

**GRACE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)**
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Welcome to Grace!

August 24 & 27, 2023

What We Believe:

✝ As Lutheran Christians we stand with the church of the ages and confess the faith of the **Holy Bible**, which is **God's Word**.

✝ We believe that our **Triune God** created man and woman holy; however, since we sinned and still sin we cannot free ourselves from **sin and death**. Therefore, God sent His Son **Jesus Christ**, who is our **only way to salvation**. By His death and resurrection and through no work or decision of our own, we have forgiveness, life, and salvation.

✝ We joyfully receive these gifts in His Word, and in the holy sacraments of **Baptism** and the **Lord's Supper**.

✝ In all our teaching and preaching we seek to be faithful to God's holy **Law** which shows our sin, and to proclaim His precious **Gospel**, which is the good news of our **salvation in Christ!**

✝ We subscribe also to **Luther's Small Catechism** and the other documents in the Book of Concord of 1580 because they faithfully confess these biblical truths.

Guests and Holy Communion:

Holy Communion is a gift Christ gives to His Church. In it, He offers His true Body and Blood, in, with and under the bread and wine. When received in faith, it brings forgiveness, new life and salvation.

Holy Communion is also a statement of our unity in Christ (*community*). Those who receive the Lord's Supper at Grace Lutheran Church are baptized Christians who have been instructed in and publicly confess the Evangelical Lutheran faith.

For this reason, *only members of our congregation or sister congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod* are ordinarily communed at this altar. If you have any questions regarding the doctrine of Close Communion, please talk to the pastor before or after the service.

Nursery: If your child becomes restless during the service, you are welcome to make use of the Nursery downstairs.

Friendship Pad: Please sign the Friendship Pad when it is passed during the service.

Offering: The offering plates are not passed. Rather, they are located at the back of the nave. Please place your offering in one of the plates as you enter or leave the church. You may also hand it to one of the ushers.

Fellowship Time: Immediately following the 9:00 AM Worship.

Large Print Hymnals: Are available from the ushers!

Electronic Devices: PLEASE silence all devices during worship. Thanks!

May the Lord bless your worship today!
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 24 & 27, 2023 – Divine Service, Setting Four

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC, CHIMES, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

♪Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation LSB 909

Invocation LSB 203

Confession of Sins LSB 203

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

Introit Psalm 2:6–7; 117; antiphon: Psalm 115:18

P But we will bless the Lord
from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the Lord!

C **As for me, I have set my King
on Zion, my holy hill.**

P I will tell of the decree:
The Lord said to me, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you.”

C **Praise the Lord, all nations!
Extol him, all peoples!**

P For great is his steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord!

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;**

C **as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P But we will bless the Lord
from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the Lord!

♪Kyrie LSB 204

♪Gloria in Excelsis LSB 204

Salutation and Collect of the Day LSB 204

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life that we may boldly confess Him to be the Christ and steadfastly walk in the way that leads to life eternal; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 51:1-6

pew Bible p. 611-612

¹“Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the LORD:
look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.
²Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him,
that I might bless him and multiply him.
³For the LORD comforts Zion;
he comforts all her waste places
and makes her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.
⁴“Give attention to me, my people,
and give ear to me, my nation;
for a law will go out from me,
and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples.
⁵My righteousness draws near,
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will judge the peoples;
the coastlands hope for me,
and for my arm they wait.
⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and they who dwell in it will die in like manner;
but my salvation will be forever,
and my righteousness will never be dismayed.”

Epistle

Romans 11:33—12:8

pew Bible p. 947-948

³³Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

³⁴“For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?”

³⁵“Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?”

³⁶For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

♪ Alleluia and Verse

LSB 205

Gospel

Matthew 16:13–20

pew Bible p. 822

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

Catechism Time – The Ten Commandments

Luther’s Small Catechism, LSB 321

The Third Commandment

P Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

P *What does this mean?*

C **We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.**

Apostles' Creed	LSB 207 or inside of back of cover of hymnal
♪ Built on the Rock	LSB 645
<i>Sermon Theme</i>	<i>"Whatever"</i> <i>Matthew 16:13-20</i>

Prayer of the Church

Offering *The offering plates are not passed. Please see note on the first page of the bulletin.*

♪ Offertory - We Give Thee But Thine Own LSB 781, vv. 1-2,6

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

♪ Preface LSB 208

♪ Sanctus LSB 208

Prayer of Thanksgiving LSB 209

Lord's Prayer LSB 209

The Words of Our Lord LSB 209

Pax Domini LSB 209

♪ Agnus Dei LSB 210

Distribution

♪ Lord Jesus, Think of Me LSB 610

♪ Your Table I Approach LSB 628

♪ I know My Faith Is Founded LSB 587

♪ The Church's One Foundation LSB 644

♪ Nunc Dimittis LSB 211

Post-Communion Collect

♪ Benedicamus LSB 212

♪ Benediction LSB 212

♪ Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise LSB 802



+ TO GOD BE THE GLORY +



CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF August 27th THROUGH September 2nd

SUNDAY 9:00 AM DIVINE SERVICE WITH HOLY COMMUNION
 10:30 AM Bible Study

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY 6:30 PM DIVINE SERVICE WITH HOLY COMMUNION

FRIDAY

SUNDAY 9:00 AM DIVINE SERVICE WITH HOLY COMMUNION
 10:30 AM Bible Study

Lectionary Summary: *The Lord Jesus Christ Is the Son of the Living God*

Jesus asked His disciples: “*But who do you say that I am?*” (Matt. 16:15). The question is also put to us: Who do you say that He is? Flesh and blood do not reveal this to us, but by the ministry of the Gospel, the Father in heaven reveals His Son to us on earth, who has become flesh and suffered death for our salvation. Thus, we believe and confess that He is “*the Christ, the Son of the living God*” (Matt. 16:16). As He died for our transgressions and was raised for our justification, He looses us from all our sins and preserves our life within His Church, against which even “*the gates of hell shall not prevail*” (Matt. 16:18–19). His salvation is forever, and His righteousness “*will never be dismayed*” (Is. 51:6). He comforts us with the Gospel in His Church, so that “*joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song*” (Is. 51:3). Therefore, “*according to the measure of faith that God has assigned*” (Rom. 12:3), we also offer ourselves “*as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God*” (Rom. 12:1) through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

About the Bulletin Cover: *While the whole world can marvel at the splendor of the creation with its vibrant color and life, it is through the Christ, the word alone, that we come to know its Maker. In the Word made flesh, the One through whom all things were made (see John 1:3, 14), we have forgiveness, life and salvation. Because we know Christ, we can delight even more in the beauty of creation because it is a gift.*