

**SPIRIT OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**November 18-19, 2023  
25<sup>th</sup> 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**

**"This Is My Father's World"**

**Fred Bornhoeft**

**MINISTRY MINUTE**

**"Gift Of Hope Kick-Off"**

**Kerstin Smith**

**INVOCATION**

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

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (based on Psalm 90)

God, we know you are with us.

**From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.**

You have showered your love upon all generations, since the beginning of time.

**From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.**

Guide us now through this time of worship, and into the week ahead.

**From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.**

**GATHERING HYMN "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.

## 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

### "Oh Lord Of Light, Who Made Stars"

## Grace Chimes

### FIRST READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

<sup>7</sup>Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests...<sup>12</sup>At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm." <sup>13</sup>Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. <sup>14</sup>The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there.<sup>15</sup>That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, <sup>16</sup>a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. <sup>17</sup>I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. <sup>18</sup>Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

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 25:14-30**

<sup>14</sup>For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; <sup>15</sup>to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. <sup>17</sup>In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. <sup>18</sup>But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. <sup>19</sup>After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>22</sup>And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>24</sup>Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' <sup>26</sup>But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

The gospel of the Lord,  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**"It Stinks To Be That Guy!"**

**Pastor Scott**

## **HYMN OF THE DAY     "Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us"**

Lord of glory, you have bought us / with your lifeblood as the price, / never grudging  
for the lost ones / that tremendous sacrifice; / and with that have freely given /  
blessings countless as the sand / to the unthankful and the evil / with your own  
unsparing hand.

Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you / gladly, freely, of your own. / With the  
sunshine of your goodness / melt our thankless hearts of stone / till our cold and  
selfish natures, / warmed by you, at length believe / that more happy and more  
blessed / 'tis to give than to receive.

Wondrous honor you have given / to our humblest charity / in your own mysterious sentence, / "You have done it all to me." / Can it be, O gracious Master, / that you deign for alms to sue, / saying by your poor and needy, / "Give as I have giv'n to you"?

Lord of glory, you have bought us / with your lifeblood as the price, / never grudging for the lost ones / that tremendous sacrifice. / Give us faith to trust you boldly, / hope, to stay our souls on you: / but, oh, best of all your graces, / with your love our love renew.

Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818-1889, alt. Public Domain.

## **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.

Text: Claire Cloninger, b. 1942. Text © 1991 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP) c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695; Juniper Landing Music (admin. Word Music); and Word Music (ASCAP). Reprinted under ONE LICENSE A-706001.

## 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      **"This Little Light of Mine"**

This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; / this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; / this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine, / let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine; / ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
/ ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine, /  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine; / Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it  
shine; / Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine, / let it shine, let it shine, let it  
shine.

Text: African American spiritual. 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

Judy Butz

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.



**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 4<sup>th</sup>, from 10am - noon. 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](mailto:deborah@spiritofgrace.com).

## **GRIEFSHARE**

GriefShare Meetings are on Thursdays through Nov 30, @10:00am-11:30am (exception: Wednesday, Nov. 22). To Register, call Spirit of Grace at 623-977-6000 or call Deborah

Frusciano at 602-909-8369 or go to [griefshare.org](http://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.

**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 Tuesday November 28 from 9am-1:00pm.

**SPIRIT OF GRACE MEN'S BREAFAST** meets Tuesday November 28<sup>th</sup> at 8am. Don't forget to sign up in the lobby.

**CHRISTMAS DECORATING:**

We will be preparing the church for Advent and Christmas, December 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

**FELLOWSHIP TEAM**

The Fellowship Team has obtained 125 reserved tickets in the Legion's Section of the Surprise Stadium for the March 7<sup>th</sup> baseball game between AZ Diamondbacks and TX Rangers. The cost of \$52 includes food and drink. Tickets will go on sale in lobby Dec 2 & 3. CHECKS ONLY!

**CAROLING/SOUP SUPPER**

December 10<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm Cost \$10. Tickets are available today in the 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 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION BREAKFAST**

Our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration is Sunday, January 1 Tickets will be on sale beginning Wednesday, November 15 online at [www.spiritofgrace.com](http://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 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

## **THE FIRST SERGEANTS**

On Sunday, during our fellowship hour in Cafe Grace, the Luke Airforce Base First Sergeants will be providing refreshments. The First Sergeants Council members are responsible for the well-being of the Airmen in their command. The gift cards that you give for the Advent Giving Tree help them to provide services to these airmen. We are grateful for their service to our country.

### ***SPIRIT OF GRACE CALENDAR November 18 – November 26***

#### **Saturday, November 18**

5:00 pm Worship Service

#### **Sunday, November 19**

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

#### **Monday, November 20**

#### **Tuesday, November 21**

9:00 am Staff Meeting  
3:00 pm Chimes Rehearsal  
4:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

#### **Wednesday, November 22**

8:45 pm Recording Online Service  
10:00 am GriefShare  
2:00 pm Bulletin Assembly  
5:00 pm Thanksgiving Worship

#### **Thursday, November 23**

Thanksgiving Holiday  
(office is closed)

#### **Friday, November 24**

#### **Saturday, November 25**

5:00 pm Worship Service

#### **Sunday, November 26**

Christ the King Sunday  
9:00 am Worship Service