

*Dear Church...*  
THE  
LETTERS

7 Churches  
of  
Revelation



Ephesus



Smyrna



Pergamos



Thyatira



Sardis



Philadelphia



Laodicea



LAODICEA



Grace  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Serving the Portland Area with the Means of Grace and as a family of believers for over 110 years... as a church, school, preschool, mission, and ministry.

**Church Campus:** 7610 NE Fremont Street, Pastor – Pastor Thad Bitter (503 .290.6316– call /text)

**School Campus:** 2252 SE 92nd Street, Principal - Justin Eternick (920.988.1999 – call /text)

**Preschool:** 2252 SE 92nd Street, ECE Director Tammy Godish (503.312.4230 – call /text)

## The Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

July 31st, 2022

*Grace ~ “I am not ashamed of the gospel...”*



When it comes to the truth of Scripture, there is no room for compromise. The Bible is the book we live by... for life now and for life forever. We accept the Bible as the pure Word of God. We believe that our only Savior is Jesus Christ, the sinless Son of God, who was crucified, died, and was buried but rose again to open the door to heaven for everyone who believes in him.

*Grace ~ “These are written that you may believe...”*



Grace Lutheran Church has served the Portland area for over 100 years by faithfully preaching and teaching the timeless truth of God’s Word. We believe that God uses the timeless message of Word and Sacraments to bring souls into his care. This is a message that we share here and around the world through our affiliation with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS).

*Grace ~ “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...”*



Grace Lutheran Church exists to win souls by joyfully proclaiming the truth of God’s grace through Christ, to nurture believers in growing in faith and lives of Christian service, and to join together in worship and praise. **“But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and forever! Amen.” 2 Pt. 3:18**

## INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

## HYMN

CW21 (BLUE) #811: “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

*My faith looks up to thee,  
Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine.  
Now hear me while I pray;  
Take all my guilt away;  
Oh, let me from this day Be wholly thine!*

## CONFESSION

M: Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven and whose sins are covered.

C: **Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: **Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done.**

M: Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ.

C: **Your great mercy reaches above the heavens, and your faithfulness to the skies.**

## HYMN

CW21 (BLUE) #811: “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

*May thy rich grace impart  
Strength to my fainting heart; My zeal inspire!  
As thou hast died for me,  
Oh, may my love to thee  
Pure, warm, and changeless be, A living fire!*

## ABSOLUTION

- M:** This is the message we heard from him and proclaim to you: God is light. In him there is no darkness at all.
- C:** **If we say we have fellowship with him but still walk in darkness, we are lying and do not put the truth into practice.**
- M:** But if we walk in the light, just as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.
- C:** **If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** – 1 John 1:5-9

## HYMN

CW21 (BLUE) #811: “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

*While life's dark maze I tread  
And griefs around me spread, Be thou my guide.  
Bid darkness turn to day, Wipe sorrow's tears away,  
Nor let me ever stray from thee aside.*

- M:** God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C:** Amen.

## HYMN

CW21 (BLUE) #811: “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

*When ends life's transient dream,  
When death's cold, sullen stream Shall o'er me roll,  
Blest Savior, then, in love, Fear and distrust remove;  
Oh, bear me safe above, A ransomed soul!*

## THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your Word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy and to bring forth fruits in faith and hope and love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C:** Amen.

## THE WORD

### THE FIRST LESSON

Revelation 3:14-22

<sup>14</sup> To the messenger of the church in Laodicea write:

The Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation, says this:

<sup>15</sup> I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. If only you were cold or

hot! <sup>16</sup> So, because you are lukewarm and not hot or cold, I am about to spit you out of my mouth. <sup>17</sup> You say, "I am rich. I have become very wealthy and need nothing."

But you do not know that you are miserable, pitiful, poor, blind, and naked. <sup>18</sup> I advise you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments, so that you may be clothed and the shame of your nakedness may not become public, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see.

<sup>19</sup> I rebuke and discipline those whom I love. So take this seriously and repent.

<sup>20</sup> Look, I stand at the door and I am knocking. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will go in with him and dine with him, and he with me. <sup>21</sup> To the one who is victorious I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne.

<sup>22</sup> Whoever has an ear, let him hear what the

### HYMN:

CW(RED) #498: **Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire**



*Though I may speak with bravest fire*

*And have the gift to all inspire*

*And have not love, my words are vain –*

*As sounding brass --and hopeless gain.*

### THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> If I have the gift of prophecy and know all the mysteries and have all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> If I give away everything I own, and if I give up my body that I may be burned<sup>[a]</sup> but do not have love, I gain nothing.

