



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, September 7th, 2025 * 9:30 AM * INPERSON and ONLINE



13th Sunday after Pentecost

Introduction

TODAY'S THEME: Called to contemplate the cost of discipleship, we might be helped by translating Paul's request to Philemon into our prayer of the day: Refresh my heart in Christ. Strengthened by the company and forgiveness of Christ in holy communion and recalling God's grace in remembrance of baptism, we can be strengthened in this hour to "choose life"—to choose life in God as our own.

Print out your bulletin or use it on your phone or tablet to follow along.

Announcements are televised or found on our website

Be creative how you worship and remember God during this time. It will calm your soul, give you peace and enliven your spirit.

*Our community gathers in unity with others in-person and a virtual way.
We hope all people find it easy to follow along.
We invite you to read/respond to the texts, pray the prayers, using this as a meditation guide all week long.*

GOD GATHERS US

PRELUDE

Rally Day Music

**Emmy Brannen
James Gwizdala
Nancy Schnaitman**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements are found on our website

BLESSING FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN & FAMILIES

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful and loving God,

C: we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.

P: Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of ✝ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

All: Amen.

OPENING HYMN

Earth and all Stars!

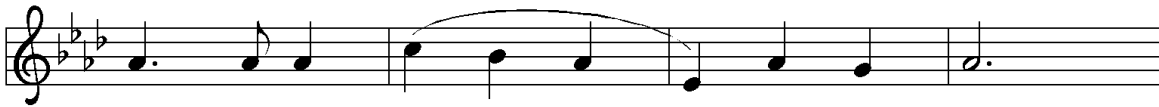
ELW 731, v. 1,4,5/Red Hymnal

Earth and All Stars!

ELW 731, v. 1, 4, 5



1	Earth	and	all	stars!	Loud	rush - ing	plan - ets!
2	Trum - pet	and	pipes!	Loud	clash - ing	cym - bals!	
3	En - gines	and	steel!	Loud	pound - ing	ham - mers!	
4	Class - rooms	and	labs!	Loud	boil - ing	test tubes!	
5	Knowl - edge	and	truth!	Loud	sound - ing	wis - dom!	



Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!



Hail, wind, and rain!	Loud	blow - ing	snow - storm!
Harp, lute, and lyre!	Loud	hum - ming	cel - los!
Lime - stone and beams!	Loud	build - ing	work - ers!
Ath - lete and band!	Loud	cheer - ing	peo - ple!
Daugh - ter and son!	Loud	pray - ing	mem - bers!



Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!



Refrain

God	has	done	mar	-	vel - ous	things.
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I	too	sing	prais - es	with a	new	song!
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Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926
 Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922–1987
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GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

P: Let us pray...Direct us, O Lord God,

C: in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SHARING OF PEACE

P: God has received us, pardoned us and loved us; let us forgive each other in love and share the peace of Christ. Peace be with you.

C: And you also.

Share the peace with each other either by a wave or a bow.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Moses speaks to the Israelites, who are about to enter the land promised to their ancestors. In this passage, he lays out the stark choice before them: choose life by loving and obeying the LORD; or choose death by following other gods.

¹⁵ "See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶ If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing 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, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰ loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

L: Word of God; Word of Life.

All: Thanks be to God.

(Please rise for the reading of the Gospel)

GOSPEL: Luke 14:25-33

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke

ALL: Glory to you O Lord

Jesus speaks frankly about the costs of discipleship. Those who follow him should know from the outset that completing the course of discipleship will finally mean renouncing all other allegiances.

²⁵ Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus], and he turned and said to them,
²⁶ “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see 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 will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord

ALL: Praise to You O Christ!

