

Dear Church...
THE
LETTERS

7 Churches
of
Revelation



Ephesus



Smyrna



Pergamos



Thyatira



Sardis



Philadelphia



Laodicea



PHILADELPHIA



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 24th, 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**

*To God be the glory; great things he has done!
He so loved the world that he gave us his Son,
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the people rejoice!
Oh, come to the Father through Jesus the Son
And give him the glory --great things he has done!*

*Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son,
But purer and higher and greater will be
Our joy and our wonder when Jesus we see.
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the people rejoice!
Oh, come to the Father through Jesus the Son
And give him the glory --great things he has done!*

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.**

Hymn

CW21 BLUE #579 (1) HIS MERCY IS MORE

*What love could remember, no wrongs we have done
Omniscient, all-knowing, He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more
Praise the Lord! His mercy is more!
Stronger than darkness, New every morn'
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more*

Absolution

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! “Rejoice in the LORD and celebrate, all you righteous, and shout joyfully, all you upright in heart.”
(Psalm 32:11)

Hymn

CW21 BLUE #579 (3) HIS MERCY IS MORE

*What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more
Praise the Lord! His mercy is more!
Stronger than darkness, New every morn'
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more*

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

Revelation 3:7-13

⁷To the messenger of the church in Philadelphia write:

The Holy One, the one who is true, the one who has the key of David, the one who opens and no one can shut, and who shuts and no one can open, says this:

⁸I know your works. Look, I have set before you an open door, which no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. ⁹Look, I will make those who are from the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not but are lying—look, I will make them come and bow down at your feet, and make them realize that I have loved you. ¹⁰Because you have kept my word about patient endurance, I will also keep you from the hour of testing, which is about to come over the whole inhabited world, to test those who dwell on the earth.

¹¹I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have so that no one takes your crown.

¹²The one who is victorious I will make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he will never leave it again. I will also write on him the name of my God and the name of the city of my God—the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God—and my new name.

¹³Whoever has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

Hymn

CW21 BLUE #743 (4): I HEAR THE SAVIOR CALLING



***I hear the Savior calling! He changes hearts for me.
From door to door I witness - To bring my Savior's plea;
Yet nothing can be added, No word on bended knee,
Beyond the simple gospel --My Savior calls for me!***

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 12:9-21

⁹Do not just pretend to love others. Hate what is evil. Cling to what is good. ¹⁰Be devoted to one another with brotherly love. Think of others as deserving more honor than yourselves. ¹¹Do not be lagging behind in zeal, but be fervent in spirit, as you continue to serve the Lord. ¹²Be joyful in hope. Endure trials patiently. Persist in prayer. ¹³Share with the saints who are in need. Be quick to welcome strangers as guests. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless, and do not curse. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who are rejoicing; weep with those who are weeping. ¹⁶Have the same respect for one another. Do not be arrogant, but associate with the humble. Do not think too highly of yourselves. ¹⁷Do not pay anyone back evil for evil. Focus on those things that everyone considers noble. ¹⁸If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, maintain

peace with everyone. ¹⁹ Do not take revenge, dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath. For it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay," says the Lord. ²⁰ But: If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink. For by doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head. ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Hymn

CW21 BLUE #743 (3): I HEAR THE SAVIOR CALLING



*I hear the Savior calling! He gives this charge to me:
To serve the best I'm able, Whate'er the call may be.
Thus hand in hand with others Who share the gospel key
We spread the gospel tidings --My Savior calls for me!*

GOSPEL

Luke 13:22-30

²² He went on his way from one town and village to another, teaching, and making his way to Jerusalem. ²³ Someone said to him, "Lord, are only a few going to be saved?" He said to them, ²⁴ "Strive to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able. ²⁵ Once the master of the house gets up and shuts the door, you will begin to stand outside and knock on the door, saying, 'Lord, open for us!' He will tell you in reply, 'I don't know you or where you come from.' ²⁶ Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.' ²⁷ And he will say, 'I don't know where you come from. Depart from me, all you evildoers.' ²⁸ There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth when you see Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown outside. ²⁹ People will come from east and west, from north and south, and will recline at the table in the kingdom of God. ³⁰ And note this: Some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

