



Grace Lutheran 1883-2023

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost ~ September 4, 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

CALL TO WORSHIP *(inspired by Psalm 1)*

Happy are those who follow the ways of the Lord.

God's ways are just and merciful.

Those who follow God's ways are continually nourished in faith.

In all that they do, they prosper.

Come, let us open our hearts to God's compassionate love.

Let us celebrate God's mercy and justice. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: "Lift High the Cross" ELW 660

Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.

1 Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,
our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *Refrain*

2 All newborn servants of the Crucified
bear on their brows the seal of him who died. *Refrain*

3 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. *Refrain*

4 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

PRAYER OF BROKENNESS *(Inspired by Jeremiah 18: 1-11)*

Creator God, You created the earth, whole and round; You created us to be whole people. But we have become fragmented, cracked and broken. We have been broken by false promises, lost relationships, shattered trust. We have become cracked with the experience of systemic sin: prejudice, oppression and fear. We have become fragmented, building up walls instead of lending hands. Forgive us when we have done the breaking, heal us where we have been hurt. Let Your light shine through our cracks and scars so that we might bring light to the world, showing that in You we are made whole. In You we find healing. In You we find renewed life. Help us to forgive, to love, to mend. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God is the Potter, we are the Clay. When we are cracked and broken, God helps to bring us back together. Sometimes we don't feel the same afterwards, but God uses every piece, and offers us the newness of life to begin again. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Let us pray... **Direct us, O Lord God, 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.**

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 18:1-11

Pew Bible p 629

¹The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: ²“Come, go down to the potter’s house, and there I will let you hear my words.” ³So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel. ⁴The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

⁵Then the word of the Lord came to me: ⁶Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the Lord. Just like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. ⁷At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, ⁸but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. ⁹And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, ¹⁰but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. ¹¹Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the Lord: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings. Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 1

¹Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

²**Their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and they meditate on God’s teaching day and night.**

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,
with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

⁴**It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶**For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

²⁵Now 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. ²⁷Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For 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? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹Or 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? ³²If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

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

MESSAGE

SERMON SONG:

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

ELW 798

1 "Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?
2 "Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare,
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer pray'r
in you and you in me?
3 "Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free
and never be the same?

Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?
4 "Will you love the you you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and
sound
in you and you in me?"
5 Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Call by God

I believe in an innovative God, who does not wait for us to find ourselves but comes seeking the lost and calling us into a new way.

I believe in Jesus of Nazareth as God's crucial initiative, that when he calls us to follow, Christ also gives us the power to become, both in creed and deed, the children of the living God.

I believe in the Spirit by whom Jesus still comes to us, calling us to follow him into an obedience which is true liberty and to a humble service which is the fruit of holy friendship.

I believe in the church as the fellowship of Christ's people, called to respect and support one another through joys and tribulations as we travel the road towards the "promised land" of God's future.

Because Christ has called me in this I truly believe. 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 *(inspired by Jeremiah 18: 1-11)*

Let us pray... O Potter God, **As clay takes form in a potter's hand, So do we in Yours. Mold us into the generosity you shared with us, providing for our every need. Make us ready to share all that we have, with all in need. Take our time, talents and possessions to increase the gifts we offer before You today, to share your love to a broken world and refresh our hearts in Christ. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us gather our prayer to our kind and merciful God that His love for us may enliven all we do and that our love may become contagious, in the church, for those in needs, and all of God's creation.

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.

PRAYER PETITIONS:

We pray – for the Church, the People of God, and the mission of the gospel, may never cease to be proclaimed through its teaching, life and liturgy, that love of God and neighbor is the heart of the gospel and that people are God's gift to us, in partnerships in faith. Lord hear our prayer, **And mold us to follow you.**

We pray - That people may not lose their hearts in today's economic systems of profit, efficiency, production and competition, but that they may keep giving first place to human relationships of friendship and respect, caring and sharing.

Lord hear our prayer, **And mold us to follow you.**

We pray - That we may have room in our hearts and homes for refugees and strangers, that we may learn to share our goods and ourselves with the little people loved by God - the poor and the lonely and those who suffer. We especially pray for those dealing with grief and health issues Rhys, Roy, Shannon, Joyce, Deloris, Dennis, Stanley, Jody, Jerry, Judy, Dick, Judy, Carla, Kaye, Allen, Sharlee, Sylvia, Don, Judy, Elvira, Rick, Carolyn, Roger, Caden, Robert, those in Care Center, Assisted Living or are homebound.

Lord hear our prayer, **And mold us to follow you.**

We pray - That those who don't know how to forgive, those whose family life is difficult or estranged, those who have not experienced much happiness in life or whose longings have not been fulfilled, may encounter a bit of God's goodness in our attention and care and find grace and love here in our midst.

Lord hear our prayer. **And mold us to follow you.**

We pray - That in our Christian communities we may uplift one another rather than tear down, accept each other with trust and affection, forgive one another from the heart and go forward together in hope and love. Bless Grace Lutheran with the strength to live into their many vocations for the sake of the world.

