

Conversations
with God
How much are you worth?



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 Sixth Sunday of Pentecost July 9, 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**

I sing as I arise today, I call on my Creator's might:

The will of God to be my guide, The eye of God to be my sight,

The word of God to be my speech, The hand of God to be my stay,

The shield of God to be my strength, The path of God to be my way,

The work of God to be my joy, The house of God to be my rest,

The grace of God to be my song, The praise of God to be my best.

I sing as I arise today; I cry out my Redeemer's name:

Lord Jesus Christ, my hope, my all, Today and evermore the same.

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

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. 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. O Lord have mercy on us!**

ABSOLUTION

M: This is the message we heard from him and proclaim to you: God is light.

C: **In him there is no darkness at all.**

M: If we say we have fellowship with him but still walk in darkness, we are lying and do not put the truth into practice.

C: **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.**

– 1 John 1:5-7

M: Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

COME OH, COME LET US SING TO THE LORD



Come oh, come, let us sing to the Lord, let us shout with joy to our sav-ing Rock;



come, en-ter in with our songs of praise, come, en-ter in with thanks - giv - ing.



VERSES
You are a great and a won-drous God, cup-ping in your hands all the
Come, let us wor-ship and bow - ing low, kneel be-fore the One who has



depths of earth. You made the hills and the moun - tains high,
made us all. You are the God whom we call our own,



you made the seas and the dry land.
we are the flock that you shep-herd.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: O God, you have prepared joys beyond understanding for those who love you. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Refrain



I will hear what the Lord pro-claims: peace to his peo - ple.

The LORD is compassionate and gracious,*
slow to anger, abounding in love.

He does not treat us as our sins deserve*
or repay us according to our iniquities.

For as high as the heavens are above the earth,*
so great is his love for those who fear him;

as far as the east is from the west,*
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Refrain



I will hear what the Lord pro-claims: peace to his peo - ple.

As a father has compassion on his children,*
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;

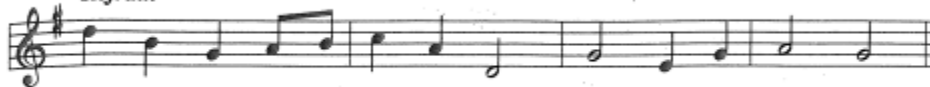
for he knows how we are formed,*
he remembers that we are dust.

Our days are like grass, like a flower of the field;*
the wind blows over it and it is gone.

But the LORD'S love is with those who fear him*
from everlasting to everlasting.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain



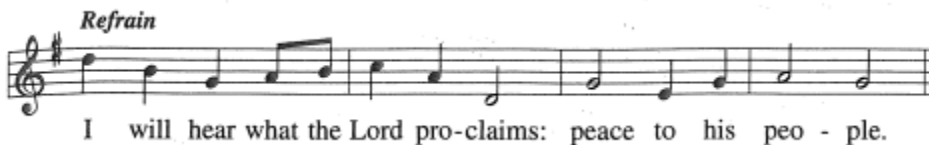
I will hear what the Lord pro-claims: peace to his peo - ple.

¹³ But now in Christ Jesus, you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he himself is our peace. He made the two groups one by destroying the wall of hostility that divided them ¹⁵ when he abolished the law of commandments and regulations in his flesh. He did this to create in himself one new person out of the two, in this way making peace. ¹⁶ And he did this to reconcile both to God in one body through the cross by putting the hostility to death on it. ¹⁷ He also came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. ¹⁹ So then, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of God's household. ²⁰ You have been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the Cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord. ²² In him you too are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Mark 8:34b

Alleluia. Alleluia. If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. Alleluia.

**THE GOSPEL LESSON**

Luke 15:11-32

¹¹ Jesus said, "A certain man had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³ Not many days later, the younger son gathered together all that he had and traveled to a distant country. There he wasted his wealth with reckless living. ¹⁴ After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ He went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ He would have liked to fill his stomach with the carob pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, and I am dying from hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up, go to my father, and tell him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.'" ²⁰ "He got up and went to his father. While he was still far away, his father saw him and was filled with compassion. He ran, hugged his son, and kissed him. ²¹ The son

said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

²² “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick, bring out the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let us eat and celebrate, ²⁴ because this son of mine was dead and is alive again. He was lost and is found.’ Then they began to celebrate.

²⁵ “His older son was in the field. As he approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the servants and asked what was going on. ²⁷ The servant told him, ‘Your brother is here! Your father killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ The older brother was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him.

²⁹ “He answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I’ve been serving you, and I never disobeyed your command, but you never gave me even a young goat so that I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours arrived after wasting your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’

³¹ “The father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. ³² But it was fitting to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again. He was lost and is found.’”

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.

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. 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

OUR 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 & THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE HYMN:

CW21 Blue #878 (1): Christ Alone the World's Redeemer

Christ alone the world's Redeemer,

God's own begotten Son,

Christ, the sacrifice for sinners,

By his death salvation won.

Christ alone our mediator,

Christ alone our Great High Priest,

In his righteousness he clothes us.

Christ alone is our true peace.

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.

THE HYMN:

CW21 Blue #878 (3): Christ Alone the World's Redeemer

*Grace alone, and not our working,
Brings salvation unto all.
Grace alone! Your gifts you give us,
As we hear your gentle call.
Unimagined love exchanging,
All our sin for righteousness,
Grace on grace thro' Christ receiving
Clothed in his own holiness.*

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. We are most eager for you to join us in the unity of faith and confession we enjoy.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

“Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared” – Olivia Baker, Lilly Glsheen, Marilyn Baer
Other music for distribution will be imported.

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 upon you with favor and give you peace.
C: Amen.

THE HYMN:

CW21 Blue #878 (5): Christ Alone the World's Redeemer

*Unto God be praise and glory,
To the Father, and the Son,
And to God the Holy Spirit;
Glory to the Three in One!
Hymned by saints of earth and heaven,
And by angels at his throne,
All creation joins to praise him:
Glory be to God alone!*