



~ *Grace Lutheran Church* ~

Welcome to Wednesday Evening Family Worship

7 pm ~ September 21, 2022

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP *(inspired by Psalm 146)*

Praise the Lord.

Let all who draw breath praise the Lord.

Happy are those whose help is from God—
the One who made heaven and earth,
the One who created the seas and all that is in them.

**Happy are those whose hope is in God—the One who keeps faith forever,
the One who feeds the hungry and defends the oppressed.**

God will reign forever, for all generations. Praise the Lord!

Let all who draw breath praise the Lord.

GATHERING HYMN: *"Gather Us In" ELW 532*

1 Here in this place the new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2 We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry, we are the old who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,
called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty, gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.

3 Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4 Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away—
here in this place the new light is shining, now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Despite all the ways we speak of sin – failures, mistakes, intended acts, Scripture tells us that we are stubborn-hearted, wanting only our way. But if we pause to listen to God, if we open our mouths and our hearts to confess our sin, God will fill our emptiness with forgiveness and hope. Let us pray together, as we say,

WORDS OF CONFESSION (*Inspired by Luke 16: 19-31*)

The blessings of each day, food to eat, clothes to wear, contentment with all we have whether rich or poor. This is life in your kingdom.

How difficult, Lord, to walk along this road, when the world tempts us with much that which desire, but do not need. Forgive our weakness, and teach us again to know the contentment of having enough, and sharing not only from our riches but also from our poverty.

Silence is kept

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The God of salvation, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of truth, offers forgiveness to each of you through the Redeemer sent in human form. Be grateful that over and over you are given the chance to begin again and that nothing you have done can separate you from God's love... and forgiveness.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Let us pray... **O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 146

¹Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

²**I will praise the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

³Put not your trust in rulers,
in mortals in whom there is no help.

⁴**When they breathe their last, they return to earth,
and in that day their thoughts perish.**

⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the Lord their God;

⁶**who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;
who keeps promises forever;**

⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.
The Lord sets the captive free.

⁸**The Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord lifts up**

those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

⁹The Lord cares for the stranger;

the Lord sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰**The Lord shall reign forever,**

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

READING: 1 Timothy 6:6-19

Pew Bible p 965

⁶Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; ⁷for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; ⁸but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

¹¹But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹²Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

¹⁷As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: Luke 16:19-31

Pew Bible p 851

The Holy Gospel according to St Luke, the sixteenth chapter.

Response: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹⁹“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²²The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw

Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' ²⁵But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' ²⁷He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house—²⁸for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' ²⁹Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' ³⁰He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' ³¹He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

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

REFLECTION

SONG OF THE DAY:

"Christ, be Our Light"

ELW 715

1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

2 Longing for peace, our world is
troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice. *Refrain*

3 Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed. *Refrain*

4 Longing for shelter, many are
homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone. *Refrain*

5 Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
signs of your kingdom come. *Refrain*

APOSTLE'S CREED

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 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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you. *(We greet you all in peace.)*

OFFERING FOR THE MISSION AND MINISTRY of Grace Lutheran Church
OFFERING PRAYER *(inspired by Luke 16)* Let us pray... Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Knowing that many voices clamour and compete, we pray that these offerings given may become symbolic of our decision to serve one master, one God. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need, through Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *(inspired by Jeremiah 32: 6-15 & Luke 16: 19-31)*

God of power and justice, like Jeremiah you weep over those who wander from you, turn aside to other gods, and enter into chaos and destruction. By your tears and through your mercy, teach us your ways and write them on our hearts so that we may follow faithfully the path you show us. **Amen.**

Lord, your word tells us that there is great good in godliness combined with contentment; that as we brought nothing into this world, so we can take nothing out of it. Help us, dear Lord, to be content with what we have; to seek heavenly treasures rather than those things of this world which rust corrodes and moths consume. Grant that we might be people who share the wealth that you have provided; that we might be ones who share both the bread and wine of earth and the bread and wine of heaven... Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer...**

Father, we especially pray today for those who like Lazarus are ignored or neglected and left to suffer in our world; those who live in poverty within our town and province, and those who lie in great suffering at the gates of our nation... Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer...**

O God, bind your people together and make us bright and shining witnesses to your compassion and your grace as they are revealed in the law and the prophets and in Christ Jesus, the one you raised from the dead.... Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer...**

Hear too, we pray, the petitions and the intercessions of our hearts for those who govern and are in authority; for those who lost in sin and despair; for those who need healing; and for those who seek to serve as Jesus served. We especially hold before you today those we lift up from our hearts... Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer...

We ask these things and we give you our thanks and praise, and our minutes and our days, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. **Amen.**

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.

BENEDICTION AND SENDING *(based on Luke 16: 19-31)*

Go now and take hold of the life that really is life. Shun the eagerness for money but be rich in good works. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.

And may God be your refuge and fortress;

May Christ Jesus free you from all that ensnares you;

And may the Holy Spirit provide you with everything for godliness and contentment..

