:00 pm Worship Service

Sunday, November 19

9:00 am Worship Service
10:00 am Blood Pressure Checks

