



WELCOME TO GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF LILY LAKE, IL

5N600 Hanson Road, St. Charles, IL 60175

OFFICE: 630-365-6751 * E-MAIL: general@graceoflilylake.org

WEB ADDRESS: www.graceoflilylake.org

Sunday, July 26th, 2026 * 9:30 AM * INPERSON and ONLINE

Outdoor Worship



9th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Introduction

TODAY'S THEME: As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

P: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C: Amen

OPENING HYMN

Shine, Jesus, Shine

WOV 651/Blue Hymnal

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

The ministers and congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words:

C: Peace be with you.

FIRST READING:

L: A reading from Psalm 119:129-136

When your word is opened, it gives light and understanding. (Ps. 119:130)

- ¹²⁹ Your decrees are wonderful;
therefore obey them with all my heart.
- ¹³⁰ When your word is opened it gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple.
- ¹³¹ I open my mouth and pant
because I long for your commandments.
- ¹³² Turn to me and be gracious to me,
as you always do to those who love your name.
- ¹³³ Order my footsteps in your word;
let no iniquity have dominion over me.
- ¹³⁴ Rescue me from those who oppress me,
and I will keep your commandments.
- ¹³⁵ Let your face shine upon your servant
and teach me your statutes.
- ¹³⁶ My eyes shed streams of tears,
because people do not keep your teaching.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



GOSPEL:

P: The Holy Gospel according to **Matthew 13-31-33, 44-52**

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Throughout Matthew's gospel, Jesus and his disciples proclaim the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near!" Here, Jesus offers several brief parables that explore the implications of this announcement for people's lives.

³¹ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

³³ He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ “Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” ⁵² And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE FOR ALL

Pastor David Mercurio

HYMN OF THE DAY

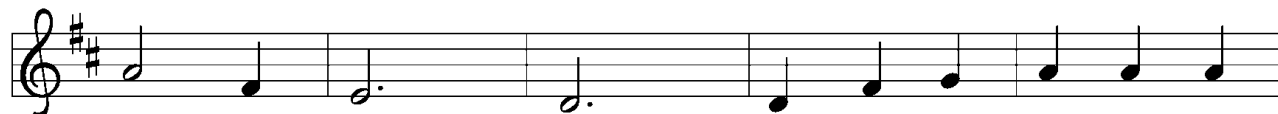
I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

WOV 649/Blue Hymnal

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
 Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson
 Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

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APOSTLES' CREED

**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**

OFFERTORY HYMN

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

P: Merciful God,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have give us – ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE PRAYERS

P: Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

P: God our wisdom and our song, we pray for bishops, candidacy committees, those preparing for seminary, those awaiting call as deacons or pastors, and all who seek to lead your disciples in any way. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God our breath and our heartbeat, help us to recognize signs of your presence among us. Protect and support diverse ecosystems, from national parks to family farms, from ranches to wild places. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God our peace and our guide, help civic leaders hear all their peoples' stories with compassion and curiosity, and remind us of your love from which we can never be separated. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God our intercessor and our lawgiver, dismantle the barriers to care and recognition of all who live with chronic illness, mobility struggles, pain, and uncertainty.

God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God our redeemer, may we trust your love above and beyond all else that distracts, annoys, frightens, exhausts, or divides us. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God who seeks, finds, and saves, for our community's part in the ongoing gift of creation, and for the riches of faith and hope which came before, we give you thanks.

God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: Lord, Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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.**

COMMUNION

The communion follows. The bread may be broken for distribution.

As the ministers give the bread and cup to each communicant, they say these words:

P: The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say:

C: Amen

COMMUNION HYMN

One Bread, One Body

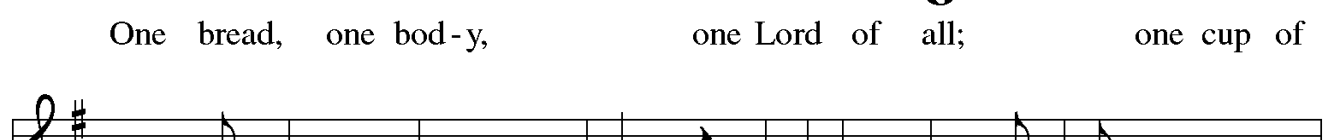
WOV 710/Blue Hymnal

One Bread, One Body

Refrain



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



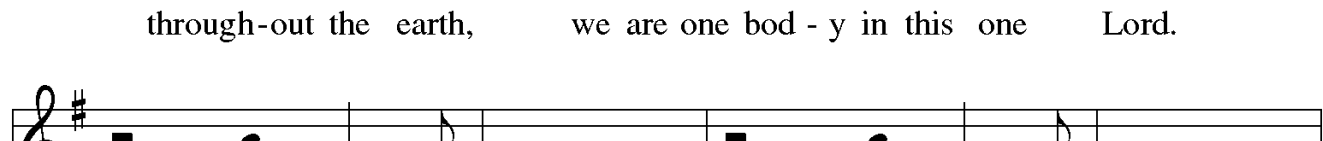
bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y



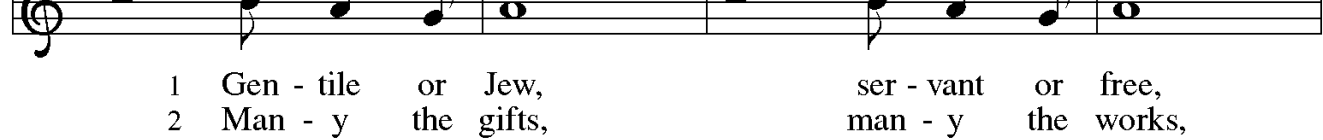
through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,
3 Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,



Refrain



wom - an or man, no more.
one in the Lord of all.
gath - ered to one for all.

