

Dear Church...
THE
LETTERS

7 Churches
of
Revelation



Ephesus



Smyrna



Pergamos



Thyatira



Sardis



Philadelphia



Laodicea



EPHESUS



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 Second Sunday After Pentecost

June 19th, 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: #784: **Now the Night Has Turned to Day**

Text has been adapted to "Morning"



*Now the night has turned to day;
Father, listen while I pray,
Asking you to watch and keep
As I wake from peaceful sleep.*

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.

-- Psalm 32:1&2



*Jesus, you have washed away
All that I'll do wrong today.
Make me ever more like you,
Good and gentle, kind and true.*

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. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.



*Let my near and dear ones be
Safe with you eternally.
Oh, bring me and all I love
To your happy home above.*

ABSOLUTION

M: God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever!

C: **O Lord, my God, I called to you for help, and you answered me. I thank you for the love you have shown me in Jesus Christ, my Savior. Through him you have rescued me from the guilt of my sin and given me the peace of forgiveness. “Rejoice in the LORD and celebrate, all you righteous, and shout joyfully, all you upright in heart.”**
-- Psalm 32:11



*Now my morning praise I give;
You once died that I might live.
All your precious gifts are free –
Oh, how good you are to me!*



*Ah, my best and kindest Friend,
You will love me to the end.
Let me love you more and more,
Always better than before.*

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you rule over all things in wisdom and kindness. Take away everything that may be harmful and give us whatever is good; 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

Isaiah 43:8-13

⁸ Bring out the people who are blind, though they have eyes, and the people who are deaf, though they have ears.

⁹ Let all the nations be gathered together, and let peoples be assembled. Who among them has declared this? Who has made known to us the former things? Let them produce their witnesses to show that they were right, so that people can hear and say, “This is truth.”

¹⁰ You are my witnesses, declares the LORD. You are my servant, whom I have chosen, so that you may know me and believe in me, so that you will understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, and after me there will not be another.

¹¹ I, yes I, am the LORD, and apart from me there is no savior.

¹² I myself declared it. I brought salvation, and I announced it. It was not some strange god among you. You are my witnesses, declares the LORD, and I am God.

¹³ Indeed, from the first day, I am he. There is no one who can deliver anyone from my hand. I act, and who can reverse it?

HYMN:

CW21: #726: **Love in Christ Is Strong and Living**



***Love in Christ is strong and living,
Binding faithful hearts in one;
Love in Christ is true and giving –
May his will in us be done!***

THE SECOND LESSON

2 Timothy 1:3-10

³ I thank God, whom I serve with a clean conscience as my ancestors did, as I constantly remember you in my prayers night and day. ⁴ When I remember your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I remember your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am convinced that it also lives in you. ⁶ For this reason I am reminding you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷ For God did not give us a timid spirit, but a spirit of power and love and sound judgment. ⁸ So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Instead, join with me in suffering for the gospel while relying on the power of God. ⁹ He saved us and called us with a holy calling, not because of our works, but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began, ¹⁰ and it has now been revealed through the appearance of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.



***Love is patient and forbearing,
Clothed in Christ's humility,
Gentle, selfless, kind, and caring,
Reaching out in charity.***

²⁶ They sailed down to the region of the Gerasenes, which is across from Galilee. ²⁷ When Jesus stepped ashore, a man from the town met him. He was possessed by demons and for a long time had not worn any clothes. He did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸ When he saw Jesus, he cried out, fell down before him, and said with a loud voice, “What do I have to do with you, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don’t torment me!” ²⁹ For Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. In fact, the unclean spirit had seized him many times. He was kept under guard, and although he was bound with chains and shackles, he would break the restraints and was driven by the demon into deserted places. ³⁰ Jesus asked him, “What is your name?” He said, “Legion,” because many demons had gone into him. ³¹ They were begging Jesus that he would not order them to go into the abyss. ³² A herd of many pigs was feeding there on the mountain. The demons begged Jesus to let them go into the pigs, and he gave them permission. ³³ The demons went out of the man and entered the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and drowned.

³⁴ When those who were feeding the pigs saw what happened, they ran away and reported it in the town and in the countryside. ³⁵ People went out to see what had happened. They came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting at Jesus’ feet. He was clothed and in his right mind, and the people were afraid. ³⁶ Those who saw it told them how the demon-possessed man was saved. ³⁷ The whole crowd of people from the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, because they were gripped with great fear.

As Jesus got into the boat and started back, ³⁸ the man from whom the demons had gone out begged to be with him. But Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹ “Return to your home and tell how much God has done for you.” Then he went through the whole town proclaiming what Jesus had done for him.



