

# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost July 12, 2020 8:30 a.m.

# WELCOME TO GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

## Welcome

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you as we hear God's holy Word. We worship online in an effort to minimize the spread of COVID-19 and encourage you to follow along in this document as you also watch or listen to the live stream of our service. May the Lord bless our worship this day.

# As We Gather

The Word of God is at the center of today's readings. Isaiah 55 tells us that God's word will accomplish that which God purposes and succeed in the thing for which God sent it. St. Paul proclaims in Romans 8 that Christ—the Word made flesh (John 1)—was sent "so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit." In the Gospel reading we hear the parable of the sower and the seed, which concludes with Jesus' promise that, "As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty." Because of our baptism into Christ's death and resurrection we are united with God and, therefore, are called to be Christ's presence in the world, sowing the word and proclaiming that "The kingdom of heaven is near."



# + GATHERING +

PRELUDE: Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

Helmut Walcha

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

- P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.
- Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:

  Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- @ Amen.
- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

- **P** Most merciful God,
- We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.
- P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and, for his sake, God forgives us all our sins.

  As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.



#### **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE: Glory to God in the Highest



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **And also with you.**
- P Let us pray.
  Almighty God,
  we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word.
  By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy,
  live according to it,
  and grow in faith and hope and love,
  through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

#### @ Amen.

# + WORD +

#### FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:10–13

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

11so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;

it shall not return to me empty,

but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,

and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

<sup>12</sup>For you shall go out in joy,

and be led back in peace;

the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

<sup>13</sup>Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;

instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;

and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,

for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

- L The Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

ANTIPHON: Your paths overflow with plenty, O God.

Ray Makeever

- You are to be praised, O | God, in Zion;\* to you shall vows be performed | in Jerusalem.
- To you that hear prayer shall | all flesh come,\* because of | their transgressions.
- Our sins are stron- | ger than we are,\* but you will | blot them out.
- Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your | courts to dwell there!\*
   They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness | of your temple.
- Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness,
   O God of | our salvation,\*
   O Hope of all the ends of the earth and of the seas that are | far away.
- **Q** You make fast the mountains | by your power;\* they are girded | about with might.
- You still the roaring | of the seas,\*
  the roaring of their waves, and the clamor | of the peoples.
- Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your | marvelous signs;\*

you make the dawn and the dusk to | sing for joy.

- You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it | very plenteous;\* the river of God is | full of water.
- You pre- | pare the grain,\*for so you provide | for the earth.
- You drench the furrows and smooth | out the ridges;\* with heavy rain you soften the ground and | bless its increase.
- You crown the year | with your goodness,\* and your paths over- | flow with plenty.
- May the fields of the wilderness be | rich for grazing,\* and the hills be | clothed with joy.
- May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak them- | selves with grain;\* let them shout for | joy and sing.

#### **SECOND READING:** Romans 8:1–11

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup>For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. <sup>3</sup>For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup>so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. <sup>5</sup>For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law — indeed it cannot, <sup>8</sup>and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup>But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

- **L** The Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL VERSE**: Deuteronomy 30:14

Paul D. Weber

We join in singing:



- L The word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart.
- **G** REFRAIN (above)

**HOLY GOSPEL**: Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

## Glory to you, O Lord.

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup>Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup>And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. <sup>5</sup>Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup>But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup>Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup>Let anyone with ears listen!"

<sup>18</sup>Hear then the parable of the sower. <sup>19</sup>When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. <sup>20</sup>As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; <sup>21</sup>yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. <sup>22</sup>As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. <sup>23</sup>But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

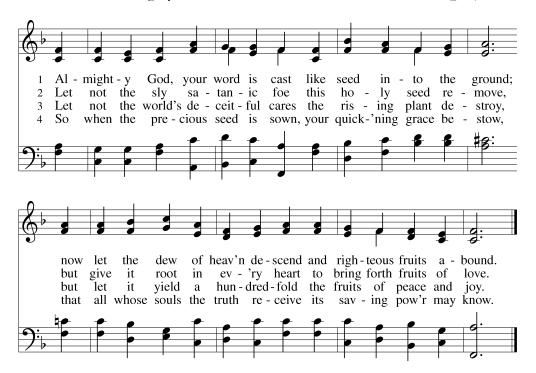
- **P** The Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to you, O Christ.

#### **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**SERMON**: Sowing the Word

Pastor Michael D. Costello Isaiah 55:10–13, Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23





Text: John Cawood, 1775–1852, alt. Music: ST. FLAVIAN, J. Day, Psalter, 1562



#### APOSTLES' CREED

- P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:
- **G** I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He 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,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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.

