

For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us ETERNAL glory that outweighs all ETERNAL



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.



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## Pentecost 5 – June 23, 2024

# 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

# Grace ~ "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations..."

Lutheran Synod (WELS).

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

C: whose glory is declared by the heavens,

M: and of the Son

C: who calls us to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth,

M: and of the Holy Spirit

C: who empowers us to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth. Amen.

## HYMN CW21 Blue #633 (1): Speak, O Lord

Speak, O Lord, as we come to you
To receive the food of your Holy Word.
Take your truth, plant it deep in us;
Shape and fashion us in your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
All your purposes for your glory.

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

- M: Gracious Lord, through your Word you have revealed to us again and again the unsearchable riches of Christ, but again and again we confess that we have failed to recognize how richly we have been blessed.
- C: "To me—even though I am the very least of all the saints—was given this grace: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ." -Eph. 3:8
- M: We confess that we have often failed to fully appreciate all you have done for us in Christ, and have failed to share the message of your love and grace with others as we should.
- C: "How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?" -Romans 10:14
- M: We confess that so often we have overlooked the needs of those who live near us and have shown so little concern for those who are far away.
- C: "Against you, you only, have I sinned, and I have done this evil in your eyes.

  Be gracious to me, God, according to your mercy." -Psalm 51
- M: Lord, increase our faith. Through the Gospel in Word and Sacrament give to us a heart that loves you more each day, a faith that grows stronger in every circumstance, and a life that clearly reflects the vast riches of your love.

HYMN

CW21 Blue #633 (2): Speak, O Lord

Teach us, Lord, full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail,
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

#### ABSOLUTION

M: Because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. 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. -Eph. 2:4-9

C: For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. -Ephesians 2:10

HYMN

CW21 Blue #633 (3): Speak, O Lord

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,
That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on your promises,
And by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, as your Church is built
And you fill the earth with your glory.

## Prayer of the Day

M: Almighty God, you gave your one and only Son to be the light of the world. Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and believed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever.

### The Word

#### GOD'S WORD FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 43:1-7

But now this is what the Lord says, the Lord who created you, O Jacob, the Lord who formed you, O Israel. Do not be afraid, because I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine. When you cross through the waters, I will be with you. When you cross the rivers, they will not sweep you away. When you walk through fire, you will not be burned, and the flame will not set you on fire. Because I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior, I gave Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious and honored in my eyes, and I myself love you, I will give people in exchange for you, and peoples in exchange for your life. Do not be afraid, because I am with you. From the east I will bring your offspring, and from the west I will gather you. I will say to the north, "Give them back!" and to the south, "Do not hold them." Bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth— everyone who is called by my name, everyone I created for my glory, everyone I formed, yes, everyone I have made.

HYMN CW21 Blue #631: Speak, O Savior, I Am Listening Speak, O Savior; I am list'ning, As a servant to his lord.
Let me show respect and honor, To your holy, precious Word,
That each day, my whole life through, I may serve and follow you.
Let your Word e'er be my pleasure, and my heart's most precious treasure.

#### GOD'S WORD FROM THE EPISTLES

Hebrews 12:1-3

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, <sup>2</sup> fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup> Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

#### HYMN

CW21 Blue #631: Speak, O Savior, I Am Listening

Lord, your words are waters living, where I quench my thirsty needs. Lord, your words are bread life-giving; on your words my spirit feeds. Lord, your words will be my light, through death's cold and dreary night; Yes, they are my sword prevailing, and my cup of joy unfailing.

VERSE OF THE DAY Romans 8:18

Alleluia. "I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us" Alleluia.

<sup>19</sup> "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. <sup>20</sup> At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores <sup>21</sup> and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

<sup>22</sup> "The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup> In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. <sup>24</sup> So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.'

<sup>25</sup> "But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. <sup>26</sup> And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.'

<sup>27</sup> "He answered, 'Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, <sup>28</sup> for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.' <sup>29</sup> "Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.' <sup>30</sup> "'No, father Abraham,' he said, 'but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.'

<sup>31</sup> "He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.""

#### HYMN

CW21 Blue #631: Speak, O Savior, I Am Listening

As I pray, dear Jesus, hear me; let your words in me take root. May your Spirit e'er be near me, that I bear abundant fruit. May I daily sing your praise, from my heart glad anthems raise, Till my highest praise is given, in the endless joy of heaven.

#### THE APOSTLE'S 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.

Hark! the voice of Jesus crying,
"Who will go and work today?
Fields are ripe and harvests waiting;
Who will bear the sheaves away?"
Loud and long the Master calleth;
Rich reward he offers thee.
Who will answer, gladly saying,
"Here am I --send me, send me?"

If you cannot speak like angels,
If you cannot preach like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus;
You can say he died for all.
If you cannot rouse the wicked
With the Judgment's dread alarms,
You can lead the little children
To the Savior's waiting arms.

If you cannot be a watchman,
Standing high on Zion's wall,
Pointing out the path to heaven,
Off'ring life and peace to all,
With your prayers and with your off'rings
You can do what God demands;
You can be like faithful Aaron,
Holding up the prophet's hands.
Let none hear you idly saying,

"There is nothing I can do,"
While the multitudes are dying,
And the Master calls for you.
Take the task he gives you gladly;
Let his work your pleasure be.
Answer quickly when he calleth,
"Here am I --send me, send me!"

THE SERMON 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. 17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. 18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

## Thanksgiving

#### THE OFFERING

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



#### THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

#### THE BENEDICTION

#### CLOSING HYMN CW21 Blue #376

Rise Up and Shine

Rise up and shine! Your light has come; God's glory breaks like dawn. For though the earth be cloaked in night, and gloom shrouds everyone, Yet over you the Lord will rise, with glory gleaming clear, Till nations turn to seek your light, and humbled kings draw near.

Fling wide your gates, both day and night; no more keep watch or guard. You will be called God's holy hill, the City of the Lord. No sound of strife will plague your land, nor harm besiege your ways; "Salvation" will you name your walls, and all your portals "Praise."

No more will you implore the sun, to shed by day its light, Nor will you need the changeful moon, to glisten through the night. Your glory then will be your God, whose light will never cease. Rise up and shine! Your light has come, to give you joy and peace.