Grace Lutheran Worship Folder

August 16 & 17, 2025



Watch worship online - connect through www.gracelutheran-alpena.org

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Grace Lutheran Church

Grace Lutheran's Purpose Statement

"We share God's love by welcoming all and making a Christ-like difference in our community and world."

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

(the assembly stands as they are comfortable)

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

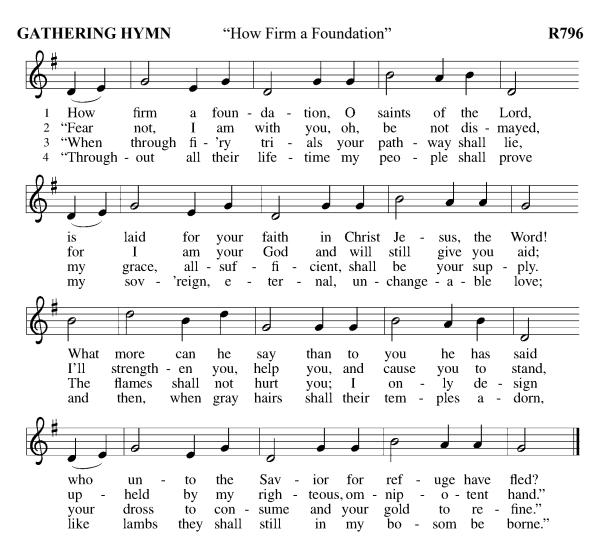
(Silence is kept for reflection)

P: Merciful God,

C: you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

P: We belong to Christ Jesus and we are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, our sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, we are a new creation.

C: Amen.



Text: J. Rippon, A Selection of Hymns, 1787, alt.

Music: FOUNDATION, Early American This selection is in the public domain.

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

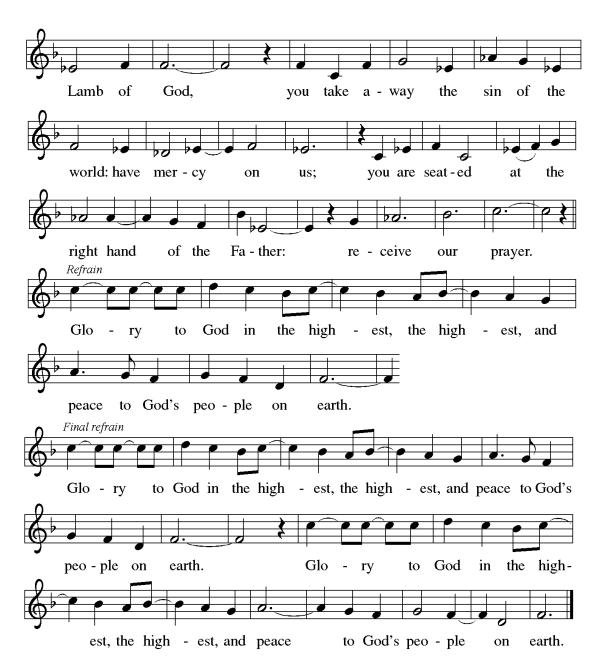
KYRIE (verses 1 & 4)





HYMN OF PRAISE





P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

SCRIPTURE READINGS Jeremiah 23:23-29

Because Jeremiah preaches the unpopular message of God's judgment, he suffers rejection. Today's reading distinguishes between the true prophet, like Jeremiah, who speaks God's word, and the false prophet who misleads the people through dreams. One is like wheat; the other like worthless straw.

²³ Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? ²⁴ Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. ²⁵ I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed! I have dreamed!" ²⁶ How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? ²⁷ They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. ²⁸ Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. ²⁹ Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 82

Arise, O God, and rule the earth. (Ps. 82:8)

- ¹ God stands to charge the divine council assembled, giving judgment in the midst of the gods:
- ² "How long will you judge unjustly, and show favor to the wicked?
- ³ Save the weak and the orphan; defend the humble and needy;
- ⁴ rescue the weak and the poor; deliver them from the power of the wicked.

- ⁵ They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken.
- ⁶ Now I say to you, 'You are gods, and all of you children of the Most High;
- ⁷ nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, and fall like any prince.'"
- ⁸ Arise, O God, and rule the earth, for you shall take all nations for your own.

