

**GRACE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)**
3700 Washington Ave., Racine, WI 53405
www.gracelutheranracine.net
262-633-4831

Vacancy Pastor: Rev. David W. Hintz
(920) 227-7915 (mobile)
revdwhintz@hotmail.com

Welcome to Grace!

October 5 & 8, 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!

**Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Divine Service, Setting One**

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC, CHIMES, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

♪ Christ Is Our Cornerstone	LSB 912
Invocation	LSB 151
Confession of Sins and Absolution	LSB 151

SERVICE OF THE WORD

♪ Introit	Psalm 118:22–24; antiphon: v. 1
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P Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever!

C The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.

C This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

P This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

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 Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever!

♪ Kyrie	LSB 152
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♪ Gloria in Excelsis	LBS 154
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Salutation and Collect of the Day	LSB 156
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P Gracious God, You gave Your Son into the hands of sinful men who killed Him. Forgive us when we reject Your unfailing love, and grant us the fullness of Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

¹Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ²He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. ³And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? ⁵And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.

⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briars and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry! and live.”

Epistle:***Philippians 3:4b–14******Pew Bible, p.981***

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness, under the law blameless. ⁷But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.”

Catechism Time – The Ten Commandments Luther’s Small Catechism, LSB 326

P What is the Ninth Commandment?

P You shall not covet your neighbor’s house

C *What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor’s inheritance or house or get it in a way which only appears right but help and be of service to him in keeping it.*

Apostles’ Creed***LSB 159 or inside back cover of hymnal*****♪ O Love, How Deep****LSB 544*****Sermon–Theme:******“A Parable of the Wicked Vinedressers” Matthew 21:33-43*****Prayer of the Church****Offering***The offering plates are not passed. Please see note on the first page of the bulletin.***♪ Offertory****LSB 159-160**

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

♪ Preface	LSB 160
♪ Sanctus	LSB 161
Prayer of Thanksgiving	LSB 162
Lord's Prayer	LSB 162
The Words of Our Lord	LSB 162
♪ Pax Domini	LSB 163
♪ Agnus Dei	LSB 163

Distribution – If you are visiting with us, please read “Guests and Holy Communion,” printed on the inside cover of the Friendship Pad. If you would like to receive Holy Communion in your pew, please notify the pastor or an usher. If possible, please sit near the center aisle, and it will be brought to you at the conclusion of the distribution. Wine greatly diluted with water is available in purple-tinted cups in the center of each Communion tray for those with alcohol sensitivities.

Distribution Hymns:

♪ The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord	LSB 634
♪ Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head	LSB 647
♪ Christ, the Life of All the Living	LSB 420
♪ We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died	LSB 429
♪ Thank the Lord	LSB 164
♪ Benediction	LSB 166
♪ Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing	LSB 691

+ TO GOD BE THE GLORY +

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF October 8th through October 15th

SUNDAY 9:00 AM **DIVINE SERVICE WITH HOLY COMMUNION**
 10:30 AM Bible Study
 11:30 AM Council Meeting

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
 11:30 AM Voters Meeting

Lectionary Summary: The True Vine Redeems the Vineyard of the LORD of Hosts “The vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel” (Is. 5:7), which He planted “on a very fertile hill” (Is. 5:1). He did everything for His vineyard, not only clearing it of stones and planting it with “choice vines,” but also building the “watchtower” of His prophets and hewing out the “wine vat” of His priesthood in its midst (Is. 5:2). But when “he looked for it to yield grapes,” there were only “wild grapes” of bloodshed and unrighteousness (Is. 5:2, 7). The Lord Jesus likewise described the unfaithfulness of those who were called to care for His vineyard (Matt. 21:33–35). But in this He also describes His cross and Passion (Matt. 21:38–39), by which He has redeemed the vineyard for Himself. He is the true Vine, planted by death into the ground, and in His resurrection He brings forth “the fruits in their seasons” (Matt. 21:41). Among those good grapes of the true Vine is the apostle Paul. Once a zealous persecutor of the Church, he “suffered the loss of all things” in order to “gain Christ and be found in him,” to “know him and the power of his resurrection” (Phil. 3:8–10)

About the Bulletin Cover: Paul had every reason to boast in his flesh and worldly gains. He was revered, respected, and admired for his pedigree and zeal. But he counted it all as loss in comparison to gaining Christ. For Christ first gave His life on the cross to gain Paul. Likewise, Christ, has done this for each of us. No individual status or personal achievement can compare to knowing our Lord, who gave His life for us. Everything else is all loss, but Christ is all gain.