



*Conversations*  
with God

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*Forgive, As The Lord Forgave You*



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)

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## Pentecost 9 – July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Guest Preacher: Rev. Ib Meyer – Grace Lutheran Church, Grenada

*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**

## BELL PEAL & WELCOME

THE OPENING HYMN: CW21 Blue #504: “We Sing the Almighty Power of God”

*We sing th' almighty pow'r of God,  
Who made the mountains rise,  
Who spread the flowing seas abroad  
And built the lofty skies.*

*We sing the goodness of the Lord,  
Who fills the earth with food,  
Who formed the creatures by a word  
And then pronounced them good.*

*There's not a plant or flow'r below  
But makes your glories known,  
And clouds arise and tempests blow  
By order from your throne.*

### Invocation

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

### 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.**

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.**

M: Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ.

**C: Your great mercy reaches above the heavens, and your faithfulness to the skies.**

THE HYMN:

CW21 Blue #626 (1): "My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness"

*My heart is filled with thankfulness  
To Him who bore my pain;  
Who plumbed the depths of my disgrace  
And gave me life again;  
Who crushed my curse of sinfulness  
And clothed me in His light  
And wrote His law of righteousness  
With pow'r upon my heart.*

### Absolution

- M:** This is the message we heard from him and proclaim to you: God is light. In him there is no darkness at all.
- C:** **If we say we have fellowship with him but still walk in darkness, we are lying and do not put the truth into practice.**
- M:** 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.
- C:** **If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** – 1 John 1:5-9
- M:** God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, 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.

THE HYMN:

CW21 Blue #626 (2): "My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness"

*My heart is filled with thankfulness  
To Him who walks beside;  
Who floods my weaknesses with strength  
And causes fears to fly;  
Whose ev'ry promise is enough  
For ev'ry step I take,  
Sustaining me with arms of love  
And crowning me with grace.*

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

- M:** Grant us, Lord, the spirit to think and do what is right that we, who cannot do anything that is good without you, may by your help be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.**

# ✘ The Word ✘

## THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 50:15-21

Evangelical Heritage Version (EHV)

<sup>15</sup> When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and will pay us back in full for all of the evil that we did to him."

<sup>16</sup> They sent the following message to Joseph: "Before he died your father commanded us, <sup>17</sup> 'You are to tell Joseph, "Please forgive the offense of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.'" Now, please forgive the offense of the servants of the God of your father."

Joseph wept when they spoke to him.

<sup>18</sup> His brothers also came and fell down in front of him, and they said, "See now, we are your servants."

<sup>19</sup> Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup> You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring this to pass and to keep many people alive, as it is this day. <sup>21</sup> Now therefore, do not be afraid. I will nourish you and your little ones." He comforted them and spoke to them in a kind way.

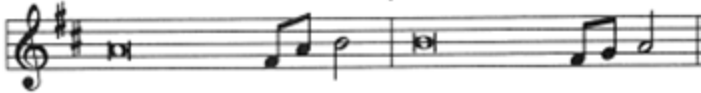
## THE PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 34

### Refrain



### Psalm tone



Taste and see that the **L**ORD is good;\*  
blessed are they who take refuge in him.

The eyes of the **L**ORD are on the righteous\*  
and his ears are attentive to their cry.

The angel of the **L**ORD encamps around those who fear him,\*  
and he delivers them.

### Refrain

The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them;\*  
he delivers them from all their troubles.

The LORD is close to the brokenhearted\*  
and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

The LORD redeems his servants;\*  
no one who takes refuge in him will be condemned.

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*

## THE SECOND LESSON

**Colossians 3:5-14**

Evangelical Heritage Version (EHV)

<sup>5</sup> So put to death whatever is worldly in you: sexual immorality, uncleanness, lust, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry. <sup>6</sup> It is because of these things that the wrath of God is coming on the sons of disobedience. <sup>7</sup> You too once walked in these things, when you were living in them.

<sup>8</sup> But now, you too are to rid yourselves of all of these: wrath, anger, malice, slander, and filthy language from your mouth. <sup>9</sup> Do not lie to each other since you have put off the old self with its practices, <sup>10</sup> and put on the new self, which is continually being renewed in knowledge, according to the image of its Creator. <sup>11</sup> Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcision or uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but rather Christ is all and is in all.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, as God's elect, holy and loved, clothe yourselves with heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. <sup>13</sup> Bear with one another and forgive each other if anyone has a complaint against anyone else. Forgive, just as Christ forgave you. <sup>14</sup> And, in addition to all these things, put on love, which ties things together in perfect unity.

## VERSE OF THE DAY

**Colossians 3:15**

Evangelical Heritage Version (EHV)

**M:** Alleluia. Let the peace of Christ control your hearts, to which you were also called, in one body. And be thankful. Alleluia.

**THE HYMN: CW21 Blue #626 (3): “My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness”**

*My heart is filled with thankfulness  
To him who reigns above,  
Whose wisdom is my perfect peace,  
Whose ev'ry thought is love.  
For ev'ry day I have on earth  
Is given by the King;  
So I will give my life, my all,  
To love and follow him.*

**THE GOSPEL LESSON**

**John 8:1-11**

Evangelical Heritage Version (EHV)

But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. <sup>2</sup> Early in the morning, he came back into the temple courts. And all the people kept coming to him. He sat down and taught them. <sup>3</sup> Then the scribes and Pharisees brought a woman caught in adultery and had her stand in the center. <sup>4</sup> “Teacher,” they said to him, “this woman was caught in the act of committing adultery. <sup>5</sup> In the Law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?” <sup>6</sup> They asked this to test him, so that they might have evidence to accuse him.

Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. <sup>7</sup> But when they kept on asking him for an answer, he stood up and said to them, “Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” <sup>8</sup> Then he stooped down again and wrote on the ground.

<sup>9</sup> When they heard this, they went away one by one, beginning with the older men. Jesus was left alone with the woman in the center. <sup>10</sup> Jesus stood up and said to her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?”

<sup>11</sup> “No one, Lord,” she answered.

Then Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin anymore.”

**M:** This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**C:** Praise be to you, O Christ!

**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.

THE HYMN:

CW21 Blue #704: "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

*Let us ever walk with Jesus, Follow his example pure,  
Flee the world which would deceive us, And to sin our souls allure.  
Ever in his footsteps treading, Body here, yet soul above,  
Full of faith and hope and love, Let us do the Father's bidding.  
Faithful Lord, abide with me. Savior, lead; I follow thee.*

*Let us suffer here with Jesus, To his image e'er conform;  
Heaven's glory soon will please us, Sunshine follow on the storm.  
Though we sow in tears of sorrow, We shall reap in heav'nly joy,  
And the fears that now annoy Shall be laughter on the morrow.  
Christ, I suffer here with thee; There, oh, share thy joy with me.*

*Let us also die with Jesus. His death from the second death,  
From our soul's destruction, frees us, Quickens us with life's glad breath.  
Let us mortify, while living, Flesh and blood and die to sin,  
And the grave that shuts us in, Shall but prove the gate to heaven.  
Jesus, here I die to thee, There to live eternally.*

*Let us gladly live with Jesus; Since he's risen from the dead,  
Death and grave must soon release us. Jesus, thou art now our head.  
We are truly thine own members; Where thou livest, there live we.  
Take and own us constantly, Faithful Friend, as thy dear brethren.  
Jesus, here I live to thee, Also there eternally.*

THE SERMON

Colossians 3:5-15



## ✠ 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

**M:** Eternal Lord, you speak to us in words of love and light and power. Fill us with peace today as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Guide our lives today as we see clearly the path you have laid out for us. Work in us today through your Spirit that our thoughts, words, and actions glorify you and serve our neighbor.

**C:** **Fill us with the Word we have heard today and move us to believe it and live it.**

**M:** Provide courage and compassion to all who preach and teach your Word. Take away their fear of criticism and contention and make them bold to say what you say. Fill them with a love like yours and lead them to announce the forgiveness of sins as your free gift to us and all people.

**C:** **Move us to love all ministers of the Word wherever they serve.**

**M:** Forgive us for the times we hear your Word but fail to live it in our lives. Break down the apathy that lurks in us and leads us to ignore eternal realities. Convict us with your law and then fill us so full of your gospel that we overflow with zeal to do your will.

**C:** **Give us thankful hearts to live and love with joy.**

**M:** Guard and guide us as we live in a society that despises what you say about marriage. Lead husbands and wives to love each other with commitment, respect, and patience. Move parents to grasp the eternal value of keeping their children close to Jesus even when their children grow up.

**C:** **Protect us from the evil that surrounds us; give us pure hearts and minds.**

**M:** Provide your divine compass for those who govern us by making laws and setting policies. Give us respect for those who protect us from crime and aggression. Lead us to value the rights of our fellow citizens and to care for those who cannot care for themselves.

**C:** **Bless our land with peace and prosperity so that the gospel may be proclaimed.**

- M: Give us passion to share the story of your love with our family and friends. Overcome unbelief and open the hearts of people everywhere to believe the good news that Jesus has forgiven their sins and opened the gates of heaven.
- C: Fill us with joy over every sinner who repents and comes to trust in your grace.**
- M: Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind. Fill eager minds with wisdom to discover new ways to treat disease and illness. Give patience and compassion to those who care for the sick and dying.

*Special prayer requests may be included here.*

- M: Eternal Lord, you guide the world with your mighty power and love all people because your Son lived and died and rose again. Hear our prayers, spoken and in silence, and answer them in your wisdom and grace.

### 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 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 #798 (1): I Lay My Sins on Jesus

*I lay my sins on Jesus, The spotless Lamb of God;  
He bears them all and frees us, From the accursed load.  
I bring my guilt to Jesus, to wash my crimson stains  
White in his blood most precious, till not a spot remains.*

## THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

**C: By his incarnation, he became one with us.  
By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.  
By his innocent death, he overcame hell.  
By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.**

M: Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting. Amen.

## THE HYMN:

CW21 Blue #798 (2): I Lay My Sins on Jesus

***I lay my wants on Jesus; All fullness dwells in him.  
He heals all my diseases; My soul he does redeem.  
I lay my griefs on Jesus, My burdens and my cares;  
He from them all releases; He all my sorrows shares.***

## 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 #798 (3): I Lay My Sins on Jesus

***I rest my soul on Jesus, This weary soul of mine.  
His right hand me embraces; I in his arms recline.  
I love the name of Jesus, Immanuel, Christ, the Lord;  
Like fragrance on the breezes His name abroad is poured.***

## 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.

## 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 #798 (4): I Lay My Sins on Jesus

*I long to be like Jesus: Meek, loving, lowly, mild;  
I long to be like Jesus, The Father's holy child.  
I long to be with Jesus, Amid the heav'nly throng!  
To sing with saints his praises, To learn the angels' song.*

