

SPIRIT OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

**October 2 & 3, 2021
19th Sunday of Pentecost**

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

OUR VISION

“To help our congregation and community know Christ and grow in faith, so we can run the race of life with grace, hope, peace, and joy.”

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK: “SOG Tailgate Homecoming Event” Treedah Magee

CALL TO WORSHIP: “All Creatures of Our God and King” Fred Bornhoeft

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

GATHERING 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 fi'ry 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.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Let us confess our sins to God, who welcomes us with an open heart.

C: God our comforter: like lost sheep, we go astray. You provide for our every need, yet we see scarcity. You love all people, yet we fear and turn from those foreign to us. You fill the world with life, yet we get stuck thinking only of our life. Gracious God, open our eyes to see as you do. Free us to love our neighbor boldly. Loosen our tongues to speak your words of life. Amen.

P: All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in Christ Jesus, God frees you. You are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Led by the Holy Spirit, go and carry out God's mission for the life of the world.

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: Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

SPECIAL MUSIC: “There’s Something About That Name” Dave Seaburg

THE READING: Genesis 2:18-24

The Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.” So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.” Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

P: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God!

THE PSALM: Psalm 8

O Lord our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!—you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger. When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses, what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them, human beings that you should care for them? Yet you have made them little less than divine; with glory and honor you crown them. You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet: all flocks and cattle, even the wild beasts of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea. O Lord our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

P: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Sing)

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

THE GOSPEL: Mark 10:2-16

Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.” But Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two,

but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.” Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

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

SERMON: “That Thing in the Bushes” *Pastor Scott Hackler*

HYMN OF THE DAY: “Bind Us Together”

Refrain

Bind us together, Lord, bind us together / with cords that cannot be broken. / Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord: / bind us together in love.

There is only one God. / There is only one King. / There is only one Body; / that is why we can sing: *Refrain*

You are the fam'ly of God. / You are the promise divine. / You are God's chosen desire, / you are the glorious new wine. *Refrain*

Text: Bob Gillman, b. 1946; (c) 1977 Kingsway's Thankyou Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing. Used by permission CCLI License No. 1347924.

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

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens.

C: Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly. Amen.

THE LORD’S SUPPER: WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Holy, almighty and merciful God. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

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

C: God of new life, pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless our feast and grace our table with your presence. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray,

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.

Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world.
The holy Trinity, one God, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN: "Beautiful Savior"

Beautiful Savior, / King of creation, / Son of God and Son of Man! / Truly I'd love thee, / truly I'd serve thee, /
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, / fair are the woodlands, / robed in flow'rs of blooming spring; / Jesus is fairer, / Jesus is
purer, / he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine, / fair is the moonlight, / bright the sparkling stars on high; / Jesus shines brighter, / Jesus
shines purer / than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, / Lord of the nations, / Son of God and Son of Man! / Glory and honor, / praise, adoration, /
now and forevermore be thine!

Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904. Public Domain.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Scripture Reader: Dave Sitzman

Hymn Vocalists: Tom Chambers, Cathy Pierce, Terry Pierce, Candace Renwall

Audio & Lighting: Jim Miller

Producer & Editor: 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 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!

GRIEFSHARE – This program focuses on grief topics associated with the death of a loved one. The DVD seminar features nationally-respected grief experts and real-life stories, followed by a small group discussion about what was viewed. Your workbook will reinforce the weekly session topics. Your bereavement experience may be recent or not so recent. You do not need to be a member of Spirit of Grace to attend.

GriefShare will be held Thursdays, August 5 - October 28, 10:00-11:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Each session is independent of the other. *You can start anywhere in the 13-week cycle and make up missed sessions in the next cycle.* A donation of \$15.00 is requested to cover the cost of your GriefShare Workbook. To register call the church office at 623-977-6000 or contact Deborah Frusciano 602-909-8369. Learn more about GriefShare at griefshare.org.

FUND FOR LEADERS GOLF CLASSIC – Ladies and gentlemen golfers, please consider participating in the ELCA Fund For Leaders Golf Classic which provides funding for seminary graduates who have an average debt of \$54,000. The Fund is our commitment that these leaders are supported in their response to God's call and they are equipped to lead us in the future. The Entry Fee is \$150 per golfer which includes golf and cart, lunch, automatic entry in drawing, and a \$75 tax-deductible contribution to the ELCA Fund For Leaders. Gather your foursome and have a great time while supporting this very excellent cause!

- ❖ Fund For Leaders Golf Classic: Monday, November 15th
- ❖ Arrowhead Golf Course, 19888 N 73rd Avenue, Glendale
- ❖ 7:00 am Check-In and Warmup; 7:45 am Foursomes in Carts and Ready
- ❖ 8:00 am Shotgun Start, Scramble Format
- ❖ 12:00 pm Lunch & Program

Contact Chuck Kinney at 309-253-8853 or email to kinneycharles83@gmail.com for a Registration Form and more information. The deadline to register is Friday, October 15th.

GET YOUR TICKETS!! – The Tailgate Homecoming Event is at Spirit of Grace on Sunday, October 24th, from 3pm to 6pm. Come to cheer your favorite team in their team colors! We'll have games such as: corn toss, ladder toss, ring toss, as well as indoor games. You could win a prize for your efforts! We'll finish the event with hamburgers and brats hot off the grill prepared by Wild Bunch Catering. Tickets are \$20 each and go on sale this weekend in the Narthex. You may also purchase tickets at the church office during normal business hours. The last Fellowship event was a sell-out so don't wait to get your ticket! The last day to purchase tickets is Monday, October 18th.

*Everyone is welcome to participate in all Spirit of Grace events and ministries:
you do not need to be a registered member.*