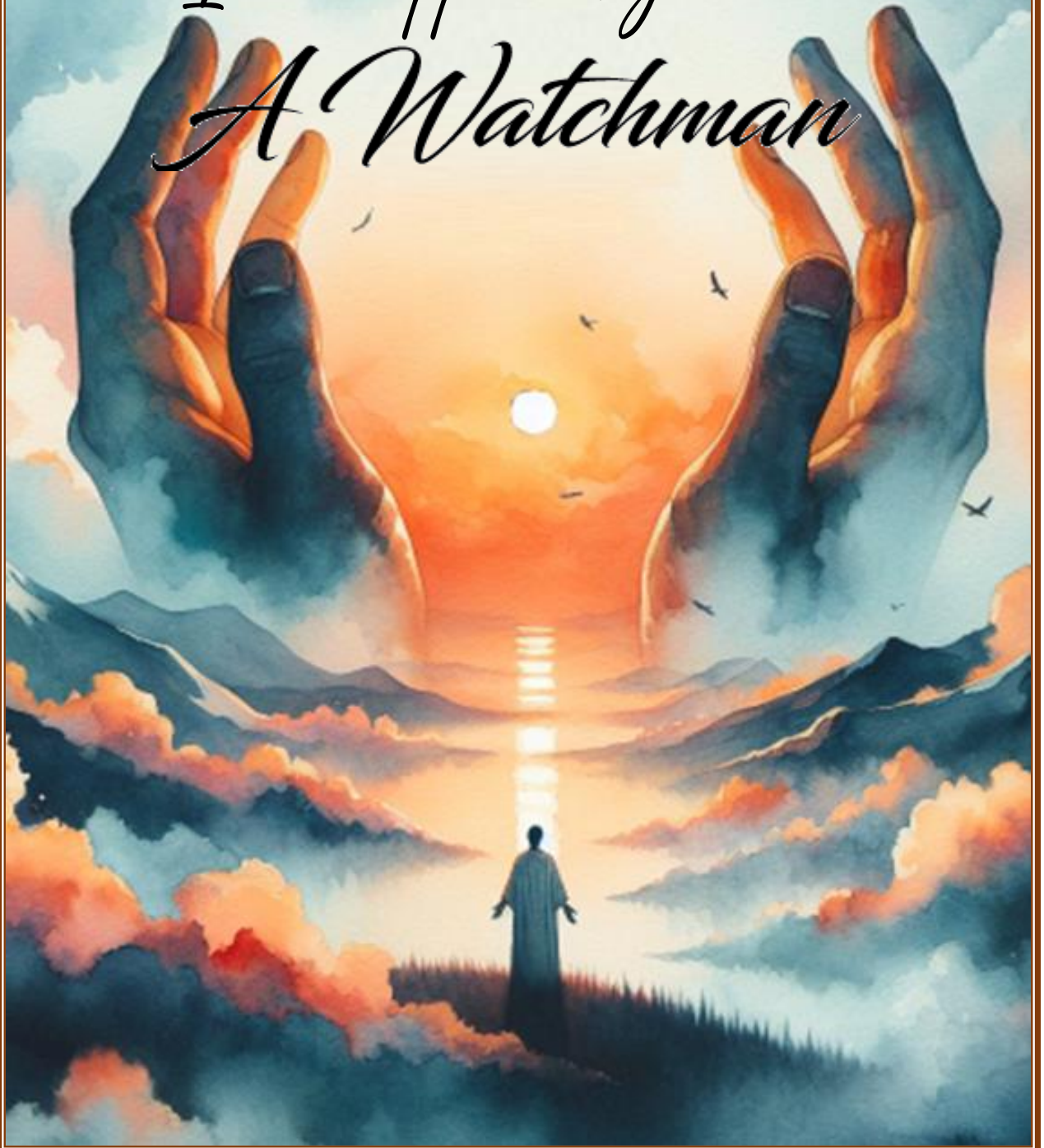


*I have appointed you to be...*  
*A Watchman*





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)

## Pentecost 14 August 25th, 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 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**  
**Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and forever! Amen.” 2 Peter 3:18**

## The Opening Hymn:

“Father, God of Grace, You Knew Us”  
CW21 566 (1-5) CWS #753 (6 – Please rise to sing)

Father, God of grace, you knew us,  
Chose us, named us as your own,  
Through eternal ages planning  
To redeem us in your Son.  
Praise the Father, God who loved us  
Ere creation was begun!