MESSAGE FOR ALL

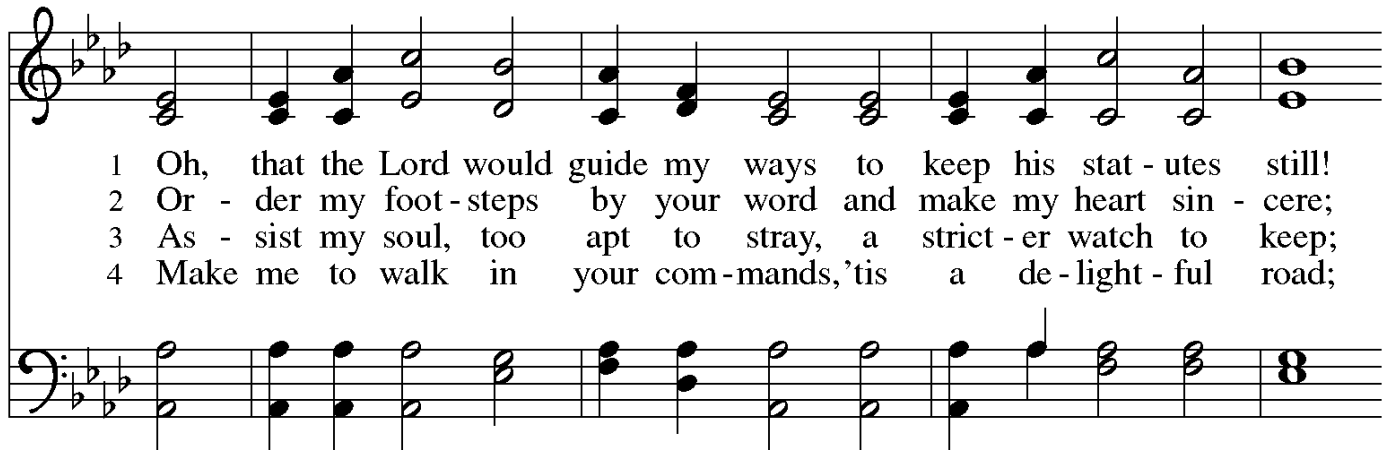
Pastor David Mercurio

SONG OF DAY

Oh, that the Lord would Guide my Ways

ELW 772/Red Hymnal

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
2 Or - der my foot - steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
4 Make me to walk in your com - mands, 'tis a de - light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.
and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.
nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: EVAN, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

APOSTLES' CREED

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;**

he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.

OFFERING IS WELCOMED

P: Lord of the harvest,

C: we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(An offering will be taken before the prayer.)

Offertory Music

Prince of Peace

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

See list of those Grace is currently praying for at end of this document or online. Please let us know your prayer needs.



Please respond accordingly

P: Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

P: We pray for the church to follow in your ways, that it may be a witness to your love for all people. Help us choose all that is life-giving and confront the forces of death. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We pray for creation, that it may be cherished and nurtured. Sustain farmlands, animals, and waters; restore places affected by calamities; and shield coastlands from pollution. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We pray for those in authority. Grant them wisdom to govern justly and compassion to care for the marginalized. Equip them for actions that further the common good. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We pray for those who are sick, hungry, unhoused, or lonely. May they find healing through your love and the care of those around them. Lead us to be your hands and feet in the world. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We pray for this congregation, that we may be united in love and faith. Refresh our hearts in Christ, and deepen our support of one another. We pray that our sharing of faith may transform lives. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We thank you for those who have died and now dwell with the saints. Surround them with your divine mercy, that they find peace and rest in your loving embrace. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

C: Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

P: Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them in the Spirit's love.

P: Let us give thanks to our Triune God.

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O God. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all who believe in Him should not perish. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his Holy Supper.

P: WORDS OF INSTITUTION

ALL: The 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

P: These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God

TAKE AND EAT OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Communion Hymns:

Lord, Listen to your Children Praying

ELW 752 3x/Red Hymnal

I Love to Tell the Story

ELW 661/Red Hymnal

God's Work, Our Hands

ACS 1000/

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a clear phrase structure. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables across notes. The first system covers the first line of the hymn, and the second system covers the second line. The music ends with a double bar line.

