



# Grace

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*Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church! We are brothers and sisters in Christ who are about  
“Proclaiming God’s grace through faith and love.”*

*If you are a visitor, please make yourself at home and don’t hesitate to ask a question. There will be the celebration of Holy Communion in the **8:00a.m. service** today. If you are not a member of Grace and desire to commune, please speak with the pastor **before the service**. If you are physically unable to commune at the altar, the pastor would be happy to serve you in your pew. Please, notify an usher before the service begins.*

*You can follow the whole service here in this folder as well as on the displays. Some parts of the service will be found in the burgundy “Lutheran Service Book” hymnals in the pew back.*

## THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 15, 2020

### Today in Worship

- We read today about three servants. All three received a good and gracious gift from their master. Two were good and faithful. One was evil and faithless. Two reflected the goodness and faithfulness of their master. One refused to act like his master and was punished for his insolence. Consider Jesus, our good and faithful Master, and all that He has done for us and our salvation. As we follow Him, we reflect His goodness and faithfulness.
- God’s Grace to you as you partake of Your one and only Savior Jesus this day.

### Ringing of the Bells

#### Welcome

### Opening Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #549, vv. 1-2

“All Hail the Power of Jesus Name”

1. All hail the pow’r of Jesus’ name! Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem And crown Him Lord of all.  
Bring forth the royal diadem And crown Him Lord of all.
2. Crown Him, ye martyrs of our God, Who from His altar call;  
Extol the stem of Jesse’s rod And crown Him Lord of all.  
Extol the stem of Jesse’s rod And crown Him Lord of all.

## Invocation & Opening Sentences

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.

**C** You have been our good and faithful Master.

**P** You have poured out blessings upon us.

**C** You have given us all we need to support this body and life.

**P** We meditate on all that You have done.

**C** We ponder the work of Your hands.

**P** On account of Your name, O Lord, preserve our lives.

**C** In Your righteousness, bring us out of trouble.

## Confession & Absolution

**P** Indeed, our heavenly Father has done wonderful things for us. He has given us more than we could ever ask for or imagine. Yet, there have been times when we have been ungrateful for God's gifts, times when we have been lazy and selfish with what He has given us, times when we have been unfaithful servants. Yet, our heavenly Father invites us to return to Him and ask for His forgiveness.

*Silence for reflection.*

**P** Heavenly Father,

**C** we confess that we have not been faithful with all of the good gifts You have given us. We have sinned in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have failed by our inactivity. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, O Lord, that we might be restored as Your servants.

**P** God hears your confession and has promised to be with you always. Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son, Jesus Christ, to die and rise for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen. We are forgiven. We are restored in Jesus.

# Salutation and Prayer of the Day

2 Timothy 4:22

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

# Old Testament Reading

Zephaniah 1:7-16

*"The Day of the Lord is near."*

**L** The Old Testament Reading for the 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost is from Zephaniah, chapter one.

<sup>7</sup> Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is near; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests.

<sup>8</sup> And on the day of the Lord's sacrifice—"I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire.

<sup>9</sup> On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud.

<sup>10</sup> "On that day," declares the Lord, "a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills.

<sup>11</sup> Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off.

<sup>12</sup> At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The Lord will not do good, nor will he do ill.'

<sup>13</sup> Their goods 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 mighty man cries aloud there.

<sup>15</sup> A day of wrath is that day, 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.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

*"Let us live as children of the light."*

**L** The Epistle Reading is from First Thessalonians, chapter five.

<sup>5:1</sup> Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup> For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

<sup>3</sup> While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. <sup>4</sup> But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. <sup>5</sup> For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. <sup>6</sup> So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. <sup>7</sup> For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. <sup>8</sup> But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup> For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup> who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. <sup>11</sup> Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:14-30

*"The Parable of the Talents"*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>14</sup> "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. <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> He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more.

<sup>17</sup> So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. <sup>18</sup> But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. <sup>19</sup> Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup> And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' <sup>21</sup> His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>22</sup> And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.'

