



Grace Sanctuary 1921-2021

16th Sunday after Pentecost ~ September 12, 2021

Grace Lutheran Church

Welcomes You to Worship

202 Second Street SE, Watertown, South Dakota

Web Site: glcwn.org ~ gracelc@midconetwork.com

Church Office: 605-886-5737

Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett ~ 605-237-1501

PRELUDE

Congregation responses in Bold Print

Welcome and Announcements

GREETING:

May all who have gathered sense the warmth of God's presence and the encouragement which comes when gathered in worship of our Creator. Welcome!

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Inspired by James 3: 13-4:8)*

Who among you is seeking the wisdom of God? **We long to hear God's Word spoken to our hearts.** Who among you is seeking God's bright and holy truth? **We long to learn the ways of wisdom and righteousness.** Who among you is seeking a Spirit-filled life? **We long to live lives of holiness and light.** God grants God's wisdom generously to all who ask. Come near, people of God! **Come! Let us worship in wisdom and truth.**

OPENING SONG: "Cross of Christ"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Jesus Christ, We call you Lord, Yet it is too easy for us to worship other things. Other activities, other relationships, other gods. You tell us we cannot serve two masters, Yet we spend more time focusing our energies elsewhere, Diverting our time, our energy, our money, our attention away from you. Forgive us, gracious Savior, When our hearts are led astray When we serve other gods and worship them. We turn away from our distractions and sin. Strengthen us to set our faces toward Jerusalem, To take up our cross and follow you. We pray this, counting on your grace. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear and believe these words about God's amazing grace, grace experienced through Jesus' sacrificial love, as forgiveness of sins for your righteousness. You are forgiven and rescued from death. **Thanks be to God!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Let us pray... **O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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

(This time of offering is for the mission & ministry of Grace Lutheran Church

SONG of OFFERING: “Everybody’s Got Something to Offer”

OFFERING PRAYER: Let us pray... **O Lord, Your arm is never too short to touch us and meet our needs. Our hands are opened toward You with offerings of love and sacrifice. Receive these gifts and use them for Your Kingdom. In Jesus’ Name. Amen.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a

Pew Bible p 594

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 116:1-9

¹I love the LORD, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

²**for the LORD has given ear to me whenever I called.**

³The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;
I came to grief and sorrow.

⁴**Then I called upon the name of the LORD:**

“O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”

⁵Gracious is the LORD and righteous; our God is full of compassion.

⁶**The LORD watches over the innocent;**

I was brought low, and God saved me.

⁷Turn again to your rest, O my soul. for the LORD has dealt well with you.

⁸**For you have rescued my life from death,**

my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling;

⁹I will walk in the presence of the LORD in the land of the living.

PRaise SONG:

“Praise to You”

SECOND READING: James 3:1-12

Pew Bible p 981

CHILDREN’S TIME

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Dear God, as we have started another year in school, we ask your blessing on these backpacks, and especially on these children who will wear them. As they do the very important work of being students, bless them with: eagerness to learn, that their world may grow large; respect for teachers and students, that they may form healthy relationships; love for nature, that they may become caretakers of your creation; happiness when learning is easy and stick-to-it-iveness when it is hard; faith in Jesus as their best teacher and closest friend. We ask that you would protect these, your own children. Watch over them and keep them safe as they travel to and from school. As they learn, help them also to discover the different gifts that you have given each one of them to be used in your work in the world. As they hear the many voices that will fill their days, help them to listen most carefully for your voice, the one that tells them you will love them always, no matter what. We ask this in Jesus’ name. **Amen.**

GOSPEL LEAD-IN:

“Open My Heart to Your Love

GOSPEL: Mark 8:27-38

Pew Bible p 820

COMMUNION BLESSING: And now may this body and blood of our Savior Jesus, strengthen and preservice you unto life eternal. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:

Let us Pray... **Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

BENEDICTION:

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: *"Your Love Is Everlasting"*

SENDING

Go in peace... Renewed in Christ. **Thanks be to God. We Will!**

Thank you for worshiping with us today!

Announcements for September 5th

Keep in your prayers - Those dealing with Health Issues:

Rhys Arnold, Roy Arnold, Jim Bakeberg, Shannon Beck, Joyce Brever, Dennis Carlson, Carla Frost, Tammy Giessinger, Duane Holker, Bruce Jahraus, Doug Koutz, Judy Lien, Jessica Pekelder, Rick Raml, Deb Schlenner, Scott Schooley, Caden Thompson, Donnie Vrtacnik, Carol Wagner, and Robert Wittrock, 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 12th through 19th

Today	RALLY SUNDAY 8:30 am Traditional Worship service w/ Holy Communion 9:45 Sunday school – Rally Day 11 am Contemporary Worship service w/ Holy Communion Bible Presentation for PK, 2 nd and 7 th graders Blessing of the Backpacks & Sunday/Wednesday 1 pm service at Edgewood
Monday	6 pm Raise the Roof Committee meeting BY ZOOM
Tuesday	Noon - Watertown Ministerial meeting at HiVee
Wednesday	10 am service at TownView 10:30 am service at Jenkins Center 4 pm Confirmation Class in Basement Rally Wednesday - 6-7 pm Wednesday school 6 pm Confirmation Class in Basement 7 pm Family Worship in the Sanctuary 7:30 pm Youth Group meets in the Youth Room
Thursday	6 pm Visioning for Grace Lutheran with FaithX data
Friday	6 pm – Wedding Rehearsal for Juracek & Rudebusch
Saturday	4 pm – Wedding of Jennifer Juracek and James Rudebusch