# **ANTHEM**: I Will Sing of Thy Great Mercies

Felix Mendelssohn

I will sing of thy great mercies, O Lord, my savior and of thy faithfulness evermore. Psalm 89: 1

# PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition concludes:

- **A** Lord, in your mercy,
- hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

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

#### LORD'S PRAYER

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

A 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.

# + SENDING +

#### **BENEDICTION**

P Almighty God: Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.





Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
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Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

#### DISMISSAL.

- **A** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: Almighty God, Your Word is Cast Flor Peeters

# LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Michael D. Costello, presiding minister
Jeremy Zimmer, organist
Aniello Barone, baritone
Al Swanson, videographer
Julie Hinz, sound board operator

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# LET US PRAY...

# Those who are sick and recovering from illness

Rose Mary Anderson Annalise Balock Cathy Barker Ruth Barker

Anne-Marie Bogdan
Ed Borg
Sophia Cetin

Hans Dumpys

Ken Folgers Dennis Forgue **Marilyn Gotsch** Evelyn Grams

Belen and Ron Gresens Carl and Donna Gruendler David Gruendler

Kathy Hale

Valerie Anderson (friend of Mary Margaret Bartley & Stewart Clarke)

Bob Andree (friend of Deb Maxwell)

Vera Leora Barnett (friend of Paul Eichwedel)
Ira Birnbaum (friend of Sandy and David Lentz)
Stephanie Bogue and Elva (friends of Pat Anderson)

Deb Bree (friend of Debbie Conley)
Patricia Carey (friend of Marilyn Heppner)
The Corlew Family (friends of Pat Anderson)
Linda DeMeyere (friend of Randy and Ellie Schnack)

Peggy Dickenson (mother of Paul Eichwedel)

Jane Duda (friend of Karen Eckstein)

Patti and Neal Enslin (friends of Marilyn Heppner)

Joan Fudala (mother of Greg Fudala) Ray Garmatz (son of Margaret Garmatz)

Mike Guss (friend of Lance and Stephanie Wilkening)

Jerry Haase (friend of Mary Margaret Bartley & Stewart Clarke)

Ryan Hall (nephew of Judy and Jim Kerns)
Jill Hanssen (niece of Ann Mason)
Harry Heppner (brother of Ken Heppner)
Marian Hogue (mother of Merrily Smith)
Gale Holmlund (friend of Deb Maxwell)
John Hunt (friend of Ken and Marilyn Heppner)

Rob Kay (brother of Tom Kay)

Rob Kay (brother of Tom Kay)

Don Kersten (brother of Phyllis Kersten)

Sally Kindsfater (sister of Mary Jane Endicott)

Lenny Kobilca (friend of Deanna Marotz)

Andrew Korcek (friend of Eunice Spurgat)

Ron and Jeaneatte Koski (parents of Jill Koski)

George Kozuchowski (friend of Timothy Douma)

Arnold Krubsack (brother of Irmgard Swanson)

Kathryn Krubsack (niece of Irmgard Swanson)

Mary Jane Kuehnert (friend of Stephanie and Lance Wilkening)

Maxx Kusper and family (friends of Deb Maxwell)

John Larson (father of Morgan Anderson) Maria Laskowski (friend of Joe Modrich) John Lauritzen (former Grace School student)

Marty Krueger (cousin of Irmgard Swanson)

Lily (friend of Carrie Douma)

Kathy Hayes Paul Nelson
Ken Heppner Adrienne Rott
Joan Koerber Tim Sandvoss
Jerry Koenig Marge Sanger
Drew Krueger Pat Scala
Beth Smoots McClanahan Carl Schalk

Karen McMahon Rich and Bonnie Stasack

Jennifer Murtoff

Karen Luebbe (mother of Jenny, sister of Stan Reddel) Joyce and John Lunde (friends of Susan Messerli)

Jane Martin (mother of Justin Martin)
Anne Matthys (mother of Susan Curran)

Leone, Gracie, and Brian Maxwell (cousins of Tom and Deb Maxwell)

MaryJo Meyer (aunt of Brooke Schedler)

Don and John Moehlenkamp (brothers of Marilyn Moehlenkamp) Livingston Newberg (brother-in-law of Bob and Kathryn Jandeska)

Rev. Tom Noll (friend of Grace Church)

Mary Kay Olson (friend of Paul and Cindy Koester)

Kathi Parisi (friend of Debbie Conley)

James Pawlowski (brother-in-law of Jennifer Staples)

Becky Peterson (friend of Jennifer Staples)

Vincent Pisano (nephew of Bob and Kathryn Jandeska)