We, your creatures, sinned against you,  
And our guilt was crimson red.  
Son of God, you came incarnate,  
Crushed the crafty serpent's head,  
Died our death, now live triumphant:  
Praise the firstborn from the dead!

Counselor, you bring as promised  
From the Father and the Son  
Righteousness fulfilled, accomplished,  
Free forgiveness, heaven won.  
Praise the Spirit! He assures us  
Our salvation's work is done!

Lord, your changeless Word has fed us,  
Spanning time, transcending space.  
Water, bread, and wine sustained us  
When the darkness hid your face.  
Keep us with you, faithful Shepherd,  
By your saving means of grace!

Forward lead us; Christ, we follow,  
Drawn by Word and promise true: j  
“To all nations preach the gospel;  
I am evermore with you.”  
Keep us faithful! Then, Lord Jesus,  
Quickly come! Make all things new! (Please Rise)

Praise the Father, great Creator.  
Praise the Son, who took our place.  
Praise the Spirit, Sanctifier,  
God of free and faithful grace!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.

## 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.**

## 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.”***  
-Ephesians 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.

## Song

### Trisagion

Fernando Ortega

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Lyrics Displayed On Screen

## 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.

-Ephesians 2:4-9

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.

**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: #855 (1-3): The Church's One Foundation

*The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
She is his new creation By water and the Word.  
From heav'n he came and sought her To be his holy bride;  
With his own blood he bought her, And for her life he died.*

*Elect from ev'ry nation, Yet one o'er all the earth;  
Her charter of salvation: One Lord, one faith, one birth.  
One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses, With ev'ry grace endued.*

*The Church shall never perish. Her dear Lord, to defend,  
To guide, sustain, and cherish, Is with her to the end.  
Though there be those that hate her And strive to see her fail,  
Against both foe and traitor She ever shall prevail.*

## Prayer of the Day

**M:** Heavenly Father, You have called us from many races and tongues to be witnesses of the Good News of Your Son to every nation, tribe, language and people. Help us to share your precious Gospel with all who have not heard of your great love for them; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

## The Word

### God's Word from The Old Testament

Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. 2 Above him stood the seraphim. Each one had six wings. With two they covered their faces. With two they covered their feet. With two they flew. 3 One called to another and said, Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Armies! The whole earth is full of his glory! 4 The foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of the one who called, and the temple was filled with smoke.

5 Then I said, "I am doomed! I am ruined, because I am a man with unclean lips, and I dwell among a people with unclean lips, and because my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of Armies!"

6 Then one of the seraphim flew to me, carrying a glowing coal in his hand, which he had taken from the altar with tongs. 7 He touched my mouth with the coal and said, "Look, this has touched your lips, so your guilt is taken away, and your sin is forgiven."

8 Then I heard the Lord's voice, saying, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am. Send me!"

### Choir

**Here I Am, Lord**  
*by Dan Schutte*

### God's Word from The Epistles

Romans 10:9-17

<sup>9</sup> Certainly, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For it is with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and it is with the mouth that a person confesses, resulting in salvation. <sup>11</sup> For Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame."

<sup>12</sup> So there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, because the same Lord is Lord of all, who gives generously to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup> Yes, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

<sup>14</sup> So then, how can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one about whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without a preacher? <sup>15</sup> And how can they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news of peace, who preach the gospel of good things!"

