

# Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

3700 WASHINGTON AVENUE – RACINE, WISCONSIN 53405-2999

PHONE (262) 633-4831; www.gracelutheranracine.net

REV. BRIAN T. CRANE, PASTOR

(608) 567-9029 (MOBILE); revbriancrane@yahoo.com

## October & November 2022

\*\*\*\*\*

**“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.” (Numbers 6:24–26)**

Dear Friends in Christ:

By now you have probably heard that I accepted the Divine Call to serve as pastor of Eternal Life Lutheran Church in Mesa, Arizona. After careful and prayerful consideration, I believe the Holy Spirit has led me to accept this call so that the will of God for His Church might be done.

My last Sunday at Grace will be September 25, 2022. I will leave for Arizona shortly thereafter. My installation as the pastor of Eternal Life Lutheran Church will be held on Sunday, October 9, 2022. Tabitha will remain in Racine for a few more weeks as she finishes packing our belongings and preparing our house to be sold. Annika is staying in Cedarburg to finish her senior year at Concordia University Wisconsin. In mid-October, Tabitha and Annika will fly down to Phoenix with our cat Louis to bring him to Arizona. That will be an adventure for all three of them!

I give thanks to God for allowing me to serve as Grace’s pastor these past five years. While my time here had some challenges, I received many blessings also. I believe God has used these experiences to help strengthen me as a pastor and to equip and prepare me for this new chapter of ministry in Arizona. Racine and southeastern Wisconsin are blessed with many LCMS congregations; however, there are relatively few in Mesa. I am eager to serve the people of Eternal Life and of the Mesa/east Phoenix metropolitan area with the precious Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Although I look forward to moving to Arizona, I will miss you and this wonderful congregation. I will keep you in my prayers as Grace prepares to begin a new chapter in its history, too. I know that God has already chosen your next pastor and that He will guide and bless you in the weeks and months ahead.

Thank you again for your prayers and for the love, kindness, and support you have shown to my family and me. I will always be grateful to God and to you.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Brian Crane

P.S. My cell phone number and email address will remain the same. The address, phone number, and website for Eternal Life Lutheran Church are below. If you are ever in the Mesa/Phoenix area, please feel free to stop by. I hear winter is very nice there. ☺

Eternal Life Lutheran Church  
50 S. Jefferson Ave.  
Mesa, AZ 85208  
(480) 985-0224  
www.eternallifelutheran.org

## FROM THE BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP

### What is Stewardship?

What is a steward? Most people, when asked this question, will reply: “A manager.” That is correct, but it is only half right. A steward is indeed a manager, but he is a manager of what does not belong to him. Someone else is the owner, and the steward manages the owner’s property on the owner’s behalf.

We are God’s stewards. Our stewardship is that God has made us managers of what belongs to Him. For we have brought nothing into this world, and we can take nothing out of it (1 Tim. 6:7). Everything that we have and everything that we are comes from God’s fatherly Divine goodness and mercy. God is the owner. Not only because, as the Creator, He created all things. But also, as the Redeemer, He has redeemed, that is, purchased and won all things. It all, therefore, belongs to Him.

We are simply managers of everything in this world. Like Joseph in Egypt, we are put in charge of managing what belongs to God. What a privilege. Think about that for a minute. The all-knowing, all-powerful, all-wise God has asked us to manage His possessions on His behalf here on earth. And by doing this, He invites us to take part in the allocation of His good gifts. He wants us to give our input and advise Him in where His gifts are to be used. What a privilege indeed.

What a responsibility. For to whom much is given, much shall be required (Luke 12:48). We are not the owners. And while He puts us as managers, we are still to do with His property what He wants done with it. That means we need to know what His desire and will for His property is.

How do we know this? How can we know the will and mind of God? We find the will of God in the Bible. There God tells us what His will for all His gifts are to be used. He tells us how we are to spend our time and use our talents and treasures. He instructs us in the use of our minds, bodies, and souls.

There is nothing that we have that doesn’t belong to Him. “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price” (1 Cor. 6:19–20). He informs us of the big picture, the overarching policy, of how we as His stewards – His managers and custodians – of His property are to do the managing.

And that is what stewardship is. It is simply doing what God wants us to do with what He has given us. As St. Paul said: “Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness” (Rom. 6:13). So, let’s dive into the God’s Word and listen to what the owner desires from His stewards.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: [lcms.org/stewardship](https://lcms.org/stewardship)

---

**ELEVATOR:** As of August 31<sup>st</sup>, the balance on our elevator loan stands at **\$166,901.38**. Thank you for your support and generosity!

\*\*\*\*\*

**2022 FLOWER CHART** is available for sign up in the narthex. The cost is **\$27.00** for two bouquets. Please make your checks payable to “Grace Lutheran Church” and place in the secretary’s box in the Communication Center. Thank you!

**CHURCH PARKING:** West Lawn Avenue is closed due to street reconstruction; therefore, parking on West Lawn is not available. We will still be able to exit the parking lot on to West Lawn except when construction is taking place immediately by the exit. We apologize for any inconvenience. (West Lawn Avenue runs along the east side of our property.)