Hebrews 11:29—12:2

The author of Hebrews presents us with rich stories of faith. In a long list of biblical heroes, we find examples of trust in God that enabled them to face the trials of life faithfully. In addition to this "cloud of witnesses," we have Jesus, the perfect model of faithful endurance.

²⁹ By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. ³² And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. 35 Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground. ³⁹Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect. ^{12:1} Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

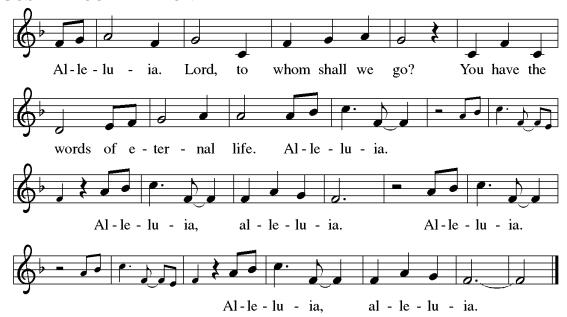
L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(The assembly stands as they are comfortable for the Gospel)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Luke 12:49-56

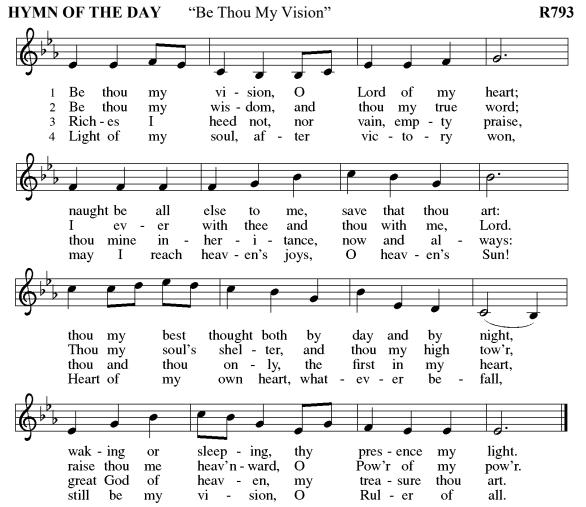
Jesus delivers harsh words about the purifying and potentially divisive effects of obedience to God's call. The way of the cross often leads followers to encounter hostility and rejection, even from those they love.

[Jesus said:] ⁴⁹ "I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! ⁵⁰ I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹ Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵² From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³ they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law." ⁵⁴ He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain,' and so it happens. ⁵⁵ And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens. ⁵⁶ You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

P: The Gospel of Our Lord.C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HOMILY

(The assembly stands as they are comfortable)



Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again;

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

(Response after each petition)

P: Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (the assembly stands as they are comfortable and sings as the gifts are brought forward)



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P: Let us pray...Creator God,

C: in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

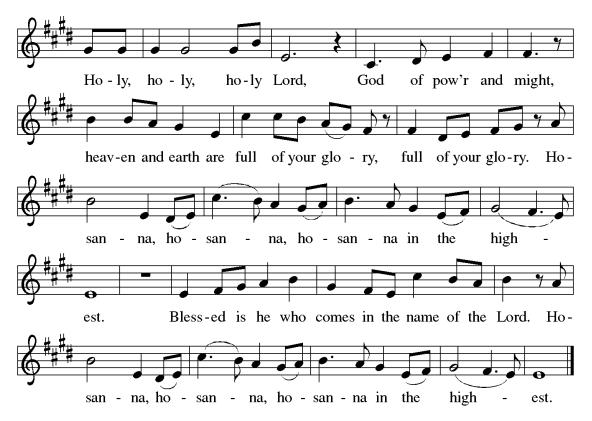
P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...(concluding)...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER/WORDS OF INSTITUTION

- P: God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way...(concluding)...For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
- C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P: Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen
- C: Amen.

- P: Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen
- C: Amen.
- P: Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

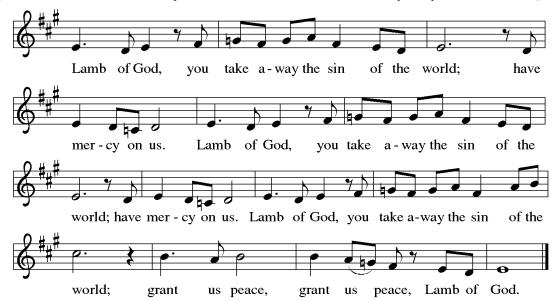
C: Amen.

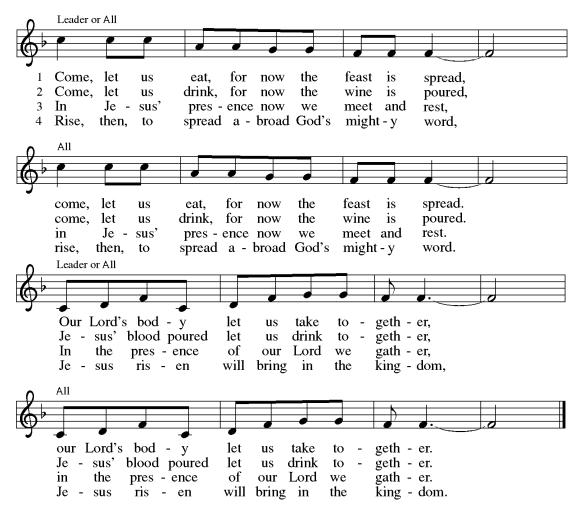
LORD'S PRAYER

- P: Lord, remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to pray.
- C: 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.
- P: The kingdom of God is set before us. Eat and rejoice.

HOLY COMMUNION

(All who desire to receive Christ's presence in bread and wine are welcome to participate in the Eucharist)





Text: Billema Kwillia, b. 1925, sts. 1–3; Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930, st. 4, alt.; tr. Margaret D. Miller, b. 1927, sts. 1–3, alt. Music: A VA DE, Billema Kwillia, adapt.

Text sts. 1-3 and tune © Lutheran World Federation; text st. 4 and music adapt. © 1972 Contemporary Worship 4, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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(The assembly stands as they are comfortable)

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

P: Let us pray...Loving God,

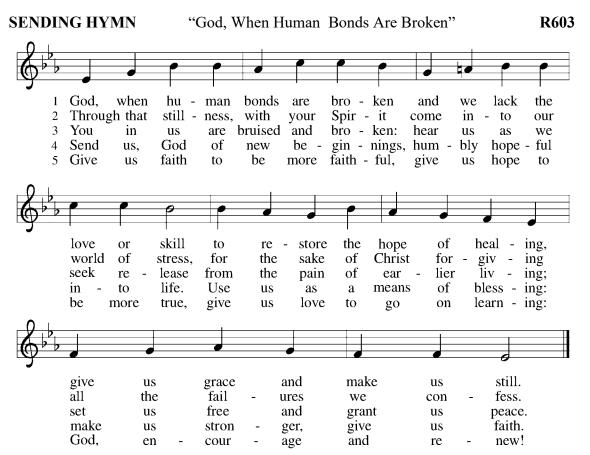
C: you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P: The love of God abound in us; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill our hearts; and the life of the Spirit + bless us and give us peace.

C: Amen.



Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929 Permission to reprint/stream this music obtained from OneLicense #A-708784.

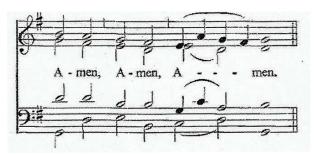
Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823-1889

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

P: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.



POSTLUDE



WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT GRACE LUTHERAN

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

We are glad to have you here worshiping with us. For visitors, we would be glad to tell you more about Grace Lutheran and how we share God's love. Please leave the best way to contact you on the visitor sheets in the Sanctuary Narthex or the Office Lobby or use the bulletin and give it to an usher.

COFFEE HOUR AFTER SUNDAY WORSHIP

Join us for a time of fellowship with coffee/tea/juice and treats in the Fellowship Hall off the Office Lobby after our Sunday worship.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Rev. Tom Downs for leading worship, preaching and presiding this weekend.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Nancy Platt, Jeanne Pankey, Darlene Freel, Hope Kamyszek, Bill Whitscell, Joanne Kindt, Eleanor Coddington, Sandy Malaski, Janet Chroninger, Bonnie Cross, Elfie Jahnke, Budd & Marlene Jobson, Meredith Smith, Robert Larsen, Elaine Hatch, Scott Lancaster, Dorothy Hansen, Emma Nelson, Michele Amelotte, Jim Malaski -- Lisa Creger, Lynsie, Becky & Dante, Lyle Beck, Candy & Tom Laughlin, Alfonse & Margaret Kamyszek, Michelle, Joan Vanover, Paige Lancewicz, Randy Thiem, Mychele Allmacher, Deborah Al-Duwaisan, Daphne Flack, Brenda Donajkowski, Linda, Kaye Harry, Sandra Beck, Kevin Carlson, Laura Fettes (Don Cross' granddaughter), Donna Kendziorski, Jeff Kendziorski, Geraldine Rhoads, Herb Schiller, Jimmy Lappan, Donna Hatch, Jordyn, Maggie, and Joseph Hansen. Military: Will Stafford (Rich & Sherie McTaggart's grandson) - deployed overseas and Amelia Berles - pilot training. We also remember the family of Clayton Peters, who passed away August 6th.

Our prayer list is redone each month. If you, or a family member, would like to continue on the prayer list, please call the office (354-2640).

PRAYER PARTNERS

From the LARCC (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Congregational UCC) parishes of Alpena, this weekend we pray for the Loving Care Members at Grace Lutheran Church. Our Synod Prayer Partners for this week: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church/Holland, Rev. Jessica Rivera-Walker; and Bishop Craig Satterlee and Synod Staff.

PRAYER LETTERS

Please sign the prayer letter(s) each week that we send out telling other churches and ministries they have been included in our prayers. Fill the page with our names. The letter(s) are on the podium by the table in the Office Lobby.

QUILTERS RUMMAGE SALE - LAST WEEK TO DONATE!!

The Quilters Rummage Sale is this FRIDAY & SATURDAY, AUGUST 22 & 23. Donations of items will be greatly appreciated. Please no pieces of furniture or other large items. Items may be brought to the Fellowship Hall beginning Saturday, August 9. Thank you in advance!

CAN YOU HELP THE QUILTERS FOR THEIR RUMMAGE SALE?

Help is needed on Thursday August 21 to sort through and organize the donations. And Saturday August 23 at 12 p.m. to help with the clean up and transporting the remaining items to other places that can use them. Truck or van is especially helpful then. Sign up in the Office Lobby.

A PLEA FROM THE WORSHIP WORKGROUP CREW

Just a friendly reminder if you haven't signed up for opportunities to serve, **please do so by Sunday, August 17**. Our church is little & it takes everyone to pitch in! The form, which needs to be filled out yearly, can be filled out online (a link is included in our weekly bulletin email to members) or copies are available in the Office Lobby. We need YOU!

THANK YOU

Thanks for the many donations that have come in to the Little Food Pantry! Most people are respectful and have food insecurity issues. Lots of people in our community donate. If you have a surplus in your garden please think about putting extra fruits or vegetables in the panty. Thank you.

SUNDAY WORSHIP LIVESTREAMED AND RECORDED

Our Sunday worship service is livestreamed, shown on the internet, as it is happening and recorded for viewing online later. People in the sanctuary attending the Sunday service may be seen as part of the livestream and recording.

Financial Summary for First Half of 2025

	Contributions	<u>Expenses</u>
Through June	\$114,630	\$125,227

For the first half of the year, our contributions were below our expenses by \$10,597. Our spending has been managed and is under budget but is still well over our contributions.

Our Giving goal for 2025 is to meet our budget of \$252,425 and I'm confident that we can make up the shortfall in the second half of the year. By meeting our goal we can continue to grow Grace's programs and activities for our members and community.

Dennis Werblow, Treasurer

Anniversaries of Baptism



August 1 Vicki Denstaedt Kiowa Kirchoff

August 4 Jeremy Jacobs Margaret O'Connor

August 5 Grace Hoeft Ryan Reynolds Anthony Thompson

August 6 Margaret Clemens Myra Cross Anna Lewis

August 12 Jordyn Cieslik

August 13 Trey Garant James Malaski

August 14 Brett Werblow **August 17** Jakob Bauer

August 19 Alan Brilinski Nathan Engstrom Corinne Fraley

August 20 Dorothy Hansen Isaac Matzke

August 21 William Matzke

August 22 Pam Gohlke

August 23 Riley Gohlke Raymond Reynolds

August 28 Debra Nitchman

August 29 Anne Gentry

August

August 4 Alan Brilinski Dawn Gentry

August 5 Norman Schillerstrom

August 6 Amelia Berles Corinne Fraley Aaron Nowak

August 7 Shirley Diemond

August 8 Mark Freel Monroe Garant

August 9 Joel Gillard Michael Urlaub

August 10 Sandra Malaski Deb Wcisel-Ellsworth

August 11 Joann Smith



August 12 Carey Schiller Madison Szymanski

August 13
Jamie Gentry
Grace Hoeft

August 18 Ed Czarnecki

August 19 Charity Corwin

August 20 Drew Gentry Wayne Lewis

August 21 Donna Morgan Brody Nowak

August 22 Rachel Engstrom Jeffrey Welch

August 23 Ruby Haske Travis Konarzewski

August 28
Debra Nitchman



Wedding Anniversaries

3rd Jim & Sandy Malaski
4th Sean & Taylor Hayward
5th Allen & Judy Douglas
Gary & Kay Grove
7th Cody & Jessie Suszek
14th Larry & Connie Suszek
16th Tyler & Stephanie Suszek

19th Phil & Pam Agius

21st Rick & Sharon Engstrom
22nd Jerry & Jan Charter
24th Randy & Kenda Yochum
26th Ed & Donna Czarnecki
27th Pat & June Daly
Jason & Jessica Slominski

28th Don LaBarre & Anne Gentry

HAPPENING THIS WEEK!

Sunday	<u>y –17th</u>
9:	30 am

Worship

11:00 am Adult CE - Lounge

Monday - 18th

8am-noon Church Office Open Kitchen Reserved 8am-2pm

Tuesday - 19th

8am-noon Church Office Open 9:00 am Sewing/Quilting Pastors Text Study -11:00 am Lounge

Church Council 6:00 pm

Wednesday - 20th

8am-noon Church Office Open

Thursday - 21st

8am-noon Church Office Open Kitchen Reserved 8am-2pm

Friday - 22nd

RUMMAGE SALE

8am-noon Church Office Open

Saturday - 23rd

RUMMAGE SALE 5:00 pm Worship SERVING AUGUST 16/17

MinistersGod	l's People	
PastorRev. To	m Downs	
Music DirectorC	laire Witt	
Recorded AccompanimentKat Tom	naszewski	
Comm. Asst	oe Gentry	
Lector Ar	ına Lewis	
Ushers Gary & Kay Grove, Rick	Engstrom	
Cindy Domrase (Saturday)	•	
GreetersMary Rowader, Cindy	Domrase	
Altar Guild Karen Suszek, Jo Ann Smith		
Livestream TeamDawn Anderson, Jan Charter,		
Don LaBarre, Alex S	Struble	
Counters Wayne & Chris Christe	opherson,	
Darlene Freel		
Coffee HourWayne Lewis, Audro	ev Garant	

SERVING AUGUST 23/24

Ministers	God's People	
Pastor	Rev. Tom Orth	
Music Director	Claire Witt	
Recorded Accompaniment	Kat Tomaszewski	
Comm. Asst	Joe Gentry	
Lector	Joe Gentry	
Ushers Gary & Kay	Grove, Rick Engstrom	
Cindy Domrase (Saturday)		
	Ine & Dawn Gentry	

.....Joe & Dawn Gentry Altar Guild Karen Suszek, Jo Ann Smith Livestream Team.....Dawn Anderson, Jan Charter, Don LaBarre, Alex Struble

Counters...... Wayne & Chris Christopherson, Darlene Freel

Coffee HourPat Schultz, Darlene Freel

Large print worship folders & hearing assistance devices are available from ushers

GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

119 W. Dunbar St., Alpena, MI 49707 Phone: Office 989-354-2640 Web Site: www.gracelutheran-alpena.org

Give online at www.gracelutheran-alpena.org Pastor: Rev. Thomas W. Orth

Pastor's Home 989-356-8729 Pastor's Cell Phone 989-916-8759

E-mail:

pastor@gracelutheran-alpena.org officemanager@gracelutheran-alpena.org View our services on YouTube