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): #916 (1-2,4) TODAY YOUR MERCY CALLS US

*Today your mercy calls us To wash away our sin.
However great our trespass, Whatever we have been,
However long from mercy Our hearts have turned away,
Your precious blood can wash us And make us clean today.*

*Today your gate is open, And all who enter in
Shall find a Father's welcome And pardon for their sin.
The past shall be forgotten, A present joy be giv'n,
A future grace be promised: A glorious crown in heav'n.*

*O all-embracing Mercy, O ever-open Door,
What should we do without you When heart and eye run o'er?
When all things seem against us, To drive us to despair,
We know one gate is open, One ear will hear our prayer.*

The Sermon

Revelation 3:7-13

THANKSGIVING

The Offering

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



Our Gifts of Love to The LORD			
Weekly need to meet Budget: \$9097.47			
Sunday	Offerings	+(-) to Budget	
7/3/2022	\$ 9,175.00	\$	77.53
7/10/2022	\$ 7,195.00	\$	(1,902.47)
7/17/2022	\$ 18,560.01	\$	9,462.54

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & THE LORD'S PRAYER

M: I invite you to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me the Lord's Prayer as Christ our Lord taught us.

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

M: Here we pray that God our Father in heaven would look with mercy on all his children on earth. We ask him to give us grace that we might proclaim his Word faithfully and live our lives according to his will, for then we show that his name is precious to us. We also pray that he would keep us from any teaching and living which would dishonor his name.

C: Your kingdom come.

M: We pray that his kingdom and the rule of his grace might come to us and grow in us each day; that all who are still captives in Satan's kingdom might be brought to know Jesus Christ, his Son, so that the Christian Church might grow and prosper.

C: Your will be done on earth as in heaven.

M: We pray that the Holy Spirit would strengthen us to do and accept God's will in life and death, in good times and in bad, and that we might have power to put down our own sinful will and its desires.

C: Give us today our daily bread.

M: We pray that our Father would also give us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish desires, and help us to trust that he will provide for all our needs.

C: Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

M: We ask that God would forgive our sins as we forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may rest and rejoice in a good conscience before him, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us.

C: Lead us not into temptation.

M: We pray here that God would protect us from all temptations and help us by his Spirit to put down our sinful flesh, to despise the world and its vices, and to overcome the devil and all his trickery.

Special Intercession Prayers

C: But deliver us from evil.

M: And finally we pray that God would deliver us from all evils of body and soul now and forever.

C: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

M: All those who sincerely desire these things will say from their hearts "Amen," trusting without doubt that their prayers are answered in heaven, as Christ has promised: "Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you will received it, and it will be yours."

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Preface

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up unto the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is good and right so to do

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord who has called us to be his own that we may live under him in his kingdom and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness.

Hymn:

CW21 (BLUE): #916 (3) TODAY YOUR MERCY CALLS US

Today our Father calls us; His Holy Spirit waits.

His blessed angels gather Around the heav'nly gates.

No question will be asked us How often we have come;

Although we oft have wandered, It is our Father's home.

The Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread: and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Hymn

CW21 BLUE #743 (2): I HEAR THE SAVIOR CALLING

I hear the Savior calling! He leads a soul to me,

A soul in bitter anguish, One needing to be free.

The gift I have to offer Is Christ, my Lord's decree

That all have been forgiven --My Savior calls for me!

The Distribution

Thank you for honoring our practice of "close" communion. The Bible teaches that participating in the Lord's Supper is an expression of complete unity of faith (1 Cor. 10:17). We lovingly ask, therefore, that before joining in this, the highest act of fellowship, a unity of faith based on the Bible be established through membership in this congregation or in a sister congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). We are most eager for you to join us in the unity of faith and confession we enjoy. If you would like to discuss "close" communion or any other spiritual matter with the pastor, please indicate this on the Friendship Register.

The Distribution Hymns

Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery (IMPORTED)

CW21 (BLUE): #535

Music used with permission CCLI License 11209822

Behold Our God (IMPORTED)

T4G LIVE - Music used with permission CCLI License 11209822

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.

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:

