

Worship Folder



Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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Grace Lutheran Church

September 19-20, 2020

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## **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**

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

*(the assembly stands as you are able)*

**P:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

**C: Amen.**

**P:** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P:** Faithful God,

**C: have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**P:** God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Our sins are forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.

**C: Amen.**

*(the assembly may be seated)*

**GATHERING HYMN**      “Blessing and Honor”

*(the assembly stands as you are able)*

**GREETING**

P: The steadfast love of God, the life of Jesus Christ, and the growth of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

**KYRIE**

P: Lord have mercy

**C: Christ have mercy**

P: Lord have mercy

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**      *Unison*

**Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your  
servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful  
judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our  
Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*(the assembly may be seated)*

**WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.*

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

*(Response after first and second reading)*

L: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Jonah 3:10-4:11**

*After Jonah’s short sermon in 3:4, the Ninevites all repented and God decided to spare the city. Jonah objected to this and became even more angry when God ordered a worm to destroy a plant that was providing shade. The book ends with a question that challenges any who are not ready to forgive: You, Jonah, are all worked up about a bush, but shouldn’t I be concerned about a hundred and twenty thousand Ninevites?*

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. <sup>4:1</sup>But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. <sup>2</sup>He prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. <sup>3</sup>And now, O LORD, please take

my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.”<sup>4</sup> And the LORD said, “Is it right for you to be angry?”<sup>5</sup> Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.<sup>6</sup> The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush.<sup>7</sup> But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered.<sup>8</sup> When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”<sup>9</sup> But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.”<sup>10</sup> Then the LORD said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night.<sup>11</sup> And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

#### **Psalm 145:1-8**

*The LORD is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. (Ps. 145:8)*

- <sup>1</sup>I will exalt you, my God and king,  
and bless your name forever and ever.
- <sup>2</sup>**Every day will I bless you  
and praise your name forever and ever.**
- <sup>3</sup>Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised!  
There is no end to your greatness.
- <sup>4</sup>**One generation shall praise your works to another  
and shall declare your power.**
- <sup>5</sup>I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty  
and all your marvelous works.
- <sup>6</sup>**They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts,  
and I will recount your greatness.**
- <sup>7</sup>They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness;  
they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.
- <sup>8</sup>**The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

#### **Philippians 1:21-30**

*Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.*

- <sup>21</sup>For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain.<sup>22</sup>If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer.<sup>23</sup>I am hard pressed

between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; <sup>24</sup>but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. <sup>25</sup>Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, <sup>26</sup>so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. <sup>27</sup>Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, <sup>28</sup>and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. <sup>29</sup>For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—<sup>30</sup>since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*(the assembly stands as you are able)*

**Alleluia. Open our hearts, O Lord, to give heed to what is said by your Son.  
Alleluia.**

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

**C:** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

### **Matthew 20:1-16**

*Jesus tells a parable about God's generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve.*

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; <sup>4</sup>and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. <sup>5</sup>When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. <sup>6</sup>And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ <sup>7</sup>They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ <sup>8</sup>When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ <sup>9</sup>When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. <sup>10</sup>Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. <sup>11</sup>And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, <sup>12</sup>saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ <sup>13</sup>But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? <sup>14</sup>Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. <sup>15</sup>Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what

belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’<sup>16</sup> So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

P: The Gospel of Our Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

*(the assembly may be seated)*

## **HOMILY**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

*(the assembly stands as you are able)*

## **APOSTLE'S 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: Let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

*(the assembly may be seated)*

## **OFFERTORY MUSIC**

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

*(the assembly stands, as you are able, as the gifts are brought forward)*

P: Let us pray...Blessed are you, O God,

**C: maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation.**

**Prepare us for your earthly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Christ.*

### 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...*(concluding)*... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER/WORDS OF INSTITUTION

...we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

...in your church without end.

**C: Amen.**

### 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 are invited to participate in the Eucharist)*

**C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

*(the assembly may be seated)*

## REFLECTION MUSIC

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*(the assembly stands, as you are able)*

**P:** Let us pray...We give you thanks, gracious God,

**C:** **that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

**P:** Mothering God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

**C: Amen.**

*(the assembly may be seated)*

### SENDING HYMN

“O Lord, Now Let Your Servant”

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(the assembly stands, as you are able)*

### DISMISSAL

**P:** Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

### PRAYERS

Charlotte Werth, Hannelore Duenkel & Family (Charlotte Werth's niece), Dorothy Hansen, Alecia Lewis, Don Furze, Larry Nelson, Marge Weber, Vicki Piontkowski, Michele Amelotte, Bethany Popour, Joanne Nicholls, Gordon Hansen, Deb Nitchman's Family, Kay Zinsli, Diane Prevost, Tammy Furze, Harold Kissau, Jim Malaski, Emma Nelson, Bishop Craig Satterlee, Ann McMullen, Genie Diamond, Ann, Eric Steinke, Laura Bleau, Hazel Werblow, Sharon Anderson, Laura Hyatt (Kristin Rich's partner), Rob VanCleave, Donna Schafer, Becky, Jodi Kennedy Dinnan, Stephanie Bradford, Charlotte Barnard, Jamie Shipman, Barb Agius, Betty Kelly, Maria Shelton, Emily Cross, Liz, Lucas David, David Delano (David's Dad), Edna Delano, Joseph Hansen, Scott Coddington, and Cody Gustin.