<sup>4</sup> Love is patient. Love is kind. Love does not envy. It does not brag. It is not arrogant. <sup>5</sup> It does not behave indecently. It is not selfish. It is not irritable. It does not keep a record of wrongs. <sup>6</sup> It does not rejoice over unrighteousness but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup> It bears<sup>[a]</sup> all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

<sup>8</sup> Love never comes to an end. But if there are prophetic gifts, they will be done away with; if tongues, they will cease; if knowledge, it will be done away with. <sup>9</sup> For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part, <sup>10</sup> but when that which is complete has come, that which is partial will be done away with. <sup>11</sup> When I was a child, I spoke

like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put away childish things. <sup>12</sup> Now we see indirectly using a mirror, but then we will see face to face. Now I know in part, but then I will know fully, just as I was fully known.

<sup>13</sup> So now these three remain: faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love.

**HYMN:**

CW(RED) #498: **Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire**



*Though I may give all I possess  
And, striving so, my love profess  
But not be giv'n by love within,  
The profit soon turns strangely thin.*

**GOSPEL**

**Luke 3:7-16**

7 So John kept saying to the crowds who came out to be baptized by him, “You offspring of vipers, who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? 8 Therefore produce fruits in keeping with repentance! Do not even think of saying to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ because I tell you that God is able to raise up children for Abraham from these stones. 9 Even now the ax is ready to strike[c] the root of the trees. So every tree that does not produce good fruit is going to be cut down and thrown into the fire.”

10 The crowds began to ask him, “What should we do then?”

11 He answered them, “Whoever has two shirts should share with the person who has none, and whoever has food should do the same.”

12 Tax collectors also came to be baptized. They said, “Teacher, what should we do?”

13 To them he said, “Collect no more than what you were authorized to.”

14 Soldiers were also asking him, “And what should we do?”

He told them, “Do not extort money from anyone by force or false accusation. Be satisfied with your wages.”

15 The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might be the Christ. 16 John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But someone mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

**HYMN:**

CW(RED) #498: **Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire**



*Come, Spirit, come; our hearts control.  
Our spirits long to be made whole.  
Let inward love guide ev'ry deed;  
By this we worship and are freed.*

## THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## HYMN:

CW21: (BLUE): #742 On Galilee's High Mountain

*On Galilee's high mountain - Christ gave the great command  
In words of strength and promise, which all can understand:  
"All pow'r to me is given, to do what I shall choose.  
Therefore, I send my children; their witness I will use."*

*The Lord, who, born of Mary, came down as man and died,  
Who preached to all who listened, for us was crucified.  
This Lord, our living brother, In pow'r at God's right hand  
Has chosen us to carry, His truth to ev'ry land.*

*His strength within my weakness, will make me bold to say  
How his redeeming power, transforms my stubborn clay.  
His touch of fire ignites me; with courage I am sent,  
My tongue-tied silence broken, With grace made eloquent.*

*And not alone to nations, in faraway retreats,  
But ev'rywhere I broadcast, His love through crowded streets.  
The lives that my life touches, however great or small –  
Let them through me see Jesus, who served and saved us all.*

*Lord, gather all your children, wherever they may be,  
And lead them on to heaven, to live eternally  
With you, our loving Father, and Christ, our brother dear,  
Whose Spirit guards and gives me, the joy to persevere.*

## SERMON

Revelation 3:14-22

## THANKSGIVING

### THE OFFERING

*An opportunity to give online can also be used at  
[Paypal.me/GracePortland](https://www.paypal.com/GracePortland) or by utilizing this QR code:*



### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M: Eternal Lord, you speak to us in words of love and light and power. Fill us with peace today as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Guide our lives today as we see clearly the path you have laid out for us. Work in us today through your Spirit that our thoughts, words, and actions glorify you and serve our neighbor.
- C: Fill us with the Word we have heard today and move us to believe it and live it.**
- M: Provide courage and compassion to all who preach and teach your Word. Take away their fear of criticism and contention and make them bold to say what you say. Fill them with a love like yours and lead them to announce the forgiveness of sins as your free gift to us and all people.
- C: Move us to love all ministers of the Word wherever they serve.**
- M: Forgive us for the times we hear your Word but fail to live it in our lives. Break down the apathy that lurks in us and leads us to ignore eternal realities. Convict us with your law and then fill us so full of your gospel that we overflow with zeal to do your will.
- C: Give us thankful hearts to live and love with joy.**
- M: Guard and guide us as we live in a society that despises what you say about marriage. Lead husbands and wives to love each other with commitment, respect, and patience. Move parents to grasp the eternal value of keeping their children close to Jesus even when their children grow up.



**C: Protect us from the evil that surrounds us; give us pure hearts and minds.**

M: Provide your divine compass for those who govern us by making laws and setting policies. Give us respect for those who protect us from crime and aggression. Lead us to value the rights of our fellow citizens and to care for those who cannot care for themselves.

**C: Bless our land with peace and prosperity so that the gospel may be proclaimed.**

M: Give us passion to share the story of your love with our family and friends. Overcome unbelief and open the hearts of people everywhere to believe the good news that Jesus has forgiven their sins and opened the gates of heaven.

**C: Fill us with joy over every sinner who repents and comes to trust in your grace.**

M: Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind. Fill eager minds with wisdom to discover new ways to treat disease and illness. Give patience and compassion to those who care for the sick and dying.