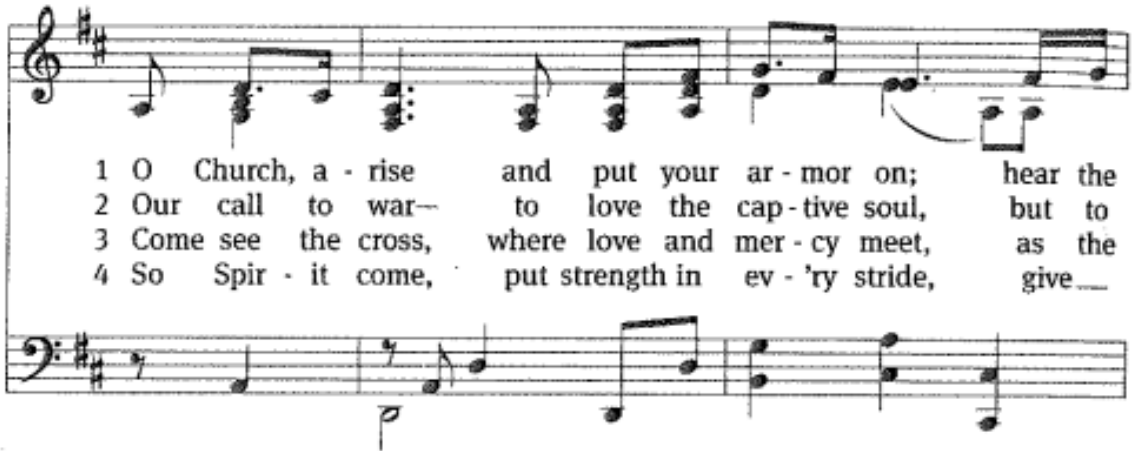
*Love in Christ abides forever,
Fainting not when ills attend;
Love, forgiving and forgiven,
Shall endure until life's end.*

APOSTLES' CREED

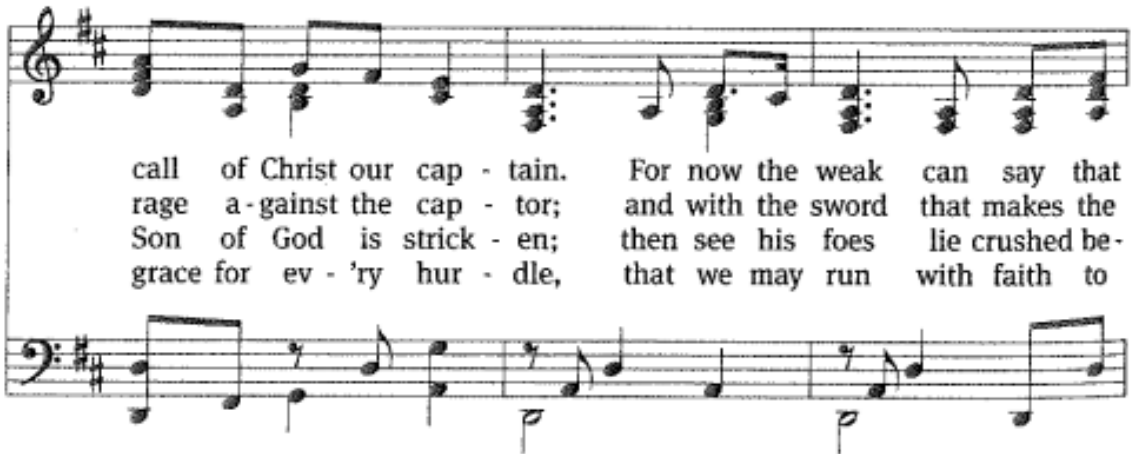
I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

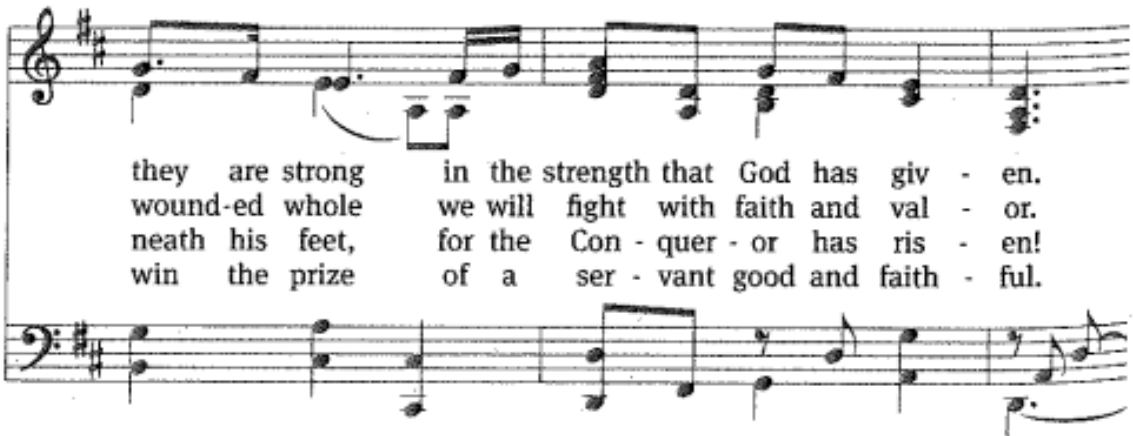
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.



