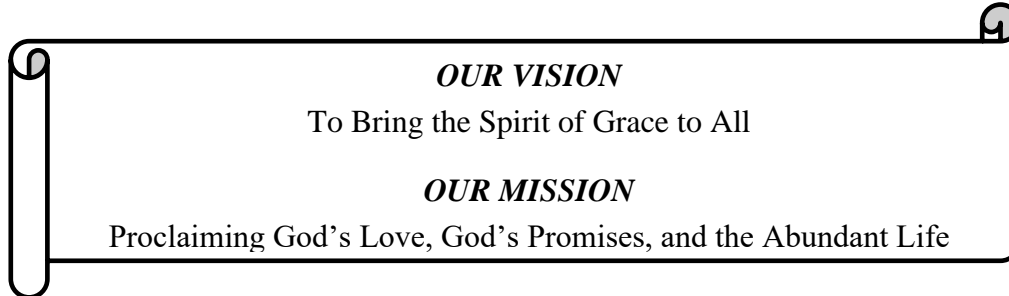


SPIRIT OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

**September 2 & 3, 2023
14th Sunday of Pentecost**

**Ministers: Every Member of Spirit of Grace
Pastor Scott Hackler – Pastor Gary E Benson**



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINISTRY MINUTE **“ Fellowship Ministry”** Dorothy Carnes

PRELUDE **“The light of the World is Jesus”** Fred Bornhoeft

INVOCATION

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

GATHERING LITANY (based on Psalm 105:1-4)

P: O give thanks to the Lord
C: **Call on God's name.**
P: Make known God's deeds among the peoples,
C: **Sing to the Lord, sing praises!**
P: Tell all his wonderful works.
C: **Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice! Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN **“For the Beauty of the Earth”**

For the beauty of the earth, / for the beauty of the skies, / for the love which from our birth /
over and around us lies: / Christ, our God, to thee we raise / this our sacrifice of praise.

For the wonder of each hour / of the day and of the night, / hill and vale and tree and flow'r,
sun and moon and stars of light: / Christ, our God, to thee we raise / this our sacrifice of praise.

For the joy of human love, / brother, sister, parent, child, / friends on earth and friends above;
for all gentle thoughts and mild: / Christ, our God, to thee we raise / this our sacrifice of praise.

For each perfect gift of thine; / peace on earth and joy in heav'n; / for thyself, best gift divine,
to our world so freely giv'n: / Christ, our God, to thee we raise / this our sacrifice of praise.

Text: Folliot S. Pierpoint, 1835-1917, 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 God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

MUSICAL OFFERING “I’ll Fly Away” Sandy Hobbs

THE READING **Romans 12:9-21**

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good.

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 16:21-28

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

P: The gospel of the Lord,
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON "I Didn't See That Coming!"

Pastor Scott Hackler

HYMN OF THE DAY "Will You Come and Follow Me"

"Will you come and follow me / if I but call your name? / Will you go where you don't know / and never be the same? / Will you let my love be shown, / will you let my name be known, / will you let my life be grown / in you and you in me?

"Will you leave yourself behind / if I but call your name? / Will you care for cruel and kind / and never be the same? / Will you risk the hostile stare, / should your life attract or scare? / Will you let me answer pray'r / in you and you in / me?

Lord, your summons echoes true / when you but call my name. / Let me turn and follow you / and never be the / same. / In your company I'll go / where your love and footsteps show. / Thus, I'll move and live and grow / in you and you in me.

Text: John L Bell, b. 1949 (c) 1987 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. 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 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

Love divine, all loves excelling, / Joy of heav'n, to earth come down! / Fix in us thy humble dwelling, / all thy faithful mercies crown. / Jesus, thou art all /compassion, / pure, unbounded love thou art; / visit us with thy salvation, / enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit / into every troubled breast; / let us all in thee inherit; / let us find thy promised rest. / Take away the love of sinning; / Alpha and Omega be; / end of faith, as its beginning, / set our hearts at liberty.

Finish then thy new creation, / pure and spotless let us be; / let us see thy great salvation / perfectly restored in thee! / Changed from glory into glory, / till in / eav'n we take our place, / till we cast our crowns before thee, /lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788. Public Domain

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, Sept 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!

FOOD INGATHERING OFFERING – Each month we receive an offering to support the work of Valley View Community Food Bank. Be sure to put Food Offering on your check.

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

PIZZA AND BINGO – Sept 17th in Café Grace!! Tickets are available online through our website. Cost: \$10.00 non-refundable.

TREMBLE CLEFS CONCERT IS COMING – tickets are free!! Save the date October 1st, at 3:00 pm here at Spirit of Grace

OCTOBERFEST Is right around the corner - - Cost \$25. Registration online begins Sept 14- Oct. 6

NEW EDITION GRIESHARE PROGRAM COMING THIS FALL

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.

SPIRIT OF GRACE CALENDAR ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 2 - September 9

Saturday, September 2

5:00 pm Worship Service

Sunday, September 3

9:00 am Worship Service

Monday, September 4

Church will be closed for the holiday.

Tuesday, September 5

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 6

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

Thursday, September 7

No Activities

Friday, September 8

9:30 am Bulletin Assembly

Saturday, September 9

5:00 pm Worship Service

Sunday, September 10

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