



Grace Lutheran 1883-2023

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost ~ August 28, 2022

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

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,

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We are always uncomfortable, watching God, when you notice how we want to sit in the seats of honor. We can be so proper, so good, so well-off, that it is

easy to imagine we are superior to the poor. We are so busy completing our 'To Do' list each day, that we forget to do good when we have the chance. Forgive us, welcoming God. Fill our emptiness with your grace and humility that we would spend our lives alongside Jesus, our Lord and Savior, throwing a party for the poor, the damaged, the prisoner, the lost, the oppressed.

Silence is kept

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news: after what God has done for us, what can anyone or anything do to us? You are new people, graced by your loving God. Forgiven, embraced, welcomed by our God. **We will offer open hearts and serving hands to everyone we meet. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

GREETING

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Let us pray... **O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 2:4-13

Pew Bible p 610

⁴Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. ⁵Thus says the Lord: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves?

⁶They did not say, "Where is the Lord who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?"

⁷I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination. ⁸The priests did not say, "Where is the Lord?" Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit.

⁹Therefore once more I accuse you, says the Lord, and I accuse your children's children. ¹⁰Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing. ¹¹Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit.

¹²Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the Lord, ¹³for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

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

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 112

¹Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord
and have great delight in God's commandments!

²**Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

³Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.

⁴**Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

⁵It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.

⁶**For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

⁷They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

⁸**Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

⁹They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast
forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

¹⁰**The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth
and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish.**

SONG OF PRAISE: *"Light Shines in the Darkness"*

Refrain Oh the light shines in the darkness and the light will not be overcome.

In the world broken and scattered the light will not be overcome.

As our lives are turning and our hearts are yearning,

Through the days of hurting, deep in the night still the flame burns bright. *Refrain*

Tears throughout creation, torn apart relations,

Wounds across the nations, hope may seem gone still the flame burns on. *Refrain*

SECOND READING: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Pew Bible p 979

¹Let mutual love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. ⁵Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

“Alleluia”

Alleluia. To whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Luke 14: 1, 7-14

Pew Bible p 849

The Holy Gospel according to St John, the fourteenth chapter.

Response: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸“When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; ⁹and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹²He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

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

MESSAGE

SERMON SONG:

“As We Gather at Your Table”

ELW 522

1 As we gather at your table,
as we listen to your word,
help us know, O God, your presence;
let our hearts and minds be stirred.

Nourish us with sacred story
till we claim it as our own;
teach us through this holy banquet
how to make Love's vict'ry known.

2 Turn our worship into witness
in the sacrament of life;
send us forth to love and serve you,
bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion
to forgive as you forgave;
may we still behold your image
in the world you died to save.

3 Gracious Spirit, help us summon
other guests to share that feast
where triumphant Love will welcome
those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us
nor will pride our peace destroy,
as we join with saints and angels
to repeat the sounding joy.

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

SONG of OFFERING:

"We Are an Offering"

ELW 692

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you; we are an offering.

Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands,

Lord, use our lives, they are yours; We are an offering.

All that we have, all that we are,

all that we hope to be we give to you, we give to you.

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, We lift our lives up to you;

We are an offering, we are an offering

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Let us pray... Almighty God, **who made us who we are, we offer all of ourselves to You. Take our talents, our energy and our joy, and use us to share Your love. Take our mistakes, our regrets and our pain, and use us to bring Your healing. Magnify the gifts we offer before You today, to spread Your peace in the world. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

PRAYER SONG:

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

*Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: *(inspired by Luke 14: 7-14)*

Gracious God, You are a God of hospitality; there is none like you that invites all to come to you. You have invited all to your home, to your table, and to your arms. Lord, we pray that all would hear and receive this good news. Lord, help us to remember that no one is better than anyone else in your Kingdom. Help us to then treat each other the way you treat people.

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer**

Generous God, Because you treat us with your tender love, We take time to pray for our friends, family members and others who need you more than ever. Pour out your healing on all who need it. Be generous with your transforming love for those who needs it in their lives. Bring forth your reconciliation in families, and in places where it is needed.

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer**

Gifted God, You give us the gifts of the spirit to use to further your Kingdom and to be the Body of Christ in the world. We take time to remember the people devastated by floods, fires, wars and illness, and to thank you for those who stand in the shadow providing aid and care that has already taken place. Empower us to continue to be your hands and feet to continue the work that needs to be done there and in so many other places.

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer**

Healing God, You will never leave or forsake your children. We pray for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, we pray. Be present with those who live in isolation or fear, especially those who are incarcerated or detained. Comfort all who are sick or grieving especially Rhys, Roy, Shannon, Joyce, Deloris, Dennis, Stanley, Jody, Judy, Dick, Judy, Carla, Kaye, Sharlee, Sylvia, Don, Judy, Elvira, Rick, Carolyn, Roger, Caden, Robert, those in Care Center, Assisted Living or are homebound.

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer**

There is none like you God in your love, your generosity, your gifting and your hospitality. And we thank you that you are in our lives, working in us and through us to let people know your kingdom is open to all. In the name of your Son, who opened the doors for all and broke down barriers that kept people from you,

Amen.

PRAYER SONG:

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

*Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW p 144

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through the great shepherd of your flock, our Savior Jesus Christ; who after his resurrection sent forth the apostles to preach the gospel and teach all nations, and promised to be with them, even to the end of the age. And so we do not come to the Lord's table trusting in our own righteousness but in God's abundant mercy, and remember Jesus words spoken on that ancient night...

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

Remember, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come for all is ready. You are invited to the banquet

THE COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONGS

“Boundless Love”

(Refrain) Boundless love touches
And changes the heart of us.

Boundless love touches and changes the heart of us.

O Spirit of Jesus you sit at our table
And call us to a radical meal
Of boundless love that climbs over barriers
So nothing can keep us apart. *(Refrain)*

We structure injustice that keeps some from eating,
You prepare us for a different feast
Of boundless love that climbs over barriers
So nothing can keep us apart. *(Refrain)*

Oh Spirit of life come and move through the people,
Confronting the powers of death
'Cause boundless love climbs over barriers
So nothing can keep us apart. *(Refrain)*

“Round the Table”

(Refrain) Come together 'round the table. Come and taste the wonder,
A healing touch and a deep connection From the living center of it all.

Seeking meaning on the run You try and save the day.
But all is ready, will you come? Love invites the way. *(Refrain)*

Bring a friend or enemy, Or one you hold or blame.
With each other we are one, Here in Jesus' name. *(Refrain)*

Hear creation groan for life. Will hate and hunger cease?
In the roar of violence The world cries for peace. *(Refrain)*

POST COMMUNION BLESSING: And now may this body and blood of our Savior Jesus, strengthen you and keep you in His grace. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: Let us Pray... **Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

BENEDICTION AND SENDING *(based on Hebrews 13:8)*

There is a world out there that is oversupplied with theories and technology, but drastically undersupplied with hope. You however, like Christ, are tomorrow's people, those who know the future is filled with promise and hope. Go and live out your hope graciously and courageously.

And may the grace of Christ Jesus who is the same today, yesterday and forever, lead you to the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, and then take you on to those tasks and joys which will prepare you for the greater glory, the blessing of eternal life, which is to come. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: ***“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*** ***ELW 547***

1 Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended
the fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.
Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us
to work for your kingdom and answer your call.

2 With praise and thanksgiving to God ever-living,
the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face—
our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing God's children, the whole human race.
With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us;
unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

DISMISSAL:

Go in peace. Share with the neighbor... **Thanks be to God. We Will!**

Thank you for worshiping with us today!

Announcements for August 28

Keep in your prayers - Those dealing with Health Issues:

Rhys Arnold, Roy Arnold, Shannon Beck, Joyce Brevier, Dennis Carlson, Stanley Crane, Jody Crane, Jerry Dipprey, Judy Eide, Dick Everson, Judy Everson, Carla Frost, Kaye Harriott, Allen Kasperson, Sharlee Kjellsen. Sylvia Larson, Judy Lien, Elvira Moen, Rick Raml, Carolyn Ronke, Roger Rust, Caden Thompson, Robert Wittrock, the family of Deloris Carlson, 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 28th thru Sept. 4th

Today	8:30 am Worship service w/communion
Monday	1 – 4 pm Dorcus Quilters
Tuesday	6 pm – Stewardship committee meets
Wednesday	5:30 pm Youth Group meets in the Youth Room 6 pm – Midweek Family Worship Service 6:45 pm – Memorial Committee Meets
Sunday	8:30 am Worship service

Upcoming Events:

- September 7th – 2022-23 Confirmation Classes Start
- September 11th – Rally Sunday and the start of 2 services again
- September 14th – Rally Wednesday and Family Worship moves back to 7 pm.
- September 25th – Celebration of Thanksgiving – Appreciation Sunday for all those who have helped us reach our goal to Raise the Roof
One service at 10:30 followed by a potluck dinner at 11:30.

