

***SPIRIT OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH***

**October 9 & 10, 2021  
20<sup>th</sup> 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**

**MINISTRY MINUTE: “Internal Audit Committee”** ..... Tom Chambers

**CALL TO WORSHIP: “This Little Light of Mine”** ..... Fred Bornhoeft

**INVOCATION**

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

**C: Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN: “O Day Full of Grace”**

O day full of grace that now we see / appearing on earth's horizon, / bring light from our God that we may be / abundant in joy this season. / God, shine for us now in this dark place; / your name on our hearts emblazon.

O day full of grace, O blessed time, / our Lord on the earth arriving; / then came to the world that light sublime, / great joy for us all retrieving; / for Jesus all mortals did embrace, / all shame and despair removing.

For Christ bore our sins, and not his own, / when he on the cross was hanging; / and then he arose and moved the stone, / that we, unto him belonging, / might join with angelic hosts to raise / our voices in endless singing.

Text: Danish folk hymn, c. 1450; tr. Gerald Thorson, 1921-2001; (c) 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE A-706001.

**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: Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us your gift of faith, that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what lies ahead, we may follow the way of your commandments and receive the crown of everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

**SPECIAL MUSIC: “When Answers Aren’t Enough”** ..... Fred Bornhoeft

**THE READING: Amos 5:6-7, 10-15**

Seek the Lord and live, or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire, and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it. Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood, and bring righteousness to the ground! They hate the one who reproves in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks the truth. Therefore because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. For I know how many are your transgressions, and how great are your sins—you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and push aside the needy in the gate. Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time; for it is an evil time. Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said. Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

P: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God!

**THE PSALM: Psalm 90:12-17**

So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. Return, O Lord; how long will you tarry? Be gracious to your servants. Satisfy us by your steadfast love in the morning; so shall we rejoice and be glad all our days. Make us glad as many days as you afflicted us and as many years as we suffered adversity. Show your servants your works, and your splendor to their children. May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us; prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.

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 10:17-31**

As [Jesus] was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’” He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.” Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

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

**SERMON: “Free to Follow”** ..... *Pastor Scott Hackler*

**HYMN OF THE DAY: “Take My Life, That I May Be”**

Take my life, that I may be / consecrated, Lord, to thee; / take my moments and my days; / let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my silver and my gold, / not a mite would I withhold; / take my intellect, and use / ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine; / it shall be no longer mine. / Take my heart, it is thine own; / it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour / at thy feet its treasure store; / take myself, and I will be / ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, alt. Public Domain.

**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: "God of Grace and God of Glory"

God of grace and God of glory, / on your people pour your pow'r; / crown your ancient church's story; / bring its bud to glorious flow'r. / Grant us wisdom, grant us courage / for the facing of this hour, / for the facing of this hour.

Lo! The hosts of evil round us / scorn the Christ, assail his ways! / From the fears that long have bound us / free our hearts to faith and praise. / Grant us wisdom, grant us courage / for the living of these days, / for the living of these days.

Save us from weak resignation / to the evils we deplore; / let the gift of your salvation / be our glory evermore. / Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, / serving you whom we adore, / serving you whom we adore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878-1969. Public Domain.

## DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Scripture Reader: Deborah Frusciano

Hymn Vocalists: Karen Boeck, Ken Carnes, Tom Chambers, 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 this **Monday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 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](http://griefshare.org).

**GET YOUR TICKETS!!** – The Tailgate Homecoming Event is at Spirit of Grace on Sunday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 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 can be purchased in the Narthex. You may also buy 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 get tickets is Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup>.

**HARVEST HOMECOMING DINNER & MUSIC** – will be at Spirit of Grace on Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-7:30 pm. The evening will begin with a *traditional Thanksgiving Dinner*, catered by Wild Bunch Catering. After dinner, great entertainment will be provided by Mirror Image – our own Ed Tannheimer is a member of this very talented group. They will play a variety of musical styles. This is one of SOG's most-attended events, so get your tickets when they go on sale starting Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup>. They can be **purchased online** at the Spirit of Grace website. Tickets can also be purchased in the Church Office – *cash or check only* – during normal business hours. Tickets are \$20 per person. The last day to purchase tickets is November 8<sup>th</sup>. See the November Grace Notes for more information.

**INTERNAL AUDIT COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS** – The Finance Committee at Spirit of Grace is looking for volunteers to help with our newly formed internal audit team. We will be following the “Congregational Audit Guide” as published by the ELCA, which is available on their website under “Resources-Financial”. Interested members can contact Tom Chambers at 410-829-3248 or [tchambers68@gmail.com](mailto:tchambers68@gmail.com) or Glenn Schultz, Finance Director at 623-977-6000 or [glenn@spiritofgrace.com](mailto:glenn@spiritofgrace.com).

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