*Special prayer requests may be included here*

M: Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

M: Eternal Lord, you guide the world with your mighty power and love all people because your Son lived and died and rose again. Hear our prayers, spoken and in silence, and answer them in your wisdom and grace.

**C: In Jesus' name we pray. 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.**

### **THE BENEDICTION**

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

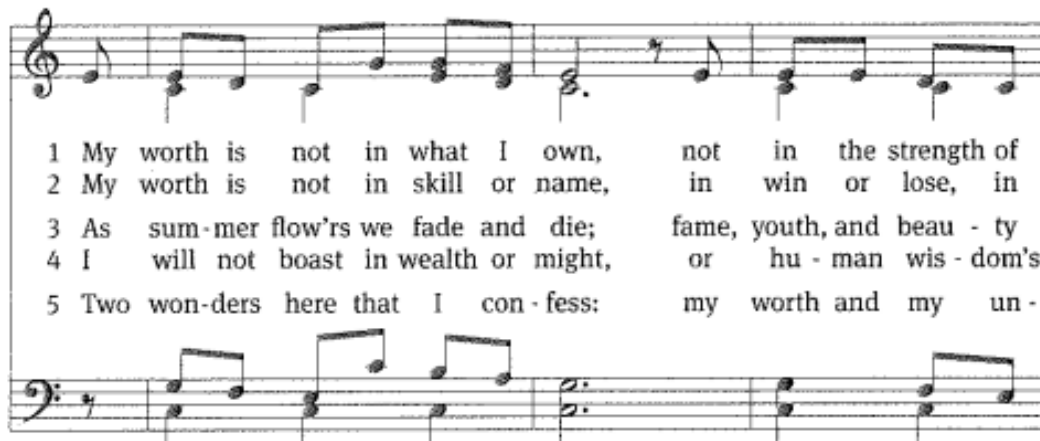
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

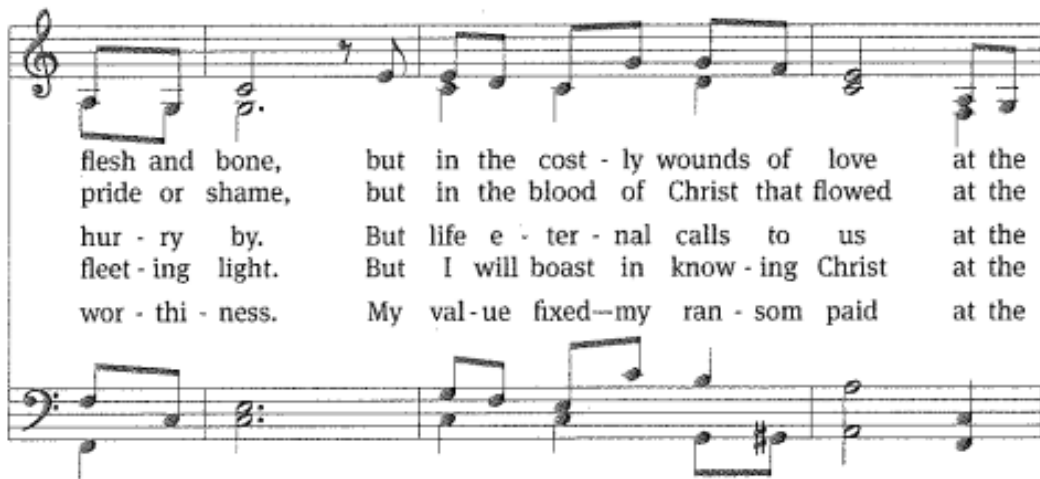
**C: Amen.**

**HYMN:**

CW21 (BLUE) #753: **My Worth Is Not in What I Own**  
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1 My worth is not in what I own, not in the strength of  
2 My worth is not in skill or name, in win or lose, in  
3 As sum-mer flow'rs we fade and die; fame, youth, and beau - ty  
4 I will not boast in wealth or might, or hu - man wis - dom's  
5 Two won-ders here that I con-fess: my worth and my un -



flesh and bone, but in the cost - ly wounds of love at the  
pride or shame, but in the blood of Christ that flowed at the  
hur - ry by. But life e - ter - nal calls to us at the  
fleet - ing light. But I will boast in know - ing Christ at the  
wor - thi - ness. My val - ue fixed—my ran - som paid at the



1,3 2,4,5

cross. v. 2 cross. Refrain  
cross. v. 4 cross. Refrain  
cross. Refrain

Refrain

I re - joice in my Re - deem - er - great - est

trea - sure, well - spring of my soul.

I will trust in him, no oth - er; my soul is

sat - is - fied in him a - lone. lone.

1.2 v. 3/v. 5 Last time

# Worship Notes

## for kids

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



### Songs We Sang

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The Scripture Text Was: \_\_\_\_\_

What was the sermon about?

Draw a picture from the lesson.



Words I Don't Know:

