Grace Lutheran
Worship Folder
November 7 & 8, 2026



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 "Chatter with the Angels" Bell Choir

Sondra K. Tucker, Contributor © 2003 Jubilate Music. Permission to reprint/stream this music obtained from OneLicense #A-708784.

(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: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose compassion endures forever.
C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

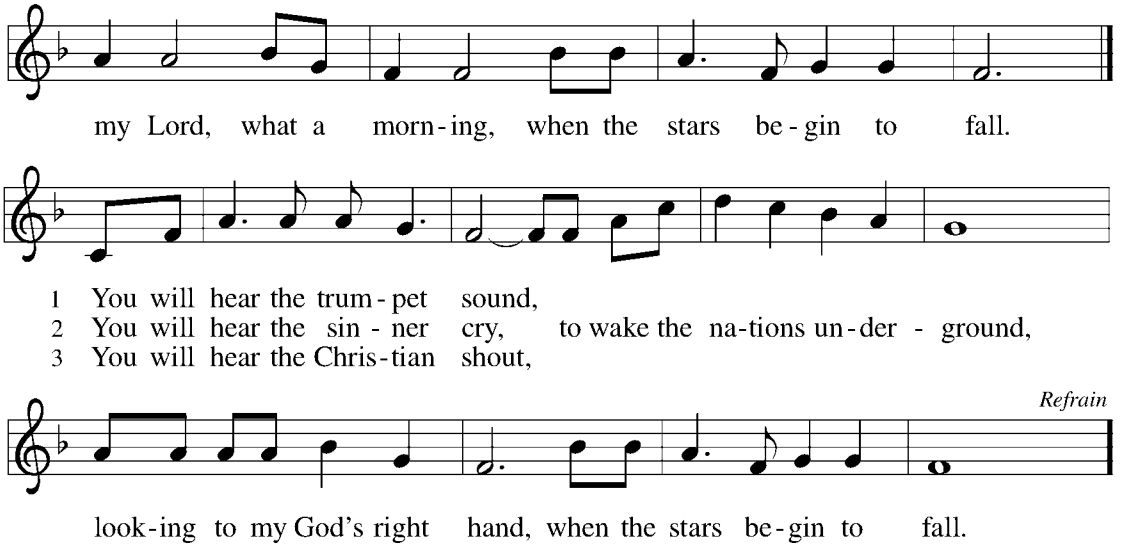
P: Compassionate God,
C: we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

P: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, our sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.
C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN "My Lord, What a Morning" **R438**

Refrain





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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



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HYMN OF PRAISE



Text: Martin A. Seltz; Music: Ludwig van Beethoven. Text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress. Permission to reprint/stream this music obtained from OneLicense #A-708784.

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Amos 5:18-24

In the days of Amos, people thought that the day of the LORD would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The LORD demands justice and righteousness in the community.

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD! Why do you want the day of the
LORD? It is darkness, not light, 19 as if someone fled from a lion and was met by a
bear or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall and was bitten by a
snake. 20 Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light, and gloom with no
brightness in it? 21 I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your
solemn assemblies. 22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain
offerings, I will not accept them, and the offerings of well-being of your fatted
animals I will not look upon. 23 Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will
not listen to the melody of your harps. 24 But let justice roll down like water and
righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

L: The word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 70

You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry. (Ps. 70:5)

1 Be pleased, O God, to deliver me;
O LORD, make haste to help me.

2 **Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded;**
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.

3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me
turn back because of their shame.

4 **Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;**
let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the LORD!"

5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

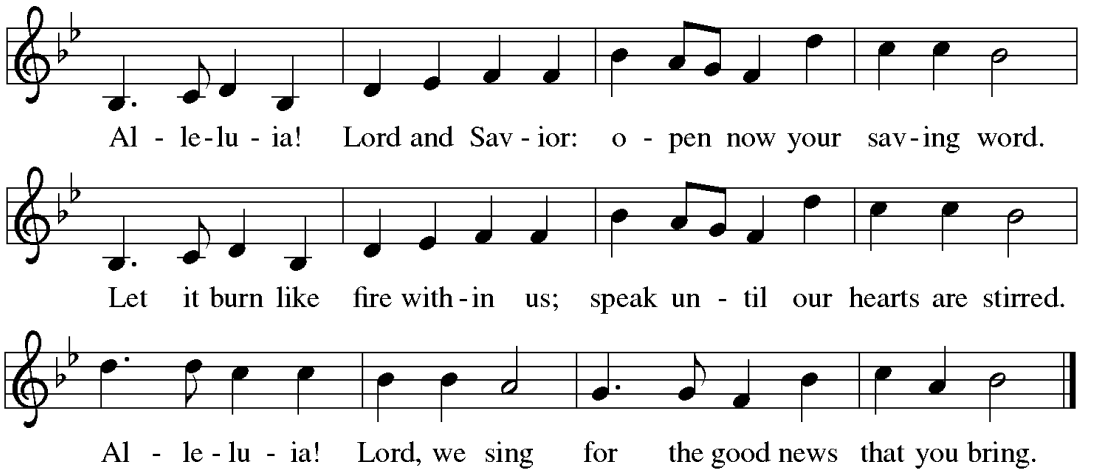
Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

[13] We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died,
so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. [14] For since we believe that Jesus died
and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. [15] For this we
declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the
Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. [16] For the Lord himself, with a cry of
command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven,
and the dead in Christ will rise first. [17] Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in
the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. [18]
Therefore encourage one another with these words.

L: The word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Text: Gracia Grindal © 1998 Augsburg Fortress. Permission to reprint/stream this music obtained from OneLicense #A-708784.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.
C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] [1] "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten
young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. [2] Five of them
were foolish, and five were wise. [3] When the foolish took their lamps, they took no
oil with them, [4] but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. [5] As the bridegroom
was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. [6] But at midnight there was a

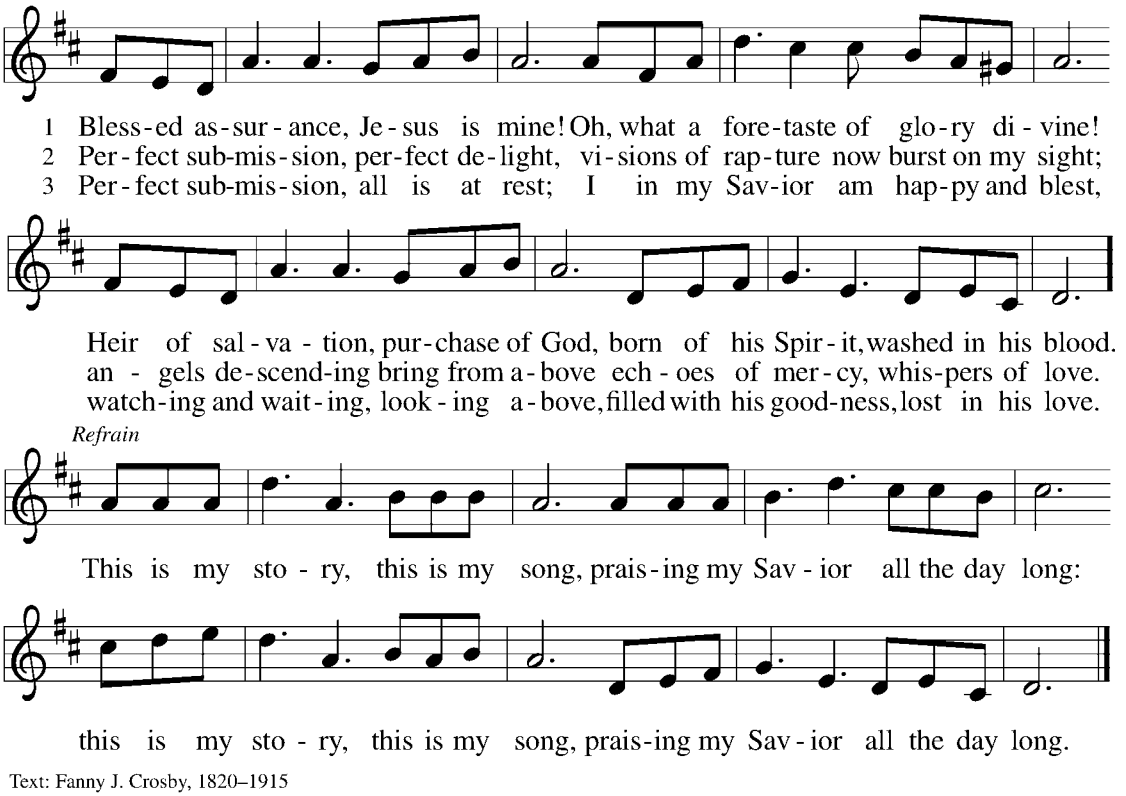
shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ [7] Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. [8] The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ [9] But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ [10] And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. [11] Later the other young women came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ [12] But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ [13] Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

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

HOMILY

(The assembly stands as they are comfortable)

HYMN OF THE DAY “Blessed Assurance” **R638**



Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908 This selection is in the public domain.

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.

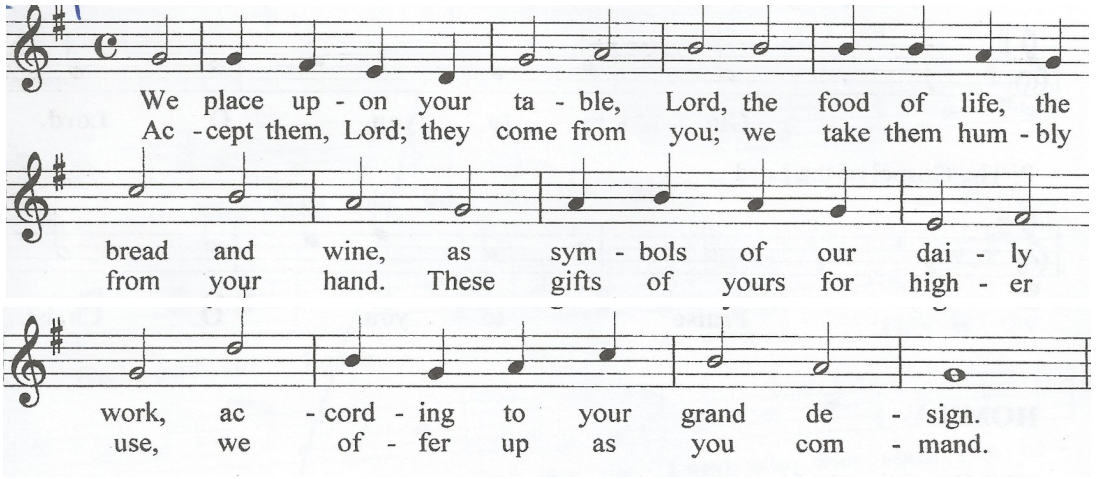
INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

(Response after each petition)

P: God of grace,
C: hear our prayer.

OFFERING

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



Words: M F C Wilson. Text copyright 1988, Lorenz Publishing, All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under OneLicense.net #A-708789

P: Let us pray...Loving God,
C: we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

P: This is Jesus's table. He invites all to come and receive the gifts that strengthen us, that help us be God's people this day and always.

(There are gluten-free wafers available. Please ask the Pastor for one. And there is grape juice in the center of each tray, the clear juice.)

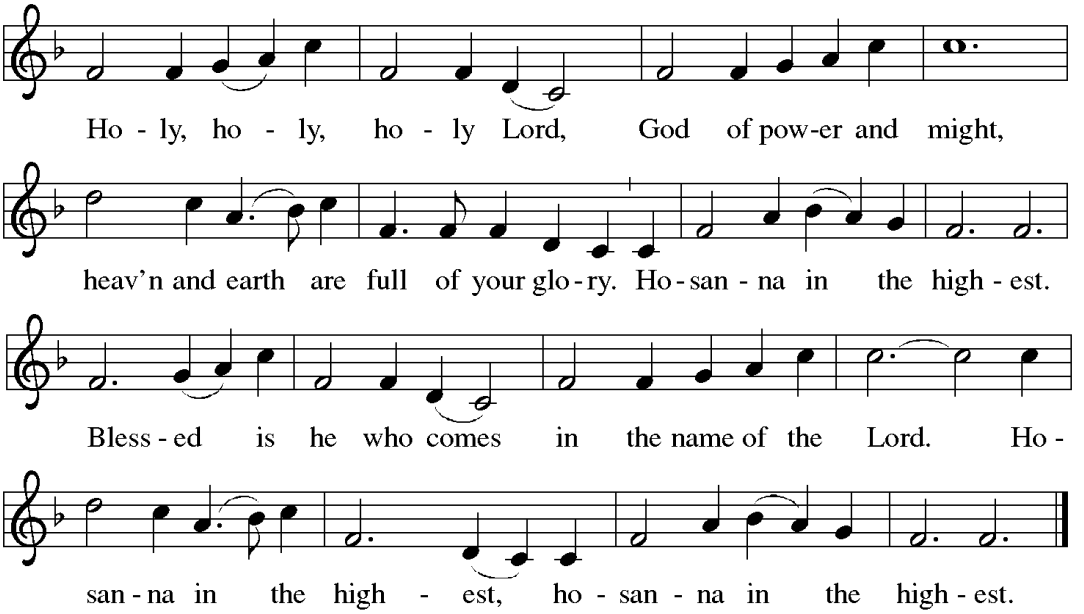
GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER/WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C: Amen

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

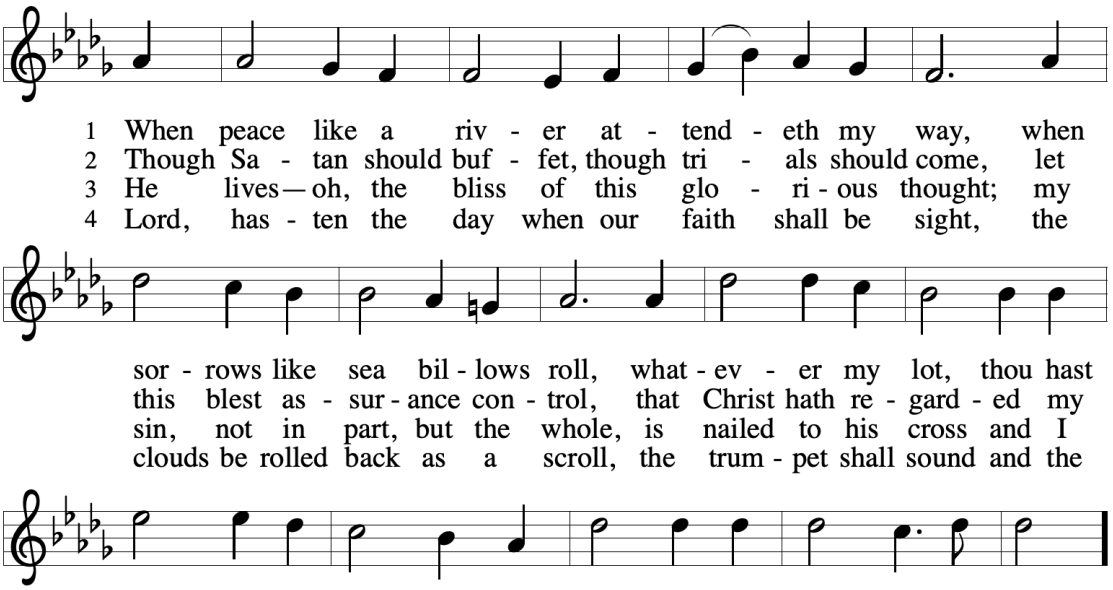
(All who desire to receive Christ's presence in bread and wine are welcome to participate in the Eucharist)

P: Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!



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COMMUNION HYMN "When Peace, Like a River **R785**



(Refrain on next page)



Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828-1888
Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838-1876 This selection is in the public domain.

(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...Compassionate God,
C: through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.

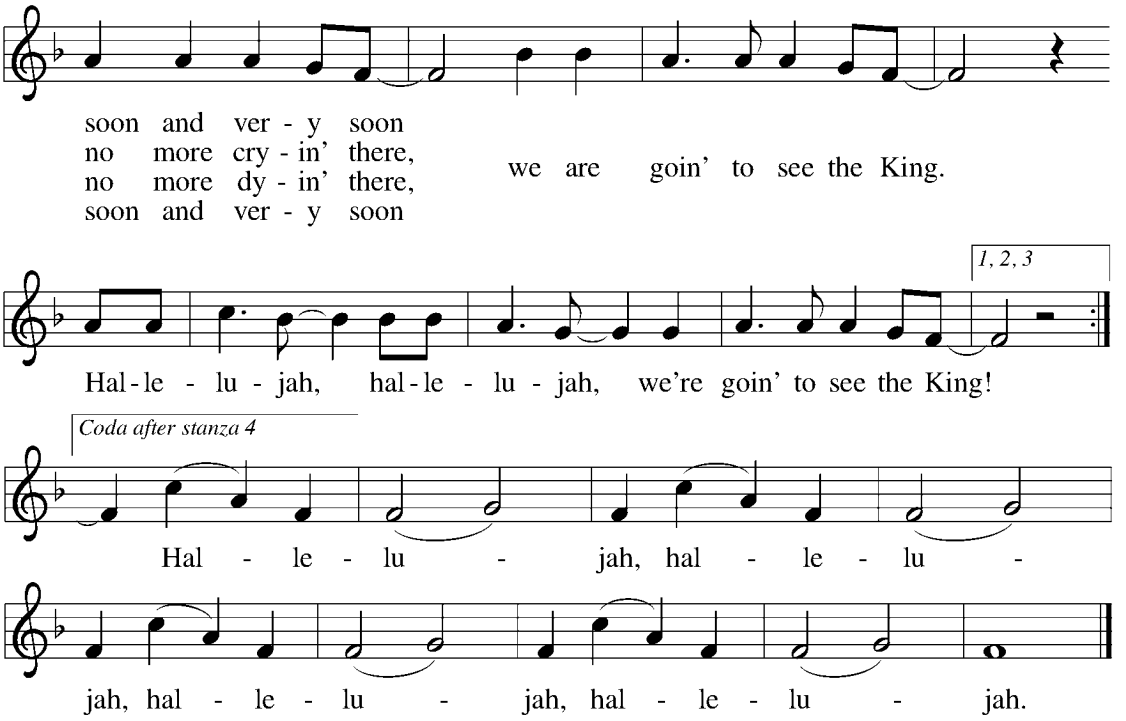
SENDING

BLESSING

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, + one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.
C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN "Soon and Very Soon" **R439**





Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945
Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch Permission to reprint/stream this music obtained from CCLI #11295441/20816990.
Text and music © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

ANNOUNCEMENTS

P: Go in peace. Seek equality and justice for all.
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.

ALTAR FLOWERS

In Celebration of My Dad's 92nd Birthday
Given by Janet & Gary Bettega

THANK YOU

Thank you to the Rev. Mary Hughes and the Rev. Mark Rutenbar for leading worship, preaching and presiding this weekend.

SYNOD PRAYER PARTNER

Our Synod Prayer Partner for this week: Messiah Lutheran/Bay City, Rev. Timothy Jahn; and Bishop Julie Schneider-Thomas 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.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Joel Suszek, Morgan Kibbe & Baby Colton, Meredith Smith, Jon Crow, Larry Garant, Patti Tucker, Bonnie Cross, Darlene Freel, Hope Kamyszek, Sandy Malaski, Janet Chroninger, Elfie Jahnke, Robert Larsen, Elaine Hatch, Scott Lancaster, Emma Nelson, Michele Amelotte, Jim Malaski, Kelly Pankey -- Maria Bleau, Erin Stokes, Nicole Zbytowski, Dana Cruse-Malcomson, Cheryl Gauthier, Tamyra Rychlinski, Maria Shelton, Lynsie, Tyson, Georgia, Lyle Beck, Candy & Tom Laughlin, Joan Vanover, Mychele Allmacher, Sandra Beck, Laura Fettes (Don Cross' granddaughter), Donna Kendziorski, Jeff Kendziorski, Jordyn, Maggie, Joseph Hansen and Baby J.
Military: Don Witt, 6-month deployment from Alpena, Will Stafford (Rich & Sherie McTaggart's grandson), Amelia Berles, US Air Force Pilot Training, and Michael Herrmann, US Air Force.

ADULT CHRISTIAN ED - NOVEMBER 15
Have you ever wondered about mysticism? Do you think it's people sitting around chanting "Ohm" or singing "Kumbaya"? What is it, what makes someone a mystic, who are some of the famous mystics? For example, remember Dag Hammarskjöld? You might be surprised to learn that he was a mystic. Learn the answers to these questions and discover the lives and legacies of mystics throughout history at the Adult Christian Education class on Sunday, November 15.

LITTLE FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION WEEKEND - NOVEMBER 14 & 15
On November 14 & 15 we will be collecting donations for the Little Food Pantry. Items that are used the most are cereal, peanut butter, jam, and personal care products such as toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo and soap. We are also collecting hats, mittens and socks to place in our Little Food Pantry for those in need this winter season.

Thank you for your generous contributions, which help Grace continue this important ministry of providing for those in need. We are also grateful to the dedicated team of volunteers who stock the pantry each week. If you are interested in joining this effort, please speak with Mary Lappan.

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE NOVEMBER BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES NOV. 15
Baptism is an event to celebrate and remember throughout our lives as Christians. We celebrate with you, your family, and friends as you grow in faith and love. Join us Sunday, November 15, after the 9:30a.m. service to celebrate all November baptism anniversaries. If you have a photo, your gown or candle to share, please bring it with you.

RUTH CIRCLE
The Ruth Circle will meet on Wednesday, November 18 at 1:00 p.m. at the church. Our lesson this month is on page 46 in the *Gather* magazine. All women are welcome to attend.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED
Help! We are looking for volunteers to help teach our Sunday School class as we hope to get the program started again this January. We believe it is important for our young children to learn the wonderful stories and lessons of the Old and New Testaments and to grow in their understanding of God's love and grace. If you would enjoy helping them discover God's grace and Jesus' love, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Elsa Phillips after Sunday's service or call her at 989-884-1809.

GRACE LUTHERAN THANKSGIVING DINNER!
Thursday, November 26 ~ 5 p.m.
Grace Lutheran will provide a church family Thanksgiving Day dinner at 5:00 p.m.
Mark your calendars...more info coming soon.

2026 CHRISTMAS WISH LIST TREE
The Christmas Wish List sponsored by United Way of Northeast Michigan has officially kicked off matching gift recipients to donors. Grace Lutheran's Christmas Giving Tree will be in the Office Lobby, beginning November 7, with tags listing items needed. **If you take a tag please have the gift returned by Monday, November 30th**. **Please wrap the gift and return it with the original tag.** Thank you for your participation. United Way is targeting 371 children this year by providing basic needed items for Christmas.

BAKE SALE - DECEMBER 5
The Ruth Circle is planning a bake sale at Grace on **Saturday, December 5 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.** Donations of baked goods, candy, canned goods and craft items from the congregation are greatly appreciated to make this a success. We depend on the bake sale money to enable us to donate to 12 charities from Grace Lutheran Church through the WELCA Ruth Circle. **Bake sale items can be brought to the church on Friday, December 4 beginning at 8 a.m. and continuing throughout the day until 5 p.m.** Any questions, please call Darlene Freel at 989-464-0085. Please also let us know if you can help on Friday or Saturday. Thank you!

CONGRATULATIONS
Congratulations to Scott & Morgan Kibbe on the birth of a son, Colton Bernard Kibbe, on Friday, October 30. Colton joins big brother, Matthew. Colton's great-grandmother is Vicki Piontkowski.

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.