1 O Church, a - rise and put your ar - mor on; hear the
 2 Our call to war— to love the cap - tive soul, but to
 3 Come see the cross, where love and mer - cy meet, as the
 4 So Spir - it come, put strength in ev - 'ry stride, give—



call of Christ our cap - tain. For now the weak can say that
 rage a - gainst the cap - tor; and with the sword that makes the
 Son of God is strick - en; then see his foes lie crushed be -
 grace for ev - 'ry hur - dle, that we may run with faith to



they are strong in the strength that God has giv - en.
 wound - ed whole we will fight with faith and val - or.
 neath his feet, for the Con - quer - or has ris - en!
 win the prize of a ser - vant good and faith - ful.



With shield of faith and belt of truth we'll stand a -
When faced with trials on ev - 'ry side, we know the
And as the stone is rolled a - way, and Christ e -
As saints of old still line the way, re - tell - ing



gainst the dev - il's lies; an ar - my bold whose bat - tle
out - come is se - cure, and Christ will have the prize for
merg - es from the grave, this vic - t'ry march con - tin - ues
tri - umphs of his grace, we hear their calls and hun - ger



cry is love, reach - ing out to those in dark - ness.
which he died - an in - her - it - ance of na - tions.
till the day ev - 'ry eye and heart shall see him.
for the day when with Christ we stand in glo - ry.



SERMON

Revelation 1:9-10; 19-20; 2:1-7

⁹I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingship and patient endurance in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony about Jesus. ¹⁰I was in spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard a loud voice behind me, like a trumpet, ¹¹saying, "Write what you see on a scroll and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea." ¹⁹"So write what you have seen, both those things that are and those that will take place after this. ²⁰"The mystery of the seven stars, which you saw in my right hand, and the seven gold lampstands is this: The seven stars are the messengers of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches."

To the messenger of the church in Ephesus write: The one who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven gold lampstands, says this:² I know your works, your labor, and your patient endurance, and that you are not able to tolerate evil people. You have tested those who say they are apostles, but are not, and have found them to be liars. ³Indeed, you do have patient endurance. You have endured hardships on account of my name and have not become weary. ⁴But I have this against you: You have forsaken your first love. ⁵Remember, therefore, the state from which you have fallen! Repent and do the works you did at first. Otherwise I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, if you do not repent.⁶ But you do have this: You hate the actions of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.⁷Whoever has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious I will give the privilege to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

THANKSGIVING

THE OFFERING

An opportunity to give online can also be used at Paypal.me/GracePortland or by utilizing this QR code:



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

PASTOR: Dear Lord, Heavenly Father, on this day when we give special honor to our fathers, we come before you in humility, as parents, children and families together, and we plead for your mercy according to your unfailing love.

CONGREGATION: As children, dear Lord, we confess that we have failed to always honor and obey our parents and those in authority over us. As parents, we confess that we have not always lived lives of perfect or even good examples. As your family, dear Lord, we confess that we have not always honored your gift of marriage as you command. Bless the unmarried and strengthen them in following your will. Give them chastity, purity and peace, and help them live lives devoted to you. Wash away all our iniquity and cleanse us of our sin!

PASTOR: Almighty God, who established fatherhood in your creation and who has shown a Father's love in all your dealings with us, we pray for earthly fathers and their families.

CONGREGATION: Lift up and strengthen our fathers and grandfathers, and any who have served us as fathers without bearing that name. Give them strength and wisdom to lead and love their families according to your example and command.

PASTOR: Dear Jesus Christ, God's own dear Son, who submitted to your Father's will and taught us how to honor and address him as our own Father, we pray for fathers and mothers, for husbands and wives, and for families.

HUSBANDS / FATHERS: Let our children see you in us. Lead them to value and imitate all the good that you have done in us and withhold from them our weaknesses. Give us a love like yours, O Christ, that we "love our wives as you loved your church" and give ourselves to and for them. Give us patience and love and crush our sinful pride whenever it intrudes and threatens our loving union.

WIVES / MOTHERS: Lord, give us humility, strength, love and patience to follow your command and "submit to our husbands as to the Lord, for the husband is the head of the wife, just as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he himself is the Savior." Help us to be their helpers, and move us to respect and strengthen them in their roles as fathers.

PASTOR: Come, Holy Spirit, Faith-giver and Sanctifier, and bless us with your wisdom. We pray for the salvation and instruction of children everywhere.

CONGREGATION: Deepen our desire and hunger for the Scriptures, that we might be more ready and able to raise our children in the training and instruction of the Lord. Lead us to live lives of joyful sanctification that show your presence in our hearts. Let our children walk in your ways, and keep your commands, so that they may prosper in all they do and wherever they go.

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.

CLOSING HYMN

CW21 #929: May the Peace of God

*May the peace of God our heav'nly Father
And the grace of Christ the risen Son
And the fellowship of God the Spirit
Keep our hearts and minds within His Love*

Refrain:
*And to him be praise for his glorious reign
From the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n.
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain
Christ eternal King of kings.*

*May this peace which passes understanding
And this grace which makes us what we are,
And this fellowship of his Communion
Make us one in Spirit and in heart.*

Refrain:
*And to him be praise for his glorious reign
From the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n.
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain
Christ eternal King of kings.*

Worship Notes

for kids

Name _____

Date _____



Songs We Sang

The Scripture Text Was: _____

What was the sermon about?

Draw a picture from the lesson.



Words I Don't Know:

