



# Wrestling

with God.





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 19 – October 16<sup>th</sup>, 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**

1 Oh, how good it is when the fam - 'ly of God dwells to -  
 (2 Oh, how) good it is on this jour - ney we share to re -  
 (3 Oh, how) good it is to em - brace his com - mand to pre -

geth - er in spir - it, in faith and u - ni - ty. Where the  
 joice with the hap - py and weep with those who mourn. For the  
 fer one an - oth - er, for - give as he for - gives. When we

bonds of peace, of ac - cept - ance and love are the  
 weak find strength, the af - flict - ed find grace when we  
 live as one we all share in the love of the

fruits of his pres - ence here a - mong us.  
 of - fer the bless - ing of be - long - ing. So  
 Son with the Fa - ther and the Spir - it.

Refrain

with one voice we'll sing to the Lord, and

with one heart we'll live out his

word, till the whole earth sees the Re-deem-er has

come, for he dwells in the pres-ence of his peo

ple. 2 Oh, how  
3 Oh, how ple.

## The Invocation

- M:** In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.
- M:** “Fellow believers, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. This man was handed over to you by God’s deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him... Therefore, be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.” Acts 2:22-24,36
- C:** **“What shall I do?” For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus’ sake!**
- M:** “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins... The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.” Acts 2:38-39

## ABSOLUTION

- M:** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. 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:** **God is light. In him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say we have fellowship with him but still walk in darkness, we are lying and do not put the truth into practice. <sup>7</sup>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.** John 1:5-7

**The Hymn of Praise:** CW21 Blue #721 (1) **“What A Friend We Have in Jesus”**

*What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry Ev'rything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit, Oh, what needless pain we bear,  
All because we do not carry Ev'rything to God in prayer!*

## THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**M:** Lord God, you call us to work in your kingdom and leave no one standing idle. Help us to order our lives by your wisdom and to serve you in willing obedience; 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:

1 John 5:13-15

<sup>13</sup> I have written these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. <sup>14</sup> This is the confidence that we have before him: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. <sup>15</sup> And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we also know that we receive the things we have asked from him.

### The Hymn of Praise:

CW21 Blue #721 (2) “What A Friend We Have in Jesus”

*Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?*

*We should never be discouraged --Take it to the Lord in prayer.*

*Can we find a friend so faithful Who will all our sorrows share?*

*Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness --Take it to the Lord in prayer.*

### The Gospel Lesson:

LUKE 18:1-18

Jesus told them a parable about the need to always pray and not lose heart: <sup>2</sup> “There was a judge in a certain town who did not fear God and did not care about people. <sup>3</sup> There was a widow in that town, and she kept going to him, saying, ‘Give me justice from my adversary!’ <sup>4</sup> For some time he refused, but after a while he said to himself, ‘Even though I do not fear God or care about people, <sup>5</sup> yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice so that she will not wear me out with her endless pleading.’”

<sup>6</sup> The Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. <sup>7</sup> Will not God give justice to his chosen ones, who are crying out to him day and night? Will he put off helping them? <sup>8</sup> I tell you that he will give them justice quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?”

### The Hymn of Praise:

CW21 Blue #721 (3) “What A Friend We Have in Jesus”

*Are we weak and heavy laden, Cumbered with a load of care?*

*Precious Savior, still our refuge --Take it to the Lord in prayer.*

*Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.*

*In his arms he'll take and shield you; You will find a solace there.*

## 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.

The Hymn of the Day: CW21 Blue #493 (1,3-4) “Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

*Rejoice, rejoice, believers, And let your lights appear;  
The evening is advancing, And darker night is near.  
The Bridegroom is arising And soon is drawing nigh.  
Up, pray and watch and wrestle; At midnight comes the cry.*

*You saints who here in patience, Your cross and suff'rings bore,  
Shall live and reign forever When sorrow is no more.  
Around the throne of glory, The Lamb you shall behold;  
In triumph lay before him Your shining crowns of gold.*

*Arise, Desire of nations; O Jesus, now appear,  
The Hope and Expectation Of ev'ry Christian here.  
With hearts and hands uplifted, We plead, O Lord, to see  
The day of earth's redemption That sets your people free.*

## The Sermon:

**Genesis 32:22-20**

<sup>22</sup> He got up that night and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven sons, and crossed over the ford of the Jabbok. <sup>23</sup> He took them and sent them across the stream, and he also sent his possessions across. <sup>24</sup> Jacob was left alone, and he wrestled with a man there until daybreak. <sup>25</sup> When the man saw that he could not defeat him, he touched the socket of his thigh, and the socket of Jacob's thigh was dislocated as he wrestled. <sup>26</sup> The man said, “Let me go. It's daybreak.”

Jacob said, “I will not let you go unless you bless me.”

<sup>27</sup> Then he said to him, “What is your name?”

He said, “Jacob.”

<sup>28</sup> Then he said, “Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have fought with God and with men, and you have won.”

<sup>29</sup> Jacob asked him, “Please tell me your name.”

He said, “Why do you ask what my name is?” Then he blessed him there.

<sup>30</sup> Jacob named the place Peniel, because he said, “I have seen God face-to-face, and my life has been spared.”

## THANKSGIVING

### **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 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 Hymn Of Praise:**

**CW21 Blue #930 “Go, My Children, With My Blessing”**

***Go, my children, with my blessing, Never alone.***

***Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are my own.***

***In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.***

***Go, my children, with my blessing -You are my own.***

***Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.***

***Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.***

***Here you heard my dear Son's story; Here you touched him, saw his glory.***

***Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.***

***Go, my children, fed and nourished, Closer to me;***

***Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.***

***Here my Spirit's power filled you; Here his tender comfort stilled you.***

***Go, my children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.***

***I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;***

***I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace;***

***I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother.***

***Go, my children; I will keep you And give you peace.***