James Powers (friend of Al Swanson)

Susan Prather (cousin of Adrienne and Ronald Rott)

Zach & Ellie Radosevich (grandchildren of Ginny & Frank Swaba)

Phillip Rice III (friend of Pat Anderson)
Ronald Riley (friend of Al Swanson)

Florence Saeger (friend of Karl and Ruth Reko)

Shirley Moyers Schnack (sister-in-law of Randy Schnack)

Linda Schroeder (aunt of Anne-Marie Bogdan) John Schuurman (friend of Timothy Douma) Mary Lu Shipstad (friend of Marilyn Heppner) Nancy Stelling (friend of Pastor Phyllis Kersten)

Lee Stephens (brother of Tony)
Konrad Swider (friend of Al Swanson)
Martin A. Thieme (brother of Susan Franzone)
Ilene Thompson (sister of Marilyn Heppner)

Rev. Mark Van Scharrel (friend of Karl and Ruth Reko)

Mary Lou and Ron Wagoner (sister and brother-in-law of Stan Reddel)

Verna Walsh (aunt of Dan and Deanna Marotz)

Bob Weaver (husband of Gretchen)

Robert West (friend of John and Carol Stanger) Lucy White (friend of Mary Beth Logas)

Fr. Dennis Woerter (friend of Grace E. Marotz)

Elise Wojack (niece of Pat Gulik)

Randi Woodworth (sister of Tammy Bretscher)

Veronica Zurowski (mother of Tom)

#### Benevolence ministries

Cabrini Green Legal Aid Clinic

#### For those who celebrate

The marriage of Rachel Sklar and Brian Mason (son of Ann and Ed)

#### For those who mourn

Dorothy Kirie Kinnaird (Grace Alumna) Roman Macudzinski (brother of Donna Mindrum)

# Those serving in the armed services

Timothy Berghaus (grandson of Len and Judy Berghaus)
Kevin Buss (nephew of Christa Krout)
Reid Beveridge (son-in-law of the Schnacks)
David Danford (son of John and Karen)
E. Michael Garcia Goetting (son of Mary Goetting)
Matthew Garmatz (grandson of Margaret Garmatz)
Brent Knop (great-nephew and godson of Martha Rohlfing)

# Those in the foreign service

Julie Kmet (friend of Ed and Susan Schumacher) Kari Paetzold (niece of Jim and Sharman Galezewski)

# Those studying abroad

Colleen Lattyak (Germany)

### Those who are homebound

Barbara Bunjes Ruth Laux

Christopher Davis Walt and Carolyn Martin

Marie Gierke Joanne Nelson Ronald Gresens Barbara Rinnan Gloria Hillert Kathleen Wrobel

# Those who need encouragement

Bruce Burnside (friend of Bob and Margaret Burke) in Oakhill Correctional Institution Cheryl Luchetta (friend of Joan Koerber) in Logan Correctional Center

Bradley Larson (cousin of Rhea Sprecher)
Sonny Putman (nephew of Susan Franzone)
Rusty Robb (grandnephew of Margaret Kruse/ Roberta Gillespie)
Jason Brown (nephew of Tim and Sue Sandvoss)
Christopher W. Sylvester (grandson of Janet Sylvester)

#### Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church

We are glad that you are worshipping with us!

If you are visiting us for the first time or would like to learn more about Grace, please complete this form, detach, and place it in the offering plate.

AME(S)	
MAIL ADDRESS	
IAILING ADDRESS	
ITY/STATE/ZIP	
HONE NUMBER	

#### Check all that apply:

- ☐ I am visiting Grace for the first time.
- ☐ I would like to know more about Grace Church.
- $\hfill \square$  I am interested in a path toward membership.
- I would like to know more about Grace School.
- ☐ I would like to receive Grace's weekly e-mail,
  - Sunday Is Coming.
- $\hfill\Box$  I would like one of the pastors to contact me
  - via (check one) ☐ Phone or ☐ E-mail.



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www.graceriverforest.org gracechurch@graceriverforest.org

Bring in, build up, and send out disciples for Jesus Christ

David R. Lyle, Senior Pastor
F. Dean Lueking, Pastor Emeritus
Michael D. Costello, Cantor
Jeremy Zimmer, Assistant Cantor
William Koehne, Principal
Gerald Koenig, Principal Emeritus
Pat Gulik, Parish Nurse
Julie Modrich, Children's Ministry Coordinator
Makayla Dahleen, Youth Ministry Associate
Gwen Gotsch, Communications Coordinator
Jim McClanahan, Director of Administration & Finance
Rich Brooks, Facilities Manager