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, SJ

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PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

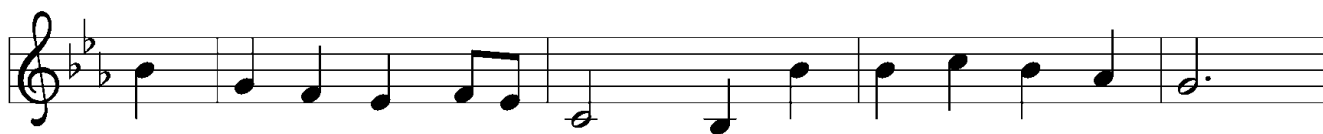
C: Amen.

CLOSING SONG

We All are One in Mission

WOV 755/Blue Hymnal

We All Are One in Mission



- 1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,
- 2 We all are called for ser - vice, to wit-ness in God's name.
- 3 Now let us be u - nit - ed, and let our song be heard.



our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent; our pur - pose is the same:
Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing Word.



A sin - gle great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove
to touch the lives of oth - ers with God's sur - pris - ing grace,
We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,



to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.
so ev - 'ry folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.
our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune

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BLESSING

The minister blesses the congregation, using this or another appropriate blessing.

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

C: Amen

DISMISSAL

The minister may dismiss the congregation.

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Liturgy-Sundays and Seasons May 31, 2027

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ADDITIONAL WEEKLY LECTIONARY LESSON

1 Kings 3:5-12

Solomon's prayer for wisdom

Romans 8:26-39

Nothing can separate us from God's love

7/26/26 ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS are donated today by Lee and Twyla Strom in celebration of their 49th wedding anniversary on July 16, 2026.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Sunday school is over for this school year and will resume in September.

KIDS MEET-UP AT GRACE On Saturday, August 1st from 11am – 1pm we will have a kids meet-up at Grace Lutheran for children ages 3 – 13. There will be games, lunch, bible lesson and craft. **Please RSVP to Janice Muncie: 630-854-1066** with how many of your children can attend and if they will be bringing friends. This will help us determine how many teachers to have available and how much pizza to order.

CANDY DONATIONS If you would like to donate a bag of candy for the Elburn Days Parade, please drop off in the church office any non-chocolate candy by Sunday, August 16th. Thank you!!

ELBURN DAYS PARADE Please save the date: August 21st to help decorate the Grace float and to walk in the Elburn Days parade. The parade begins at 6pm. We decorate the float at Cathy Whiteside's home in Elburn earlier in the day (typically between 9am-12pm). If you would like to make a candy donation, we are happily accepting anything non-chocolate related. Please see Kathy Whiteside, Karen Patterson or Janice Muncie. Thank you!

LOCAL FAMILY IN NEED A local family is in need of a bunk bed with mattresses and also a dresser. Please let Twyla Strom know if you have one available or know someone who does.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT Campton Hill's National Night Out will take place on Tuesday, August 4th from 5pm – 8pm at 40W451 Fox Mill Blvd (behind the Congregational Church of Christ). ***We will have a table set up representing Grace's preschool.*** It is fun for the whole family: free hot dogs, chips, ice cream; face painting; magician; helicopter visit; touch a truck. If you go, please stop by Grace's preschool table! Contact Janice Muncie if you have any questions at 630-854-1066.

RUMMAGE SALE ITEMS You may see that many of our leftover rummage sale items continue to be moved out. Our next sale is in October, and we would like to remind everyone that we would like you to hold your donations until that time. Please don't drop off or put items in the garage without contacting Linda or Tricia. If you have clothing donations, please contact Cara Turner for further info. Thank you all very much for your cooperation.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH PRESCHOOL We have hired a third teacher for the Mixed-Age Class. Jessica Burkoth comes to us with over 20 years of elementary and early childhood teaching experience. With the addition of the third teacher, we can increase our class size to 20. We currently have 15 registered for the Monday/Wednesday mixed-age class! And we are now full for our new 2-year-old class with 8 students registered. Thank you God for all of these blessings!

DIRECTORY FAMILY PICTURE Cara Turner is available for your family picture taking on Sundays at 9am, downstairs in first SS room/office on the left, and after church service until 11am. Please contact her if you have further questions or need to schedule a picture taking at your home – her cell #: 630-291-6896. We would like to get this project complete within the next month.