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943

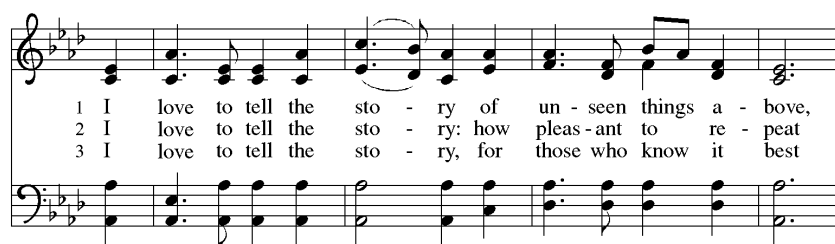
Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema

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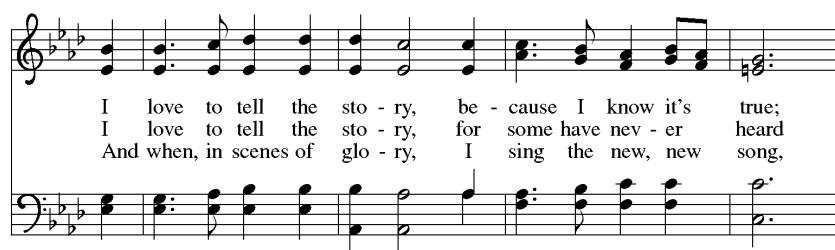
I Love to Tell the Story



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
 I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain

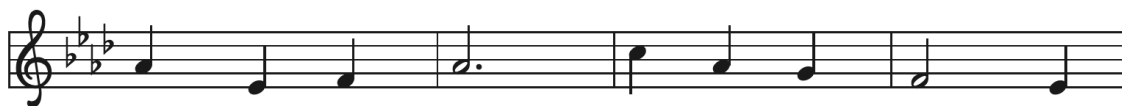


I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

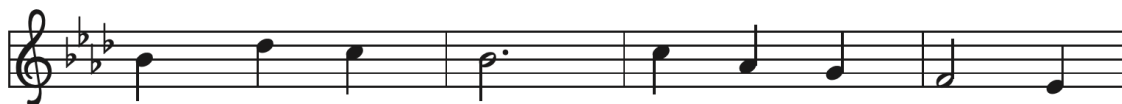
God's Work, Our Hands



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
 2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
 3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
 4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
 fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
 prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
 seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
 walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
 pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
 Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
 run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
 claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
 gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
 Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
 Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
 Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922–1987

Text © 2019 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: O God,

C: through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

CLOSING SONG

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

ELW 543/Red Hymnal


Go, My Children, with My Blessing



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone.
 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap-tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for-ev - er.
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com-fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906

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GOD SENDS US

BLESSING

P: The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ✝ bless you now and forever.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Pilgrims

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Liturgy-Sundays and Seasons May 31, 2026

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ADDITIONAL WEEKLY LECTIONARY LESSON

Psalm 1

They are like trees planted by streams of water. (Ps. 1:3)

Philemon 1-21

Paul says: Receive Onesimus as a coworker

Jeremiah 18:1-11

Like a potter, the Lord will reshape Israel

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

You have searched me out and known me. (Ps. 139:1)

9/7/25 ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP MASKING-Update We have been sitting at a social distance as we have felt comfortable in the sanctuary. Please continue Masking at your comfort level.

ALTAR FLOWERS are donated by Linda Smykowski in memory of her son J.T.

COFFEE HOUR is today after worship in Fellowship Hall. There will be a brief congregational meeting right after worship before going downstairs for coffee and snacks.

OUTDOOR WORSHIP has ended for this year. We will resume again in the spring/summer of 2026.

SUNDAY SCHOOL is TODAY, September 7th for all children ages 3 – 13. It will continue at 9:30am on the 1st and 3rd Sundays through May 2026.

HAVE YOU LOST A PIERCED EARRING? A pierced earring was found in the Noisy Offering bucket.... Was it in your pocket and got mixed up with your change? We are grateful for your donation, but we believe someone is missing this earring. Please see Linda or Tricia “to identify”.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY Nancy Corbige continues to collect email addresses for the Pottawatomie Partnership email distribution list. We currently have a house in-build in St. Charles. (Questions, you may call or text Nancy at 847-212-0237.)