### **PRAYER CONCERNS**

Prayer concerns received by the church office by Tuesday each week will be included in the coming weekends bulletin. Please do have the person's permission for inclusion and realize it is published online, so more than our congregation will know about it.

### **ALTAR FLOWERS**

In memory of Wilford Platt, given by Bill & Nancy Platt

### **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 5 LARCC parishes. This weekend we pray for the Lectors/Eucharistic Ministers at All Saints Catholic Parish. We also pray for this week's Synod Prayer Partner: New Life Lutheran Church/Spruce, Rev. Chrisy Bright.

### **OUTDOOR WORSHIP - SEPTEMBER 26 & 27**

We are going to try one more outside worship weekend this Fall on Saturday September 26th and Sunday September 27th at our usual worship times. That weekend projects - this far ahead - to have warm (for September) sunny weather. Again we will meet across the street and being outdoors we will sing. Bring a lawn chair. We will have some rows marked out and ask that you sit in your household units with the appropriate space of 6 feet to other people. Please use masks until you are seated. See you then.

### **SOCIAL - PHYSICAL DISTANCING IN WORSHIP SERVICES - A REMINDER**

The social - physical distancing we set up in the sanctuary are for people to be in the center of the center pews and along the wall in the side pews. The tape on the pews marks a place to sit, with your back against the tape. Seated like this allows people to pass up and down the aisles and be about 6 feet from anyone in a pew. As you leave the sanctuary, please allow the people in front of you to move out first and follow them with the appropriate distance between you. If you want to have a conversation with someone please use the Fellowship Hall or outside so that others may leave the Office Lobby and the building with space that allows them to be comfortable. Thank you for observing this and caring for others with your actions. As we continue to endure this pandemic and try to stay safe, I know we want everyone to be as comfortable and safe as possible in worship. THANK YOU. PASTOR TOM.

### **FELLOWSHIP - 10:30 AM ON SUNDAY MORNINGS.**

We will gather on Zoom at 10:30 am on Sunday morning for our on-line virtual Coffee Hour Fellowship. Find out how the week went for fellow church members. The Zoom connection info is sent out in a separate email. Looking to see many of you there. For any questions on Zoom, contact Pastor Tom.

### **ADULT CE CONTINUES 21-DAY EQUITY CHALLENGE CLASSES**

Using the United Way Equity Challenge to grow in our understanding of equity of all types, we will center our September classes around what has struck us each week from our readings and resources. Then how do we live out our faith in light of this knowledge. See you at 11:30 on Sunday morning on Zoom. If you need any information on using Zoom, please contact Pastor Tom.

### **CHRIST IN OUR HOMES**

Devotionals for the next quarter of October - December are available in the office lobby. If you are not venturing out yet, phone the office and a copy will be mailed to you.

### **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

The Church Office is open Tuesday-Thursday, from 8 a.m. - noon. We ask that you please wear a mask when in the building. Please log in on the sheets as you enter the Office Lobby. Please also log out as you exit the building, noting the areas of the building that you were in.

### **LITTLE FOOD PANTRY - THANK YOU!**

Thank you for your food donations for Grace's Little Food Pantry. It is being used and we are so happy to help people in this time of need. Want to mention that we have no refrigeration and if your items require it, we just can't accommodate. We are also looking for donated items that are quick and easy. Things that are going quickly are small cereals, apples, oranges and bananas, mac and cheese, small puddings, canned beef stew and Ramen Noodles. -- Blessings, Mary Lappan

### **21 DAY EQUITY CHALLENGE FROM UNITED WAY**

Our Joe Gentry as the Executive Director of United Way of Northeast Michigan is bringing the 21-Day Equity Challenge to the community and area.

The Challenge is: you (along with your friends, family, fellow workers and neighbors in Northeast Michigan) commit to deepening your understanding of, and willingness to confront racism for twenty-one consecutive days.

Every morning of the Challenge, you'll receive an email "prompt" with readings, videos and/or podcasts. You are encouraged to spend ten to fifteen minutes each day with the material.

The Challenge begins on September 8th and runs through September 29th. Register at the link below to begin receiving daily prompts on Tuesday, September 8th.

<https://www.unitedwaynemi.org/register-21-day-equity-challenge>

**DO YOU NEED A FACE MASK?**

Several church members have been making face masks and some are available for church members. Please call the office and let us know if you would like one. We will get one to you.

**GENERAL FUND GIVING**

|                                         |             |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|
| Average needed each week to meet budget | \$ 4,415.00 |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|

|                             |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Weekly giving - September 6 | 3,001.00 |
|-----------------------------|----------|

We received:

23 envelopes and 2 new Give+ payments made from our website

|                              |          |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Weekly giving - September 13 | 3,240.00 |
|------------------------------|----------|

We received:

18 envelopes and 1 new Give+ payments made from our website

**GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**      119 W. Dunbar St., Alpena, MI 49707

**Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

**Phone: Office 354-2640      Pastor's Home 356-8729      Pastor's Cell Phone 916-8759**

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