Thank You: Thanks so very much for all the notes and cards. Sharlee Kjellsen

LWR NEEDS: For August—School Kit: FOUR 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10 ½"; no loose leaf paper; ONE 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other; ONE pencil sharpener; ONE pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well); FIVE unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; FIVE black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); ONE box of 16 or 24 crayons; ONE 2 ½" eraser

Sunday – Wednesday school Registration Forms Due

Sunday and Wednesday school is just around the corner and registration is due to prepare enough materials for the children. Sunday school will be held at 9:45 am followed by worship at 11 am. The Rally Sunday kick-off is September 11th at 9:45

am. Wednesday school is held at 6 pm with worship service at 7 pm. Rally Wednesday kick-off is at 6 pm on September 14th. Registration Forms are available in the office or online. Teachers and helpers are always needed for the program. If you are interested or can provide assistance with this important ministry of the church, let Becky Sprouse know and please attend the teachers meeting at 6 pm on Thursday, August 25th. *“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.” Proverbs 22: 6*

A RADIO BROADCAST of the Sunday morning worship service can be heard at 10:05 a.m. each Sunday on KWAT (95 AM). **This week’s RADIO BROADCAST and Altar Flowers** are given by Elton and Darlene Bresson in loving memory of their parents. Thank you for your gifts. **Grace Lutheran has a tradition of radio broadcasting a Sunday morning service since 1935. Please consider helping with the cost of this broadcast with a memorial or special gift.** If you would like to help with these special weekly needs, please call the office or send your donation to

Grace Lutheran, 202 Second Street SE, Watertown, South Dakota 57201

Confirmation Registration – Parent meetings – are Due!

In baptism parents and sponsors promise to help their children grow in the Christian faith and life with these responsibilities:

To live with their children among God’s faithful people,

Bring them to the word of God and holy supper,

Teach them the Lord’s Prayer, the Creed and the Ten Commandments,

Place in their hands the holy scriptures,

And nurture them in faith and prayer so that the children may learn to trust God,

Through Sunday and Wednesday school, Grace Lutheran provides the opportunity for parents and sponsors to meet these responsibilities and in confirmation they continue to learn, grow, and trust in the grace and love of God toward making their own Affirmation of Faith.

Is your child/grandchild confirmed? If not, confirmation begins on September 7th with classes at 4 and at 6 pm each Wednesday. Registration forms are available in the office, online or contact email Pastor Cheryl at cherylgracelc@midconetwork.com.

Plans for Nordefest Plus activities start in September

Lefse making will be held on Monday and Tuesday during the September and into October. There will also be an evening worship this year on September 20th if you are unable to attend in the daytime. Please sign up for this important fund raiser of Grace Lutheran.

Jewelry, handbags, watches, necklaces, bracelets, rings, brooches, earrings, scarves, and belts no longer used can be donate to the jewelry store for Nordefest. Watch for more details for making other Scandinavian dishes in October.

Ukraine sponsorships for Refugees

A meeting was held on Monday on of bringing Ukrainian refugees to South Dakota. This is primarily special authorization by the federal government as a humanitarian parolee (the terminology used). Primary sponsors are responsibility for the financial load, transportation, clothing, furnishing, and housing making this necessary for a church or group to join together and share the burden through commitment and fundraising.

Help is available to assist the refugee with mainstream benefits: SNAP; TANF; Medicaid; SSI; all coordinated by LSS. Additional assistance is available through the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) Benefits: Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA); Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA); and Employment Assistance: Refugee Support Services (RSS).

Refugees are not able to work until they have received a social security card and at this time it is taking over a year to obtain those.

State Efforts will come through the South Dakota Community Foundation Freedom's Haven Fund. South Dakota has 30,000 open jobs and this work will benefit the SD and Watertown economy from more workers.

At this time, we are looking for those who are interested in making a commitment to pledge financial assistance and volunteer assistance for transportation, shopping, schooling, and a variety of other welcoming support.

A fund-raising effort by the community will be held on September 22nd at the Goss with a performance by a Ukrainian pianist. Watch for more on this as it becomes available. For more information or to make a pledge, contact Pastor Cheryl.

**To keep informed and events – check out our webpage at glcwn.org
or find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GraceLutheran8865737>**

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ASSIST IN OUR WORSHIP:

PASTOR: Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett

READER: Edwin Williams

KEYBOARD: Isaak Montemayor

GREETER:

USHERS: Doug & Ann Murfield **Communion Server:** Geri Mohror & Liz Dunn

PRIASE TEAM: Becky Sprouse, Riley Sprouse, Leigh Carstensen, Judy Everson, Krisma DeWitt, Kayla Mohling

SOUND/VIDEO TECH TEAM: Paul Henrichs, Wyatt Sprouse, Larry Picht, Gary Rukstad, Anthony DeHaan, & Dylan Jordan

Pastoral Calls: You can reach Pastor Cheryl at 605-237-1501(cell or text) or by E-mail: cherylgracelc@midconetwork.com