<sup>23</sup> His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>24</sup> He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no 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 answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? <sup>27</sup> Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup> So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. <sup>29</sup> For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. <sup>30</sup> And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*8:00 Service*

## **The Nicene Creed**

*9:15 / 10:30 Service*

## **The Apostles Creed**

## **Message for Children from God's Word**

# Sermon Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #508, vv. 1-2, 7  
“The Day is Surely Drawing Near”

- 1. The day is surely drawing near When Jesus, God’s anointed,  
In all His power shall appear As judge whom God appointed.  
Then fright shall banish idle mirth, And flames on flames shall ravage earth  
As Scripture long has warned us.
- 2. The final trumpet then shall sound And all the earth be shaken,  
And all who rest beneath the ground Shall from their sleep awoken.  
But all who live will in that hour, By God’s almighty, boundless pow’r,  
Be changed at His commanding.
- 7. O Jesus Christ, do not delay, But hasten our salvation;  
We often tremble on our way In fear and tribulation  
O hear and grant our fervent plea: Come, mighty judge, and set us free  
From death and ev’ry evil.

## Sermon

*Stand*

## Prayer of the Church

*Responses after each petition:*

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

*(9:15 a.m. + 10:30 a.m. Services continue on page 11 of the Worship Folder.)*

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# Service of the Sacrament

*The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.*

*Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor.*

## Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**



## The Lord's Prayer

## Words of Our Lord

## Pax Domini “The Peace of Our Lord”

Lutheran Service Book p. 163

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.



## Agnus Dei “Lamb of God”

Lutheran Service Book p. 163

A musical staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody consists of a series of eighth and quarter notes. Below the staff, a square icon with a 'C' is followed by the lyrics: 'Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace.'.

## Distribution Hymn

Sing to the Lord #51  
“The Old Rugged Cross”

1. On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,  
The emblem of suff’ring and shame;  
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best  
For a world of lost sinners was slain. *refrain*

### Refrain:

So I’ll cherish the old rugged cross  
Till my trophies at last I lay down;  
I will cling to the old rugged cross,  
And exchange it some day for a crown.

2. Oh, that old rugged cross so despised by the world  
 Has a wondrous attraction for me;  
 For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above,  
 To bear it to dark calvary. *refrain*
3. In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,  
 A wondrous beauty I see;  
 For 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,  
 To pardon and sanctify me. *refrain*
4. To the old rugged cross I will ever be true,  
 Its shame and reproach gladly bear;  
 Then He'll call me some day to my home far away,  
 Where His glory forever I'll share. *refrain*

## Distribution Hymn

Sing to the Lord #193  
 "Abide O Dearest Jesus"

1. Abide, O dearest Jesus, Among us with Thy grace  
 That Satan may not harm us Nor we to sin give place.
2. Abide, O dear Redeemer, Among us with Thy Word  
 And thus now and here-after True peace and joy afford.
3. Abide with heav'nly brightness Among us, precious Light;  
 Thy truth direct and keep us From error's gloomy night.
4. Abide with richest blessings Among us, bounteous Lord;  
 Let us in grace and wisdom Grow daily through Thy Word.
5. Abide with Thy protection Among us, Lord, our Strength,  
 Lest world and Satan fell us And overcome at length.
6. Abide, O faithful Savior, Among us with Thy love;  
 Grant steadfastness and help us To reach our home above.

## The Closing Prayer

**P** We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have graced us with Your presence as we gather this day, and we pray that You would keep us in the one true faith until life everlasting when we enter into the joy of our Master; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

**C** Amen.



# Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

**P** The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

# Announcements

# Closing Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #918

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer”

1. Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer, Pilgrim through this barren land.

I am weak, but Thou art mighty; Hold me with Thy pow’rful hand.

Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,

Feed me till I want no more; Feed me till I want no more.

2. Open now the crystal fountain Whence the healing stream doth flow;

Let the fiery, cloudy pillar Lead me all my journey through

Strong deliv’rer, strong deliv’rer,

Be Thou still my strength and shield; Be Thou still my strength and shield.

3. When I tread the verge of Jordan, Bid my anxious fears subside;

Death of death and hell’s destruction, Land me safe on Canaan’s side.

Songs of praises, songs of praises

I will ever give to Thee; I will ever give to Thee.