



Grace Sanctuary 1921-2021

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost ~ September 5, 2021
Grace Lutheran Church
Welcomes You to Worship

202 Second Street SE, Watertown, South Dakota
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Church Office: 605-886-5737
Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett ~ 605-237-1501

PRELUDE

Congregation responses in Bold Print

Welcome and Announcements

We gather today... to praise the Lord...

GATHERING HYMN: ***“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”*** ***ELW 858***

- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear now to his temple draw near,
joining in glad adoration!
- 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning
and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen all that is needful has been
sent by his gracious ordaining?
- 3 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do
if with his love he befriend you.
- 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again.
Gladly forever adore him!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God our comforter: **like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in † Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Let us pray... **Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.**

FIRST READING: Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23

Pew Bible p 527

¹A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches,
and favor is better than silver or gold.

²The rich and the poor have this in common: the LORD is the maker of them all.

⁸Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity, and the rod of anger will fail.

⁹Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor.

²²Do not rob the poor because they are poor, or crush the afflicted at the gate;

²³for the LORD pleads their cause and despoils of life those who despoil them.

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

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!

SECOND READING: James 2:1-10 & 14-17

Pew Bible p 981

¹My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please,"

while to the one who is poor you say, “Stand there,” or, “Sit at my feet,” ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

⁸You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead. Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: “Word of Life, Jesus Christ” WOV p 48

Word of life, Jesus Christ, all glory to you! Word of life, Jesus Christ, all praise to you!

Our hearts burn within us while you open to us the Scriptures.

Word of life, Jesus Christ, all glory to you! Word of life, Jesus Christ, all praise to you!

GOSPEL: Mark 7:24-37 Pew Bible p 819

The Holy Gospel according to St Mark, the seventh chapter.

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

²⁴[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁸But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” ²⁹Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his

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

We are an offering, we are an offering

DEDICATION OF OFFERING:

Let us pray... **God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

PRAYER SONG: "Hear Our Prayer"

ELW 178

Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

PRAYER PETITIONS: *Response to: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

PRAYER SONG: "Hear Our Prayer"

ELW 178

Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

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:

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world.

The holy Trinity, † one God, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: "O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate"

ELW 722

1 O Christ, your heart, compassionate,
bore ev'ry human pain.

Its beating was the pulse of God;
its breadth, God's vast domain.

The heart of God, the heart of Christ
combined in perfect rhyme
to write God's love in human deeds,
eternity in time.

2 As once you welcomed those cast
down and healed the sick, the blind,
so may all bruised and broken lives
through us your help still find.

Lord, join our hearts with those who
weep that none may weep alone,
and help us bear another's pain
as though it were our own.

3 O Christ, create new hearts in us
that beat in time with yours,
that, joined by faith with your great
heart, become love's open doors.
We are your body, risen Christ;
our hearts, our hands we yield
that through our life and ministry
your love may be revealed.

4 O Love that made the distant stars,
yet marks the sparrow's fall,
whose arms stretched wide upon a
cross embrace and bear us all:

come, make your church a servant
church that walks your servant ways,
whose deeds of love rise up to you,
a sacrifice of praise!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace... The living Word dwells in you. **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, Bella Hatch, Duane Holker, Bruce Jahraus, Doug Koutz, Judy Lien, 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 5th through 12th

Today	8:30 am Worship
Monday	OFFICE CLOSED – Labor Day Holiday
Tuesday	5:30 pm Grace Foundation meeting
Wednesday	10 am service at Hi-Rise 4 pm Confirmation Class in Basement 5:30 pm Youth Group meets in the Youth Room 6 pm Confirmation Class in Basement
Thursday	9:30 am Elizabeth Circle meets (All Grace Women are Welcome!) 10 am service at Stoneybrook 6 pm Grace Council meets
Sunday	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 teachers. 1 pm service at Edgewood

Upcoming Events:

September 15 – Rally day for Wednesday school
Youth Groups starts meeting at 7:30 pm
September 19-21: Fall Theological at Pierre, SD (Pastor gone)
October 15 & 16th: 1517 “Here I Stand” Conference (Pastor gone)

October 30th – Nordefest Plus

GLCW (Glacé Lutheran Church Women) preparing kits for World Relief

School supplies are out in the schools and as everyone turns their attention back to school, GLCW wants to remind you of the supplies needed for the Lutheran World Relief (LWR) kits. Only supplies are needed as the book bags have been purchased.

