



# 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 **9:15a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services** 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 LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

November 22, 2020

## Today in Worship

- Today is the Last Sunday of the Church Year. This Sunday is traditionally filled with themes of Christ’s roles as King and Judge. We’ll close out this church year with the singing of “Lift High the Cross” as our closing hymn.
- We pause to consider our brothers and sisters in Christ, especially those who have been ignored or mistreated. We are reminded today that Christ has chosen us to be His people, to be heirs with Him of salvation. Such grace gladdens our hearts and emboldens us to help our brothers and sisters in need.
- God’s Grace to you as you partake of Your one and only Savior Jesus this day.

## Handbell Prelude

“Jesus Shall Reign”

Arranged by Kevin McChesney

## Ringing of the Bells

## Welcome

## Opening Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #680

“Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise”

1. Thine the amen Thine the praise Alleluias angels raise  
Thine the everlasting head Thine the breaking of the bread  
Thine the glory Thine the story Thine the harvest then the cup  
Thine the vineyard then the cup is lifted up lifted up.

2. Thine the life eternally Thine the promise let there be  
Thine the vision Thine the tree All the earth of bended knee  
Gone the nailing gone the railing Gone the pleading gone the cry  
Gone the sighing gone the dying what was loss lifted high.

3. Thine the truly Thine the yes Thine the table we the guest  
Thine the mercy all from Thee Thine the glory yet to be  
Then the ringing and the singing Then the end of all the war  
Thine the living thine the loving ever-more ever-more.

4. Thine the kingdom Thine the prize Thine the wonder full surprise  
Thine the banquet then the praise Then the justice of Thy ways  
Thine the glory Thine the story Then the welcome to the least  
Then the wonder all increasing at Thy feast at Thy feast.

5. Thine the glory in the night No more dying only light  
Thine the river Thine the tree Then the Lamb eternally  
Then the holy holy holy Celebration jubilee  
Thine the splendor Thine the brightness only Thee only Thee.

## Invocation

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

**C** Amen.

## Confession & Absolution

**P** Indeed, our heavenly Father has called us to be His people. He has led us to green pastures and still waters. Yet, there have been times when we have treated our fellow sheep with disdain, when we have wandered away from our Shepherd. But our Good Shepherd does not abandon us, and we confess our sins before Him and one another.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** Heavenly Father,

**C** **we confess that we have wandered away from You. We confess that we have acted shamefully toward our brothers and sisters in Christ. 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 follow You to the green pastures and still waters of everlasting life.**

**P** Our heavenly Father has heard Your confession and sent His only Son, Jesus, to be our Good Shepherd. Jesus searches for each one of His sheep. He brings back those who have strayed. He binds up the injured. He even lays down His life for the sheep. By Christ's death and resurrection, God 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 sought by our Shepherd. We are forgiven in Christ.**

## 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. Heavenly Father, You care for all people regardless of their wealth or heritage, and You have made us heirs of Your salvation. Strengthen us, that we care for the poor, weak, and lonely, and that all our neighbors may know Your gracious love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

*"God will search for His sheep."*

**L** The Old Testament Reading for the Last Sunday of the Church Year is from Ezekiel, chapter 34.

<sup>11</sup> "For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. <sup>12</sup> As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup> And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. <sup>14</sup> I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup> I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord God.

<sup>16</sup> I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

<sup>20</sup> “Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. <sup>21</sup> Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, <sup>22</sup> I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. <sup>23</sup> And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup> And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the Lord; I have spoken.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 15:20-28

*“The last enemy to be destroyed is death.”*

**L** The Epistle Reading is from First Corinthians, chapter 15.

<sup>20</sup> But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup> For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. <sup>22</sup> For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. <sup>23</sup> But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. <sup>24</sup> Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. <sup>25</sup> For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup> The last enemy to be destroyed is death. <sup>27</sup> For “God has put all things in subjection under his feet.” But when it says, “all things are put in subjection,” it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. <sup>28</sup> When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:31-46

*“The separation of the sheep and the goats.”*

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

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

<sup>31</sup> “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. <sup>32</sup> Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will

separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup> And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. <sup>34</sup> Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. <sup>35</sup> For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup> I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' <sup>37</sup> Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? <sup>38</sup> And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? <sup>39</sup> And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' <sup>40</sup> And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

<sup>41</sup> "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. <sup>42</sup> For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, <sup>43</sup> I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' <sup>44</sup> Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' <sup>45</sup> Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' <sup>46</sup> And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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

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

*8:00 Service*

## **The Apostles Creed**

*9:15 / 10:30 Service*

## **The Nicene Creed**

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

## **Hymn of the Day**

Lutheran Service Book #941

"We Praise You and Acknowledge You"

1. We praise You and acknowledge You, O God, to be the Lord.  
The Father everlasting, by all the earth adored.  
To You all angel powers cry aloud, the heavens sing,  
The cherubim and seraphim their praises to You bring:  
“O holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
Your majesty and glory fill the heavens and the earth!”
2. The band of the apostles in glory sing Your praise;  
The fellowship of prophets their deathless voices raise,  
The martyrs of Your kingdom, a great and noble throng,  
Sing with the holy Church throughout all the world this song:  
“O all-majestic Father, Your true and only Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Comforter—forever Three in One!”
3. You, Christ, are King of glory, the everlasting Son,  
Yet You, with boundless love, sought to rescue ev’ryone:  
You laid aside Your glory, were born of virgin’s womb,  
Were crucified for us and were placed into a tomb;  
Then by Your resurrection You won for us reprieve—  
You opened heaven’s kingdom to all who would believe.
4. You sit in splendid glory, enthroned at God’s right hand,  
Upholding earth and heaven by forces You command.  
We know that You will come as our Judge that final day,  
So help Your servants You have redeemed by blood, we pray;  
May we with saints be numbered where praises never end,  
In glory everlasting. Amen, O Lord, amen!

## Sermon

*Stand*

## Prayer of the Church

*Responses after each petition:*

- P** Hear our prayer, O Lord.
- C** Give ear to our cry.



3. All newborn soldiers of the Crucified  
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died. *refrain*

4. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. *refrain*

5. Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell  
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. *refrain*

6. So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
Praise to the Crucified for victory! *refrain*

*This concludes the 8:00 a.m. Service*

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*9:15 a.m. / 10:30 a.m. Service*

## 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

Lutheran Service Book p. 163

## 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 is a simple, repetitive line. The lyrics are written below the staff.

**C** 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** Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, with us abide, For round us falls the eventide. O let Your Word, that saving light, Shine forth undimmed into the night. In these last days of great distress Grant us, dear Lord, true steadfastness. That we keep pure till life is spent Your Holy Word and Sacraments

**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.

# Closing Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #837  
“Lift High the Cross”

## Refrain:

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

1. Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,  
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *refrain*
2. Led on their way by this triumphant sign,  
The hosts of God in conqu’ring ranks combine. *refrain*
3. All newborn soldiers of the Crucified  
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died. *refrain*
4. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. *refrain*
5. Let ev’ry race and ev’ry language tell  
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. *refrain*
6. So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
Praise to the Crucified for victory! *refrain*

*This concludes the 9:15 a.m. + 10:30 a.m. Services*