LINE DANCING will resume again on Thursdays from 6-7pm beginning this week, September 11th through December 11th. All ages and abilities welcome!

THE 2025 FLOWER CHART is up and on the wall in the welcome area. The price for 2025 will be \$20.

ROUND TABLE FOR SALE We are selling a large, sturdy round table (no chairs tho) in Pastor's office. Please stop by his office to take a look and see Pastor or Tricia with any questions. The table has a diameter of 44.5” and is 28” tall.

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

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!***

CLOTHING DONATIONS FOR FALL RUMMAGE SALE If you have clothing donations for the rummage sale, Cathy Whiteside would like your donations now. Please drop them off anytime and mark Cathy's name or rummage sale. Again, only clothing being accepted at this time please.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH PRESCHOOL will begin again on September 8th every Monday and/or Wednesday from 9:15am – 1:15pm. Registration for next school year,

2025-2026, is open! If you know of anyone with a child ages 3-5, please let them know of this engaging Christian preschool program. More info can be found on our website, www.graceoflilylake.org/preschool or you can contact Janice Muncie at 630-854-1066.

PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE was held last week on Wed., Sept. 3rd from 9am – 11am. We had a nice turn out with all of our registered children and their families in attendance. We have 10 families registered this year; there are 3 returning families and 7 families who are new to our school. Blessings for a wonderful school year!

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

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER is available on-line at www.graceoflilylake.org (**please note the new website address ends in a “.org” rather than a “.com”**)

NOISY OFFERING We continue to collect weekly noisy offering to help offset various costs of specific expenses or a specific fundraiser. If you wish to contribute to the "Building Maintenance Fund" - please mark this specific donation on your check. These donations are for unplanned/unbudgeted building maintenance repairs. Thank you for your support!

GIVING STATEMENTS It has been decided by the Vision Team that the bi-annual Giving Statements (for your offerings) will now be distributed yearly (in the new year). If you are wanting a statement for Jan-June 2025, please contact Cara Turner by email: clturner2063@yahoo.com or leave a message on her cell: 630-291-6896.

OFFERINGS & FAITHFUL GIVING FOR THE MINISTRIES AT GRACE We are thankful for your offerings and donations given to Grace. Offerings received last week (as of Sept. 2): \$4,022. Our weekly donation goal is ~ \$4,000.

TECHNOLOGY HELP Are you familiar with IT/computer technology/livestreaming? We are seeking several people to assist in preparation and recording our church services (during the week +/- or during worship service). Please contact Pastor or Tricia Painter ~ **please consider!**

COPY PAPER/STAMPS/PRINTER CARTRIDGES Thank you for the donations of copy paper, stamps and printer cartridge. We have a continual need for printer ink cartridges (or even donations towards this cost) - please contact Tricia for details.

~ Blessings upon Grace in our 131st 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 of the ELCA and Metro Chicago Synod, especially Bishop Yehiel Curry.
- * Efforts of Lutheran World Relief, ELCA World Hunger, and Disaster Relief

FOR THE WORLD

- * For every living person facing the threat of coronavirus – 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, Dan Burtnette, Lillian Carlson, Ken Deutschmann, Alexa Diehl, Natalia Diehl, Jan Docherty, Suzanne Girsch, Kathy Hooey and family, Kathy 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, Nancy & John Schaefer, Char Sportsman, Bud Wise, Norm Turner, Wayne Whiteside, **For our Families and Friends:** Howard, Jim, Scott, Fred Alstadt, Barb Asher, Howard and Christine Baumert, Viola Bradshaw, **Linden Breyne (grandson of Vicki Linden)**, Cindy Carlson, Joanie Chernick, David Diehl, Rebecca Eagen, Ted Ellingsen, Pat Eineke, Joyce Helander, Andrew Kinsel, Bob Koehling, Karl Kruthoff, Gay Leslie, Family of Sherry Manke, Janelle McDonald, Linda Mowers, Ray

Navarro, Oksana & Maria, Donald Overby, **Carole Parker (Cara Turner's mother)**, Emily Peters, John Schnaitman, Pastor Arne Walker, 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 shawl needs.