Other kits are prepared for Baby Care and Personal Care. Information for these kits at with the tubs in the Narthex.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ASSIST IN OUR WORSHIP:

PASTOR: Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett

READER: Karen Kasperson

USHERS: Geri Mohror and Steve Vogt

PIANIST: Judy Everson

SONG LEADER: Becky Sprouse

SOUND/VIDEO TECH TEAM: Paul Henrichs, Wyatt Sprouse, Larry Picht

Gary Rukstad and Jason Mohr.

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

VISIONING SET FOR SEPTEMBER 16TH

We will be meeting for Visioning on Thursday evening from 6 to 8 pm September 16th with Jonathan Steiner from the SD Synod with Faithx data.

FaithX Strategic Missional Consulting is a nonprofit organization helping faith-based communities and organizations acquire knowledge to equip leadership with tools and strategies to anticipate, identify, and effectively engage emerging missional opportunities and challenges.

Faith communities are given the data and resources to discern the community they are based in to quickly assess congregational vitality and sustainability, forecasting emerging missional opportunities and challenges, respond rapidly in the present, and plan adaptive strategies for rapidly changing context.

Visioning is an activity to engage the whole diverse and varied community of Grace in dialogue to exchange ideas and dreams of the church bringing together community-wide voices with various backgrounds and unique contributions. Common ground is often found to build on each other's strengths for the good of the whole community.

Everyone has an opportunity to contribute and is encouraged to participate especially youth and those under 40 who will carry on the vision of Grace forward. We want your voice heard as part of the mission and ministry planning for your future at Grace.

MISSION OF THE MONTH

“Neighbors in Solidarity” - First Lutheran African Ministry

The African Ministry at First Lutheran Church is a vital, growing ministry with and among African people in Sioux Falls. While the spiritual leaders and founders of this

community are Liberian, worshipers on a Sunday afternoon come from many parts of West Africa. All came here fleeing the violence of various civil wars and the desperate poverty of cross-border refugee camps. The people of this community share a powerful bond of hardship and a common strength of hope in Jesus Christ. First Lutheran African Ministry is an emerging ministry of African immigrants with the heart for God. We gathered and worshipped regularly celebrating God's goodness and proclaiming Christ's promise in a contextualized manner. We're always a happy congregation; this is always reflected in our worship style. Take one Sunday with us and you'll be thrilled by our worship spirit. Ministry Leader is Abraham Gayetaye. To support this ministry, contact the SD ELCA Synod.

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** today is given in loving memory of Helmer Moen from Elvira Moen. Altar Flowers today are given by Cal & Nyra Brown in celebration of their 19th Wedding Anniversary. 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*

**Ever ask yourself - How can I serve the Lord?
Here are ways you can!**

Coffee Fellowship:

On Sunday morning beginning September 12th, coffee fellowship between services will begin with coffee at 9:30 am. The first Sunday we will have the beautiful cake decorated with a picture of Grace Lutheran made for our celebration this summer. It will be a great time to get back together after this long absence. Please come and join in coffee and fellowship. If you are able, please sign up as the coffee server for a week or two as well. We need everyone to take a turn.

God's Work – Our Hands Sunday is September 19th

This is a day kits for World Relief are put together. Volunteers take individual items that go into the kits and bundle them together. It is not hard and does not take long as many hands make work light. If you can spend a little time helping that morning, please come and be the hands of God as we work together to prepare the kits.

Adult and Parent help with Youth Group. Some activities we'd like to hold with the 7th through 12th Youth are bowling, attending concerts together or a lock-in. We NEED adults and parents to help with these events. That is how we develop the family of Grace Lutheran Church, by being the face of Jesus to others.

Please help do your part with any of these ministries you can.

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