GENERAL FUND GIVING FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

Average needed in September (4 weeks) to meet budget	$ 19,252.00
Monthly Giving - September	14,830.98

We received:
92 envelopes, 57 Simply Giving recurring payments,
and 6 Give+ payments made from our website



November

Anniversaries of Baptism



November 9
Mary Bock

November 11
Jessica McKenzie
Rodney Szymanski

November 12
Nicholas Schillerstrom

November 13
Norman Schillerstrom

November 21
Elaine Hatch

November 23
Ashley Timmreck-Walker
Madison Timmreck
Melissa Timmreck
Nicholas Timmreck
Paige Timmreck

November 24
Chris Christopherson

November 25
Emmett Suszek

November 26
Bruno Hirzel

November 27
Beckett Granata

November 29
Scott Kuligowski
Brian Schiller
Ellie Walker



Birthdays

November 2
Olivia Haske
Cindy Suszek

November 4
Britni Nowak

November 5
Raylynn Suszek

November 7
Phyllis Colagross

November 8
Melissa Timmreck

November 10
Hannah Matzke

November 11
Gracie Gillard
Brent Welch

November 12
Diane O'Connor

November 13
Doug Chroninger

November 14
Mary Bock

November 17
Chloe Hayward
Kassandra McInerney

November 18
Nancy Stachnik
Karyn Vass

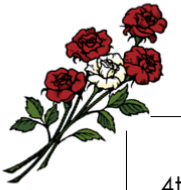
November 20
Kelli Liske
Sherie McTaggart
Chris Moors

November 25
Jeffrey Diemond
Monica Jahnke
Erin McCourt

November 26
Bruno Hirzel

November 28
Lisa McIntosh
Anthony Thompson
Brody Yuchasz

November 30
Matthew Timrick



Wedding Anniversaries

4th	Bill & Mary Bock
9th	Ian & Amelia Kamyszek
25th	Anthony & Laura Thompson
27th	Alex & Anna-Marie Struble

HAPPENING THIS WEEK!

Sunday – 8th
9:30 am **Worship**
10:30 a.m. Call Committee- Lounge

Monday - 9th
8am-noon Church Office Open

Tuesday - 10th
8am-noon Church Office Open
9am-noon Quilting/Sewing
5:30 pm Worship WG

Wednesday - 11th
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
5:15 pm Choir
6:00 pm Bell Choir

Thursday - 12th
8am-noon Church Office Open
8am-2pm Kitchen Reserved

Friday - 13th
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
8am-2pm Kitchen Reserved

Saturday - 14th **LFP Collection Weekend**
5:00 pm **Worship**

SERVING NOVEMBER 7/8

Ministers ..... God's People
Pastor (Saturday)..... Rev. Mary Hughes
(Sunday)..... Rev. Mark Rutenbar
Music Director..... Claire Witt
Organist ....Kat Tomaszewski
Comm. Asst...... Audrey Garant, Wayne Lewis
Lector ..... Nancy Platt
Ushers..... Gary & Kay Grove, Rick Engstrom, Cindy Domrase (Saturday)
Greeters .....Dawn Gentry, Stephanie Suszek
Altar Guild..... Sandy Welch, Karen Slaght
Livestream Team ... Dawn Anderson, Jan Charter, Don LaBarre, Alex Struble
Counters.....Wayne & Chris Christopherson
Coffee Hour ..... .Joe & Dawn Gentry

SERVING NOVEMBER 14/15

Ministers ..... God's People
Pastor ..... Rev. Eugene Bacon
Music Director..... Claire Witt
Organist ....Kat Tomaszewski
Comm. Asst...... Audrey Garant, Wayne Lewis
Lector ..... Dawn Anderson
Ushers..... Gary & Kay Grove, Rick Engstrom, Cindy Domrase (Saturday)
Greeters .....Bruno Hirzel, Tom Lappan
Altar Guild..... Sandy Welch, Karen Slaght
Livestream Team ... Dawn Anderson, Jan Charter, Don LaBarre, Alex Struble
Counters.....Wayne & Chris Christopherson
Coffee Hour .....Rick & Sharon Engstrom

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

GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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