Lord hear our prayer, **And mold us to follow you.**

Our gentle God, help us to love you and one another with your measure, that is, molded without measure. Give us faith like the saints who have gone before us, to love you with all our hearts and by your mercy bring us to everlasting life in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYER SONG:

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

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 & SENDING

We came to this sacred space to celebrate and affirm that the Lord is like a potter, making and reshaping us into God's image to be and share the Good News.

Lord, send us out into your world as your change agents to help mold and remake the human condition, with your grace and your help.

And may God hold you steady and close on the path before you.

May Christ Jesus bless you and every place you enter.

And may the Spirit give you length of days and fullness of life. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG:

“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”

ELW 802

1 Let us ever walk with Jesus,
follow his example pure,
through a world that would deceive us
and to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in his footsteps treading,
trav'lers here, our home above,
full of faith and hope and love,
let us do our Savior's bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide;
I shall follow where you guide.

2 Let us suffer here with Jesus,
and with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness;
where he is there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter,
we shall reap celestial joy:
all discomforts that annoy
shall give way to mirth hereafter.
Jesus, here I share your woe;
help me there your joy to know.

3 Let us gladly die with Jesus.
Since by death he conquered death,
he will free us from destruction,
give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion
that would lead us into sin;
and the grave that shuts us in
shall but prove the gate of heaven.
Jesus, here with you I die,
there to live with you on high.

4 Let us also live with Jesus.
He has risen from the dead
that to life we may awaken.
Jesus, you are now our head,
we are your own living members;
where you live, there we shall be
in your presence constantly,
living there with you forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be;
life eternal grant to me.

DISMISSAL:

Go in peace, with Christ beside you. **Thanks be to God. We Will!**

Thank you for worshiping with us today!

Announcements for September 4

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, 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 September 4th thru 11th

Today	8:30 am Worship service 1 pm – Service at Edgewood
Monday	Labor Day Office is Closed
Wednesday	10:30 am – Service at Avantara 4 pm – Confirmation Class 6 pm – Confirmation Class 7 pm - Midweek Family Worship Service 7:30 pm - Youth Group meets in the Youth Room
Thursday	10:30 am – Service at Stonybrook 5 pm – Mission Committee meeting 6 pm – Grace Council meets
Friday	8 am to Noon – Home Schools meet in Fellowship Hall
Sunday	8:30 am Worship service with Holy Communion 9:45 am – Rally Sunday 11 am – Worship Service with Holy Communion AND Blessing of the Backpacks

Upcoming Events:

- September 13th – 6 pm Fellowship & Outreach Committee meeting
- September 14th – 6 pm Rally Wednesday
- September 18th – 9:30 am Ukrainian Refugee Sponsorship meeting
- 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.
- September 28th – 4 pm on until done – God’s Work Our Hands

A RADIO BROADCAST of the Sunday morning worship service can be heard at 10:05 a.m. each Sunday on KWAT (95 AM). **The RADIO BROADCAST is given** in loving memory of Roy & Doris Schmeling” from the Schmeling Radio Fund. The Altar flowers are given by Carol Henrichs in memory of Carol’s parents and Paul Henrichs grandparents Ralph and Lorraine Perkins Your gifts are greatly appreciated for the Mission and Ministry of Grace Lutheran. 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

Sunday – Wednesday school Registration Forms Due

Sunday and Wednesday school begins this week. Rally Sunday starts next Sunday at 9:45 am followed by worship at 11 am. Rally Wednesday kick-off is at 6 pm on September 14th followed by Midweek Service at 7 pm. Registration Forms are available in the office or online. *“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.” Proverbs 22: 6*

Confirmation Class begins this week Wednesday

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.

Classes are held each Wednesday beginning September 7th at 4 and at 6 pm, each are the same with the same requirements. 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 beginning September 12th and 13th 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 is scheduled for Sunday, September 18th at 9:30 in the Fellowship Hall on sponsorship of Ukrainian refugees with Lee Gabel to speak and answer question about the program.

This special authorization comes from the federal government as a humanitarian parolee for churches and organization to provided assistance. Primary sponsors are responsibility for the financial load, transportation, clothing, furnishing, and housing 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.

World Relief Materials due in September

GLCW (Glacé Lutheran Church Women) collect materials for kits for World Relief. Materials for School, Baby Care, and Personal Care items can be purchased and left in the Narthex or office. The list are available in the office and in the September Gleanings. Please check the needs as several supplies have already been donated. A monetary donation can be made for GLCW to purchase any items they are short on. All members are asked to assist in combining these kits to send to World Relief on Wednesday evening beginning at 4 pm September 28th.

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: JoAnn Spartz

KEYBOARD: Isaak Montemayor

SONG LEADER: Leigh Carstensen

USHERS: Geri Mohror & Steve Vogt

GREETER:

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