

✠ EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ✠
Saturday, 5:00 p.m., July 29, 2017 ~ Sunday, 9:30 a.m., July 30, 2017

Grace Lutheran's Purpose Statement

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

HYMNS

G-R705 God of Grace and God of Glory
Psalm 119:129-136 (Psalms begin page 339)
D-R641 All Are Welcome
C-R793 Be Thou My Vision
S-R547 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH

Welcome to our guests and visitors who are with us today. We hope you feel at home in our midst and look forward to seeing you again. If you would like more information about Grace Lutheran, the pastor or ushers can help you. Please consider your presence to be your gift to us. No other is necessary or expected. Thank you for worshiping with us today.

IN OUR PRAYERS

In observance of our covenant with the LARCC (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Congregational UCC) parishes of Alpena, we pray each week for a specific ministry of one of the 8 LARCC parishes. Today we pray for the Lay Eucharistic Ministers at Trinity Episcopal Church.

LARGE PRINT WORSHIP FOLDERS

Large print worship folders, including hymns and weekly bulletin are available. Please ask the ushers for one.

PRAYERS

Caroline Weise, Darlene Freel, Judy Kautz, Debbie Anderson, Marilyn Whitscell, Erv Simi, Elfie Jahnke, Lorraine Leathead, Gloria Moore, Dave Chroninger, Harold & Jean Kissau, Jim Malaski, Karen & Walter Spigelmyre, Dorothy Gentry, Emma Nelson, Julie Troy, Jim Kratz, Bill Farnum, Gary Rich, Mimi, Dick Sanders, Trapp Truman, Kevin Salesman, David Schaedig, Bishop Craig Satterlee, Cody Gustin, Eric Carlson, Shirley Johnson, Mike Knoblett, Dennis Diamond, and Richard G.

ALTAR FLOWERS

In celebration of Gary & Kay Grove's 50th
Wedding Anniversary (August 5)

ADULT CHRISTIAN ED

Christian Response to Societal Problems
How should churches and individual Christians respond to societal issues? What is the "Churches" responsibility to the wider society? How does the Kingdom of God relate to our world today? Join us at 11 in the Lounge for a discussion of living out our faith in our world today.

**ACTIVITY BAGS
FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN**

There are now colorful activity bags with paper, crayons and picture books for younger children available for them in worship. Ask the ushers for one.

ELCA WORLD HUNGER PROJECT

The month of July is devoted to raising awareness of world hunger and the resources available through the ELCA World Hunger Project. In the past, our bread weekends have raised awareness for the Project with great success. This month a tree in the Office Narthex is adorned with ornaments toward \$500 to purchase a cow for one family. You can use the envelopes provided with the bulletins for this purchase. To date we have raised \$868. Holy cow! Thank you!

CARDS FOR CAROLINE

Cards may be sent to Caroline Weise at the following address:

8A UH Room 8417
1500 E. Medical Center Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-5110

HAPPENING THIS WEEK!

Sunday -30th

9:30 a.m. Worship
11:00 a.m. Adult CE - Lounge

Saturday - 5th

5:00 p.m. Worship

THANK YOU

Thanks to everyone for your prayers and cards during my recent surgery and recovery. They were very much appreciated.

Sherie McTaggart

**SAVE THE DATE!
GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS
September 9th ~ 1:00-5:00**

**Family Fun Day for
Foster Children and Their Foster Families**

**LET'S HAVE FUN!!!
(No rakes, shovels or garden gloves needed)**

This year we are partnering with Mike Arzo from Arzo Amusement Park and hosting a day filled with games, amusement rides and food - but, WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We will be serving a picnic-style lunch - please bring a salad or dessert to share and we will need volunteers to be present at the event to help: serve food, care for little ones so parents can also enjoy the activities and to mingle and interact - it will be a great opportunity for us to get to know these families.

Mike Arzo may have said it best, "bringing a smile and joy on each foster care child is the most important achievement of my life."

A sign-up sheet is available in the Narthex

Worried about the flower planting at Samaritas or the Grace Lutheran Cemetery project?

We've got that covered, too - keep an eye on your bulletin.

Any questions, call:

Dawn Anderson 657-6923 or
Joelyn Rich 340-0592

SERVING JULY 30

Ministers God’s People
Pastor Rev. Tom Orth
Organist Kat Tomaszewski
Music Assistant Isabelle Denstaedt
Lector Dawn Anderson
Communion Assts. Wayne & Chris Christopherson
Ushers .. Joel & Logan Suszek, Gary & Kay Grove,
 Jo Ann Smith, Rick Engstrom
Greeters Joel & Corinne Fraley
Hospital Janet Chroninger
Altar Guild .. Chris Christopherson, Jeanne Pankey
Counters Cheryl Lang, Cindy Suszek
Coffee Hour Rich & Sherie McTaggart

SERVING AUGUST 6

Ministers God’s People
Pastor Rev. Tom Orth
Organist Kat Tomaszewski
Music Assistant Isabelle Denstaedt
Lector Ashley Timmreck
Communion Assts. Joe Gentry, Wayne Lewis
Ushers Roger & Jeanne Pankey, Don Furze,
 Sandra Christopherson, Matt, Everett & Olivia Haske
Greeters Don & Verna Furze
Hospital Janet Chroninger
Altar Guild Karen Suszek, Jo Ann Smith
Counters Gary & Kay Grove
Coffee Hour .Eleanor Coddington, Dawn Anderson

GENERAL FUND GIVING

Average needed each week to meet budget	\$ 4,058.00
Weekly giving - July 23, 2017	\$ 2,662.00
Year-to-date over/(under)	\$ (880.50)

FIRST READING

1 Kings 3:5-12

⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” ⁶And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?” ¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.”

PSALM 119:129-136

(Psalms begin page 339)

SECOND READING

Romans 8:26-39

²⁶The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. ²⁸We know that all things work together

for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family.³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us?³² He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else?³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?³⁶ As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GOSPEL Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

³¹[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed

in his field;³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."³³ He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

⁴⁴"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls;⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind;⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad.⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.⁵¹ "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes."⁵² And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

<p>GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 119 W. Dunbar St., Alpena, MI 49707 Phone: Office 354-2640 Pastor's Home 356-8729 Pastor's Cell Phone 916-8759 Pastor: Rev. Thomas W. Orth ~ Web Site: www.gracelutheran-alpena.org E-mail: pastor@gracelutheran-alpena.org officemanager@gracelutheran-alpena.org</p>
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