SENDING SONG:

“Praise to You”

(Refrain) Praise to you, O Great Creator, Maker of the land and sky.

Praise to you, O Living Water, hope and breath of ev'ry life.

1. We are lost and we are longing, wand'ring in the wilderness, searching for your holy presence and the reason we exist. *(Refrain)*

2. Hear the cries of all creation, how the tears like rivers flow for your touch of grace and healing and the love that leads us home. *(Refrain)*

3. May we live your way of justice, may we walk your way of peace.

May we see your sacred vision, may we know your sweet release. *(Refrain)*

DISMISSAL:

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God. We Will!**

Announcements for September 25th

Keep in your prayers - Those dealing with Health Issues:

Rhys Arnold, Roy Arnold, Shannon Beck, Joyce Brever, Dennis Carlson, Stanley Crane, Jerry Dipprey, Dick Everson, Judy Everson, Sharlee Kjellsen. Sylvia Larson, Judy Lien, Lavern McPeck, Elvira Moen, Ronald Newell, Cleone Pekelder, Melody Quade, Rick Raml, Carolyn Ronke, Roger Rust, Caden Thompson, and Robert Wittrock, the family of Stanley Wagner, the family of Judy Eide, those in Care Centers, Assisted Living, or who are Homebound. Pray for members of the Armed Forces and their families, our Law Enforcement personal, Fire Fighters, EMT and all First Responders.

On the CALENDAR - For the week of September 25th thru October 2nd

Sept 25 Celebration Sunday - Thanksgiving & Appreciation meeting goal
9:30 Sunday school NOTE TIME!
10:30 am – Worship Celebration Service
11: 30 am – Potluck meal and Fellowship
3 pm – Youth Group Funday – Disc Golf
6:30 – 8 pm: Synod Listen, Learn and Care for ALL Prairie Coteau
Conference people to meet with the Synod Staff

Sept 26 8 am Lefse making continues (week 3)
1-4 pm: Dorcus Quilters meet
5:30 pm Banquet serving inside

Sept 27 8 am Lefse making continues (week 3)

Sept 28 6-7 pm Wednesday school
6 pm – GOD’S WORK, OUR HANDS in the basement
6 pm Confirmation Class in Basement
7 pm Family Worship
7:30 pm Youth Group meets in the Youth Room

Sept 30 Home Schoolers Group meets in Fellowship Hall 8 to Noon

Oct 2 8:30 am Traditional Worship service
9:30 am Coffee Fellowship
9:45 Sunday school
11 am Contemporary Worship service

Upcoming Events:

October 4th & 11th: First Communion Classes
October 13 & 15th: 1517 “Here I Still Stand” Conference (Pastor gone)
October 29th – Nordefest Plus
November 5th – Fall Craft Fair

Youth Group fun day SUNDAY

Youth of Grace Lutheran in grade 7th thru 12th are invited to a fun day activity to place disc golf at the Slumberland disc golf course near the Zoo. The group will go out to eat following their outing. Parents are encouraged to help with this event and other youth group activities. Contact Becky Sprouse or Pastor

Listen, Learn, Care Events Scheduled Across Synod SUNDAY

We're excited to announce that after a two-year hiatus, Listen, Learn, and Care events will be taking place in every conference around the Synod this fall. This is your chance to meet with Bishop Constanze and Associates to the Bishop Pr. Renee Splichal Larson and Pr. Jonathan Steiner and share your thoughts about how things are going in your congregation and around the Synod. The schedule for these events is below. We hope to see you soon!

All events will take place from 6:30 to 8pm local time:

- **Prairie Coteau: Grace Lutheran, Watertown, Sept. 25**
- Medary: First Lutheran, Brookings, Oct. 11

God's Work – Our Hands to be held on Wednesday, September 28th

The time has been moved back to 6 pm for Confirmation students to help. Volunteers will take individual items for kits and bundle them together. It is not hard and does not take long as many hands make work light. Please take a little time helping prepare the items for the kits.

Load the Truck for World Relief

The materials collected and bundled for Lutheran World Relief will be loaded on the truck on October 2nd. Please plan to help. The truck is scheduled to be here around 1:30 to 2 pm. Members are asked to assist in carrying the boxes of quilts and kits to the truck. With many hands the work goes quickly.

First Communion Classes for children 2nd grade on up who have not yet taken instruction can register for the Tuesday class for October 4th and 11th The classes will begin at 6 pm. Parents are welcome and encourage to stay as the children will have an assignment between the two classes. To register, call the office of contact Pastor Cheryl by October 2nd.

**Check us out on our website at glcwn.org
And Grace Lutheran Watertown FaceBook.**

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ASSIST IN OUR WORSHIP:
PASTOR: Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett Keyboardist: Isaak Montemayor
Sound/Video Tech Team: Paul Henrichs Song Leader: Becky Sprouse**