



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

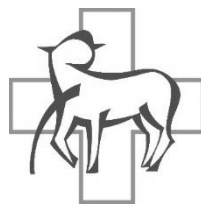
*If you are a visitor, please make yourself at home and don’t hesitate to ask a question. There will be the celebration of Holy Communion in the **10:30a.m. service** today. If you are not a member of Grace and desire to commune, please speak with the pastor **before the service**. If you are physically 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.*

THE 13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 7, 2025

Today in Worship

- Jesus’ words on the cost of discipleship were a wake-up call to His would-be followers. Many had been almost sleepwalking, watching Him from a distance. Now was the time to wake up to the reality of what it would mean to be counted among His disciples. In this wake up they were greeted with the very real question: are you ready to give up? Are you ready to give up your allegiance to any person, possession or even yourself who would get in the way of you and the work God is seeking to do in you and through you. Discipleship is all about God discipling, changing, conforming us to His ways and His Word. That doesn’t come easy for us, but it is necessary, and it is eternally good.
- God’s Grace to you as you come to the Lord’s house for worship this day.



Ringling of the Bells

Announcements (10:30am Service)

Welcome

Opening Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #851

“Lord of Glory You Have Bought Us”

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Confession & Absolution

P When the people of Israel were about to enter the Promised Land, as we shall hear, Moses challenged them to obey the commandments, statutes, and rules of the Lord.

C **We confess that we have failed to obey in our thinking, speaking, and acting. Our hearts have turned away from God, our ears have become deaf to His Word, and we have put other things in His rightful place. Show us Your grace and mercy, Lord our God.**

P Moses invited the people to choose life, Paul urged freedom for a slave, and Jesus called everyone with ears to hear His Word.

C **But we are by nature sinners, incapable of choosing good without the help of our gracious God. For Jesus' sake, heavenly Father, forgive, renew, and strengthen us that we might faithfully follow our Savior in all that we think, do, and say.**

P God had promised the Israelites the Promised Land, and Jesus' carrying His cross through death to life has opened the door to the eternal promised land of heaven to all who call on Him for grace and mercy. 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.



Psalm 1



- P** Blessed is the man who walks
not in the counsel of the | wicked, *
- C** **nor stands in the way of sinners,
nor sits in the seat of | scoffers;**
- P** but his delight is in the law | of the Lord, *
- C** **and on his law he meditates | day and night.**
- P** He is like a tree planted by streams of water
that yields its fruit in its season,
and its leaf does not | wither. *
- C** **In all that he does, he | prospers.**
- P** The wicked | are not so, *
- C** **but are like chaff that the wind | drives away.**
- P** Therefore the wicked will not stand in the | judgment, *
- C** **nor sinners in the congregation of the | righteous;**
- P** for the Lord knows the way of the | righteous, *
- C** **but the way of the wicked will | perish.**
- C** **Glory be to the Father and | to the Son ***
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning, *
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Hymn of Praise

*Lutheran Service Book #856
"O Christ, Who Called the Twelve"*

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Let us pray. O merciful Lord, Your Son has called us to follow no matter the cost. Grant us open eyes to see beyond the cross to the promised land that awaits us because of His sacrifice on our behalf; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

"I have set before you this day life and good, death and evil."

L The Old Testament Reading for the 13th Sunday after Pentecost is from Deuteronomy, chapter 30.

¹⁵ "See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil.

¹⁶ If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you today, by loving the Lord your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them,

¹⁸ I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, ²⁰ loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

Philemon 1-21

"Paul's letter commending the slave Onesimus back to his master, not only as a slave but as a brother in the Lord."

L The Epistle Reading is from Philemon.

¹ Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,
To Philemon our beloved fellow worker ² and Apphia our sister
and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house:

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, ⁵ because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints, ⁶ and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. ⁷ For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

⁸ Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, ⁹ yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus—

¹⁰ I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. ¹¹ (Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) ¹² I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. ¹³ I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴ but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord. ¹⁵ For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶ no longer as a bondservant but more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷ So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. ¹⁸ If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹ I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self.

²⁰ Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.

²¹ Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Verse

Galatians 6:14

P Alleluia. Far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,

C **by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel

Luke 14:25-35

“Jesus speaks of the cost of discipleship and calls on those who would follow Him to deny themselves and take up the cross.”

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 14th chapter.

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

²⁵ Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, ³⁰ saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹ Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

³⁴ “Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? ³⁵ It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Nicene Creed 8:00am service

The Apostles Creed 10:30am service

Message for Children from God's Word

Hymn of the Day

*Lutheran Service Book #853
"How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord"*

Sermon

Offertory ~ "Create in Me"

Lutheran Service Book #192-193

Offering

"Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying His voice and holding fast to Him, for He is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them." – Deut. 30:19b-20



We encourage you to place your offering in the dropbox in the narthex before service. As the usher brings the offering forward at this time you may also hold it up and place it in the plate as the usher walks by. Please also use this time for prayer and reflection upon what we have heard from the Lord's Word this morning.

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Responses after each petition:

P ...let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

The prayers conclude:

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

(10:30 a.m. Services continue page 11 of the Worship Folder.)

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8:00 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.**

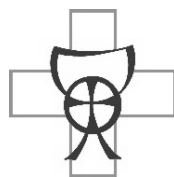
Preface *sung*

LSB p. 194

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should...

... evermore praising You and saying:



Sanctus *"Holy, Holy, Holy"*

LSB p. 195

Lord's Prayer *Spoken*

LSB p. 196

The Words of our Lord *Spoken*

LSB p. 197

Pax Domini *"The Peace of Our Lord"*

LSB p. 197

Agnus Dei *"Lamb of God"*

LSB p. 198

Distribution Hymns

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”	LSB # 425
“Take My Life and Let It Be”	LSB # 783
“I Lay My Sins on Jesus”	LSB # 606

Nunc Dimittis “Song of Simeon” LSB p. 199-200

Thanksgiving LSB p. 200

The Closing Prayer

P Let us pray. Blessed Lord, You were born in flesh and blood to walk with us the path of our sin and death in order that we might walk with You by Baptism and faith. Lead us in the way of the cross that we may not depart from it but follow its path to everlasting life; through 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 lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Greeting of Peace & Announcements

Closing Hymn *Lutheran Service Book #854*
“Forth in Thy Name, O Lord, I Go”

This concludes the 8:00 a.m. Service

XX

Lord's Prayer

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.

The Closing Prayer

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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 lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Greeting of Peace

Closing Hymn

*Lutheran Service Book #854
"Forth in Thy Name, O Lord, I Go"*

Formula of Concord Reading Plan

September – Week 1 – The Week of Sept. 7

Topic this Month: Christ's Descent into Hell

Read:

- Epitome IX, 1-4 (p. 495)
- Smalcald Articles, Part I (p. 262)
- Small Catechism, Part II, Art. II (p. 329)