<sup>16</sup> But not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who believed our message?" <sup>17</sup> So then, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message comes through the word of Christ.

## Psalm 67 – CW21 Blue

### God's Word from The Gospel

John 4:34-38

<sup>34</sup> “My food,” said Jesus, “is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. <sup>35</sup> Don't you have a saying, ‘It's still four months until harvest?’ I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. <sup>36</sup> Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. <sup>37</sup> Thus the saying ‘One sows and another reaps’ is true. <sup>38</sup> I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor.”

### Hymn:

CW21 Blue #745: Hark! The Voice of Jesus Crying

*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**

**Ezekiel 33:1-11**

The word of the Lord came to me. 2 Son of man, speak to your countrymen and say this to them. When I bring a sword against a land, and the people of the land appoint one man from their midst as their watchman, 3 and that man sees the sword coming upon the land and blows the ram's horn to warn the people, 4 then if anyone who hears the sound of the ram's horn does not heed the warning, and as a result the sword comes and takes him away, his blood will be on his own head. 5 He heard the sound of the ram's horn, but he did not take warning, so his own blood is on him. If he had heeded the warning, he would have saved his life.

6 But if the watchman sees the sword coming but does not blow the ram's horn, and as a result the people are not warned, then if the sword comes and takes one of them away, that man has been taken away because of his own guilt, but I will also hold the watchman responsible for his blood.

7 But I have appointed you, son of man, to be a watchman for the house of Israel. So whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you are to warn them from me. 8 When I say to a wicked man, "Wicked man, you shall surely die," if you do not speak to warn the wicked man against his way, that wicked man will die because of his guilt, but I will also hold you responsible for his blood. 9 But if you do warn the wicked man to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, he will die because of his guilt, but you will have saved your life.

10 So you, son of man, say the following to the house of Israel.

This is what you people are saying: "Certainly our rebellion and our sins weigh us down, and because of them we are rotting away. How then can we live?" 11 Say to them, "As I live, declares the Lord God, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked turn from their way and live. Turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why should you die, O house of Israel?"



# 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:*



## The Rite of Commissioning

## Choir

**Go Now in Peace**  
by Don Besig and Nancy Price

## The Prayer of the Church

### 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.**

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 #917 (1) "God Himself Is Present"

*God himself is present --Let us now adore him  
And with awe appear before him.  
God is in his temple --All within keep silence,  
Humbly kneel in deepest rev'rence.  
He alone. On his throne.  
Is our God and Savior; Praise his name forever!*

### 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.

Hymn:

CW21 Blue #917 (2) "God Himself Is Present"

*God himself is present --Hear the harps resounding;  
See the hosts the throne surrounding.  
"Holy, holy, holy" --Hear the hymn ascending,  
Songs of saints and angels blending.  
Bow your ear. To us here:  
Hear, O Christ, the praises, that your Church now raises.*

### 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 #917 (3) "God Himself Is Present"**

*Fount of ev'ry blessing, Purify my spirit,  
Trusting only in your merit.  
Like the holy angels, Worshiping before you,  
May I ceaselessly adore you.  
All my days, shall my praise  
Rise to you in heaven, for the grace you've given!*

### **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 Hymn**

CW21 Blue 856 Built On the Rock

### **The Communion Blessing**

### **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.**

## Closing Hymn

## Closing Prayer



The time has come, O Lord \_\_ for us to leave this place; \_\_ Guide us and pro-  
tect us and lead us in thy grace. \_\_ Wher- ev- er life may take\_ us as we go our  
sep'-rate ways, \_\_ Help us share with oth-ers\_ the things we've shared to -day. \_\_ May the  
peace of God the Fa-ther \_ and the love of Christ, His Son \_\_ guide us in the days a-head \_ and  
strength-en us, each one. \_\_ May the blessings of \_\_ the Spir - it \_\_ fill us from with-in; \_\_  
God bless us and re-turn\_ us \_\_ to this fel - low - ship \_ once a - gain.



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