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2022  
PARISH FELLOWSHIP



Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am  
Ladies of Grace  
Location TBD

Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:15 am  
Growing Strong with Grace  
then Game Day at Fellowship Hall



Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am  
Ladies of Grace  
Location TBD

Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:15 am  
Growing Strong with Grace  
then Game Day at Fellowship Hall

**\*\*Coffee Fellowship every Sunday after worship\*\***

<b>Daily Lectionary Readings October – November 2022</b>
--

Saturday, October 1:	Deuteronomy 2:16-37 Matthew 6:16-34	Tuesday, November 1:	Deuteronomy 34:1-12 Matthew 20:17-34
Sunday, October 2:	Deuteronomy 3:1-29 Matthew 7:1-12	Wednesday, November 2:	Jeremiah 1:1-19 Matthew 21:23-46
Monday, October 3:	Deuteronomy 4:1-20 Matthew 7:13-29	Thursday, November 3:	Jeremiah 3:6-4:2 Matthew 22:1-22
Tuesday, October 4:	Deuteronomy 4:21-40 Matthew 8:1-17	Friday, November 4:	Jeremiah 5:1-19 Matthew 22:23-46
Wednesday, October 5:	Deuteronomy 5:1-21 Matthew 8:18-34	Saturday, November 5:	Jeremiah 7:1-29 Matthew 23:1-12
Thursday, October 6:	Deuteronomy 5:22-6:9 Matthew 9:1-17	Sunday, November 6:	Jeremiah 8:18-9:12 Matthew 23:13-39
Friday, October 7:	Deuteronomy 6:10-25 Matthew 9:18-38	Monday, November 7:	Jeremiah 11:1-23 Matthew 24:1-28
Saturday, October 8:	Deuteronomy 7:1-19 Matthew 10:1-23	Tuesday, November 8:	Jeremiah 20:1-18 Matthew 24:29-51
Sunday, October 9:	Deuteronomy 8:1-20 Matthew 10:24-42	Wednesday, November 9:	Jeremiah 22:1-23 Matthew 25:1-13
Monday, October 10:	Deuteronomy 9:1-22 Matthew 11:1-19	Thursday, November 10:	Jeremiah 23:1-20 Matthew 25:14-30
Tuesday, October 11:	Deuteronomy 9:23-10:22 Matthew 11:20-30	Friday, November 11:	Jeremiah 23:21-40 Matthew 25:31-46
Wednesday, October 12:	Deuteronomy 11:1-25 Matthew 12:1-21	Saturday, November 12:	Jeremiah 25:1-18 Matthew 26:1-19
Thursday, October 13:	Deuteronomy 11:26-12:12 Matthew 12:22-37	Sunday, November 13:	Jeremiah 26:1-19 Matthew 26:20-35
Friday, October 14:	Deuteronomy 12:13-32 Matthew 12:38-50	Monday, November 14:	Jeremiah 29:1-19 Matthew 26:36-56
Saturday, October 15:	Deuteronomy 13:1-18 Matthew 13:1-23	Tuesday, November 15:	Jeremiah 30:1-24 Matthew 26:57-75
Sunday, October 16:	Deut. 14:1-2, 22-23, 14:28-15:15 Matthew 13:24-43	Wednesday, November 16:	Jeremiah 31:1-17, 23-24 Matthew 27:1-10
Monday, October 17:	Deuteronomy 15:19-16:22 Matthew 13:44-58	Thursday, November 17:	Jeremiah 33:1-22 Matthew 27:11-32
Tuesday, October 18:	Deuteronomy 17:1-20 Matthew 14:1-21	Friday, November 18:	Jeremiah 37:1-21 Matthew 27:33-56
Wednesday, October 19:	Deuteronomy 18:1-22 Matthew 14:22-36	Saturday, November 19:	Jeremiah 38:1-28 Matthew 27:57-66
Thursday, October 20:	Deuteronomy 19:1-20 Matthew 15:1-20	Sunday, November 20:	Daniel 1:1-21 Matthew 28:1-20
Friday, October 21:	Deuteronomy 20:1-20 Matthew 15:21-39	Monday, November 21:	Daniel 2:1-23 Revelation 18:1-24
Saturday, October 22:	Deuteronomy 21:1-23 Matthew 16:1-12	Tuesday, November 22:	Daniel 2:24-49 Revelation 19:1-21
Sunday, October 23:	Deuteronomy 24:10-25:10 Matthew 16:13-28	Wednesday, November 23:	Daniel 3:1-20 Revelation 20:1-15
Monday, October 24:	Deuteronomy 25:17-26:19 Matthew 17:1-13	Thursday, November 24:	Daniel 4:1-37 Revelation 21:1-8
Tuesday, October 25:	Deuteronomy 27:1-26 Matthew 17:14-27	Friday, November 25:	Daniel 5:1-30 Revelation 21:9-27
Wednesday, October 26:	Deuteronomy 28:1-22 Matthew 18:1-20	Saturday, November 26:	Daniel 6:1-28 Revelation 22:1-21
Thursday, October 27:	Deuteronomy 29:1-29 Matthew 18:21-35	Sunday, November 27:	Isaiah 1:1-28 1 Peter 1:1-12
Friday, October 28:	Deuteronomy 30:1-20 Matthew 19:1-15	Monday, November 28:	Isaiah 2:1-22 1 Peter 1:13-25
Saturday, October 29:	Deuteronomy 31:1-29 Matthew 19:16-30	Tuesday, November 29:	Isaiah 5:1-25 1 Peter 2:1-12
Sunday, October 30:	Deuteronomy 31:30-32:27 Matthew 20:1-16	Wednesday, November 30:	Isaiah 6:1-7:9 1 Peter 2:13-25
Monday, October 31:	Deuteronomy 32:28-52 Matthew 20:17-34		