



*Conversations*  
with God  
*What's your Song?*



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 Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

July 16th, 2023

*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**

**Hymn**

*Come, Christians, join to sing  
Alleluia! Amen!  
loud praise to Christ our King;  
Alleluia! Amen!  
Let all, with heart and voice,  
before His throne rejoice;  
praise is His gracious choice:  
Alleluia! Amen!*

*Come, lift your hearts on high;  
Alleluia! Amen!  
let praises fill the sky;  
Alleluia! Amen!  
He is our Guide and Friend;  
to us He'll condescend;  
His love shall never end:  
Alleluia! Amen!*

*Praise yet our Christ again;  
Alleluia! Amen!  
life shall not end the strain;  
Alleluia! Amen!  
On heaven's blissful shore  
His goodness we'll adore,  
singing forevermore,  
Alleluia! Amen!*

**Invocation**

**M:** The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**Confession**

**M:** Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

**C:** **Blessed are they 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. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

**Absolution**

PSALM 98

**M:** God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our 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:** **Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.**

**M:** The LORD has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations.

**C:** **He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

**M:** Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music;

**C:** **let them sing before the LORD for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity.**

**Hymn**

CW21 BLUE #615 JESUS, THANK YOU

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*The mystery of the cross I cannot comprehend*

*The agonies of Calvary*

*You the perfect Holy One, crushed Your Son*

*Who drank the bitter cup reserved for me*

*Your blood has washed away my sin - Jesus, thank You*

*The Father's wrath completely satisfied- Jesus, thank You*

*Once Your enemy, now seated at Your table - Jesus, thank You*

*By Your perfect sacrifice I've been brought near -*

*Your enemy You've made Your friend*

*Pouring out the riches of Your glorious grace*

*Your mercy and Your kindness know no end*

*Your blood has washed away my sin - Jesus, thank You*

*The Father's wrath completely satisfied- Jesus, thank You*

*Once Your enemy, now seated at Your table - Jesus, thank You*

## **The Prayer of the Day**

God of all power and might, you are the giver of all that is good. Help us love you with all our heart, strengthen us in true faith, provide us with all we need, and keep us safe in your care; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## **THE WORD**

### **The First Lesson**

ISAIAH 5:1-7

Let me sing for my loved one a song about my loved one's vineyard.

My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile ridge.

<sup>2</sup> He dug it up and gathered the stones out of it.

He planted it with the best vines.

He built a tower in the middle of it.

He also cut a winepress into it.

He expected it to produce clusters of sweet grapes,  
but it produced only sour grapes.

<sup>3</sup> So now, you residents of Jerusalem and you men of Judah,  
judge between me and my vineyard.

<sup>4</sup> What more could have been done for my vineyard  
that I have not already done for it?

When I expected it to produce clusters of sweet grapes,  
why did it produce sour grapes?

<sup>5</sup> Now, let me tell you what I will do to my vineyard.

I will take away its hedge, and it will become a pasture.

I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled down.

<sup>6</sup> I will make it a wasteland.

It will not be pruned or hoed.

So briars and thorns will shoot up.

I will also command the clouds not to pour rain on it.

<sup>7</sup> Yes, the vineyard of the LORD of Armies is the house of Israel,  
and the men of Judah are the planting that was pleasing to him.

He expected justice, but instead there was oppression.

He expected righteousness, but there was an outcry.

## The Verse of The Day

EPHESIANS 2:10

Alleluia. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Alleluia.

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff is the Alleluia chorus. The second staff contains the text 'These words are written that we may believe that'. The third staff contains the text 'Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.'. The fourth staff is another Alleluia chorus. The lyrics are written below the notes.

## Gospel

LUKE 20:9-19

<sup>9</sup> He began to tell the people this parable: “A man planted a vineyard, leased it to some tenant farmers, and went away on a journey for a long time. <sup>10</sup> When it was the right time, he sent a servant to the tenants to collect his share of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenant farmers beat the servant and sent him away empty-handed. <sup>11</sup> The man went ahead and sent yet another servant, but they also beat him, treated him shamefully, and sent him away empty-handed. <sup>12</sup> He then sent yet a third. They also wounded him and threw him out. <sup>13</sup> The owner of the vineyard said, ‘What should I do? I will send my son, whom I love. Perhaps they will respect him.’ <sup>14</sup> “But when the tenant farmers saw him, they talked it over with one another. They said, ‘This is the heir. Let’s kill him, so that the inheritance will be ours.’ <sup>15</sup> They threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. So what will the owner of the vineyard do to them? <sup>16</sup> He will come and destroy those tenant farmers and give the vineyard to others.”

When they heard this, they said, “May it never be!”

<sup>17</sup> But he looked at them and said, “Then what about this that is written: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone?”<sup>18</sup> “Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush the one on whom it falls.”

<sup>19</sup> That very hour the chief priests and the experts in the law began looking for a way to lay hands on him, because they knew he had spoken this parable against them. But they were afraid of the people.

## 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.

## Hymn:

CW21 BLUE: #622 VOICES RAISED TO YOU WE OFFER

*Voices raised to you we offer;  
Tune them, God, for songs of praise.  
Hearts and hands we bring in tribute  
For your gifts through all our days.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Triune God, to you we sing!*

*All creation joins to praise you;  
Earth and sky your works display.  
Art and music, gifts you lend us,  
We return to you today.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
God, Creator, source of life!*

*Christ, the song of love incarnate,  
Touching earth with heaven's grace.  
For your living, suff'ring, dying,  
For your rising, hear our praise!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Christ, Redeemer, Lord of life!*

*Spirit, flaming through creation,  
Kindle faith within each heart.  
Lift our voices high in chorus;  
Through our hands your love impart.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Spirit, Helper, breath of life!*

**How can any praise we offer  
Measure all the thanks we owe!  
Take our hearts and hands and voices—  
Gifts of love we can bestow.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Triune God, to you we sing!**

## **The Sermon**

ISAIAH 5:1-7

## **THANKSGIVING**

### **The Offering**

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

WELS Connections for July



### **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 (BLUE) #931 (1-2,4): SAVIOR, AGAIN TO THY DEAR NAME WE RAISE

**Savior, again to thy dear name we raise  
With one accord our parting hymn of praise.  
Once more we bless thee ere our worship cease,  
Then, lowly bending, wait thy word of peace.**

**Grant us thy peace upon our homeward way;  
With thee began, with thee shall end the day.  
Guard thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,  
That in this house have called upon thy name.**

**Grant us thy peace throughout our earthly life,  
Our balm in sorrow and our stay in strife.  
Then, when thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,  
Call us, O Lord, to thine eternal peace.**