LECTORS ARE NEEDED for readings during our service. Please look for the clipboard. Thank you for your assistance in our service.

BRIDGE TO LIFE DONATIONS The Bridge to Life Group continues to collect donations for the Elgin homeless. For details see the newsletter or Cathy Whiteside. ***Thank you for your generous donations!***

JULY NEWSLETTER is available on-line at www.graceoflilylake.org. If you would like to submit anything for the newsletter, please email the information to Marty Bradley by the 24th of the month: masbradley50@gmail.com

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES Are you looking for ways to be a little more involved in our church each week? We have a variety of tasks that take place before and during each Sunday worship service, such as preparing communion and altar, reading our announcements and Bible reading, ushering, running the PowerPoint during the service. A variety of ways to be a part of our worship behind the scenes or up front. Please see Pastor for more information.

SHOE BOX COLLECTION in lower level outside of Fellowship Hall. Please help!

NOISY OFFERING We gratefully accept your "noisy offering" after each service. These funds add up and go towards our capital improvement projects.

OFFERINGS & FAITHFUL GIVING FOR THE MINISTRIES AT GRACE We are thankful and blessed with your offering and donations . Received as of 7/20 - \$2,818 (our weekly goal is \$4,000).

~ Blessings upon Grace in our 132nd year of ministry ~

VISIT OUR Website: www.graceoflilylake.org (.ORG not .COM)
FOR THE LATEST NEWS AND SERVICES

Get ALL the news you NEED there – including our weekly services

Our FACEBOOK PAGE for activities and posts of interest:

<https://www.facebook.com/GraceOfLilyLake/>

630-365-6751

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE WHOLE CHURCH

- * God's Church in all time and place, that God be seen and heard.
- * As we face these times both together and while apart, keep us from fear, suffering and death.
- * Ministries and people of the ELCA and Metro Chicago Synod, especially Bishop Yehiel Curry, Bishop of the ELCA, and Erik Christensen, our new Bishop of the Chicago Synod.
- * Efforts of Lutheran World Relief, ELCA World Hunger, and Disaster Relief

FOR THE WORLD

- * For every living person facing the threat of war – it affects us all, our loved ones and our worldwide neighbors together.
- * For the healing of the divisions in our Nation.

FOR OUR CONGREGATION

- * For God's Spirit to guide the Vision Team, and whole congregation as we face transition and change.
- * As we plan regarding the future of our congregation.

FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY (members, relatives, and friends of members of our congregation)

- * Nathan Sajdak, grandson of Bill and Lori U'Ren
- * William Delmer, grandson of Kirk and Kathy Hooey
- * David Brazee, Grandson of Steve and Cathy Lindquist

(If you know of someone currently serving our country, please share their information with the Church office.)

FOR ALL

- * The continued support of our members
- * For all members of healthcare around the world
- * For those serving as first responders and in the military
- * For our Nation, to extend peace in all things.

FOR THOSE SICK IN BODY, MIND OR SPIRIT... For our "Grace Family"

members: Betty Boor, Craig Bradley, Travis and Lissa Brown on the passing of Travis' mother Melba Koegele, Dan Burtnette, Lillian Carlson, Alexa Diehl, Natalia Diehl, Jan Docherty, Mitch Hendry, Rich Jackson, Manfred Kaufmann, Paul Kinsel, Katie Kozeva, Pastor Dave & Carol Langseth, Tom and Lois Larkin, Ray Larsen, Pat & Chili Lindgren, Steve Lindquist, Joan Mortensen, Carol Nelson, Ed Nordwind, Mary Lindquist Rose, Nancy & John Schaefer, Bud and Marilyn Wise, Norm Turner, Wayne Whiteside, **For our Families and Friends:** Howard, Jim, Scott, Fred Alstadt, Barb Asher, Kathy Barton (mother of Tom Barton), Howard and Christine Baumert, Viola Bradshaw, Cindy Carlson, Joanie Chernick, David Diehl, Rebecca Eagen, Ted Ellingsen, Pat Eineke, Rachel Glancy (friend of the Lindgren family), Joyce Helander, Andrew Kinsel, Bob

Koehling, Sally Kruthoff (daughter of Nancy Schnaitman), Gay Leslie, Janelle McDonald, Linda Mowers, Ray Navarro, Oksana & Maria, Donald Overby, Emily Peters, Mary Rose, John Schnaitman, Kelly Wilken, Ron Wilken, Greg & Val Williams, and Barbara Zegiel.

If you have requested that anyone (including yourself) be put on Grace's prayer list, thank you for your faith in our work of prayer! In order to keep our list current and accurate, we would like to hear from you regarding the need for continued prayer, praises and new requests. You may place these in a note in the offering plate, send them on-line via our prayer card on our website, leave them on the answering machine at church (630-365-6751) or speak with Pastor or Kathy Hooey. Aren't we blessed to have a God who listens and cares!

ALSO - Do you know someone who could use a reminder of our prayers and God's constant love? We have lovely **prayer shawls** all ready for delivery. Just call or see Twyla Strom for prayer.