

✠ SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ✠

Saturday, 5:00 p.m., July 15, 2017 ~ Sunday, 9:30 a.m., July 16, 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-R533 Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty
Psalms 65:[1-8]9-13 (Psalms begin page 339)
D-R824 This Is My Father's World
C-R679 For the Fruit of All Creation
S-R551 The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

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 Music Program at First Congregational UCC.

LARGE PRINT WORSHIP FOLDERS

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

PRAYERS

Sherie McTaggart, Darlene Freeland, Judy Kautz, Debbie Anderson, Marilyn Whitsell, Erv Simi, Elsie 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, Herb Schiller, Trapp Truman, Kevin Salesman, David Schaedig, Bishop Craig Satterlee, Cody Gustin, Eric Carlson, Shirley Johnson, Mike Knoblett, Dennis Diamond, and Richard G. We also remember the family of Gary Nicholls, who passed away July 7th.

ALTAR FLOWERS

In celebration of
Myra Cross' birthday, July 15.

ADULT CHRISTIAN ED

Seven Passages video discussion

This Sunday the Adult Class will take the time to discuss the video that we have been watching these last weeks about Faith and Human Sexuality. Join us at 11 in the Lounge - even if you have not been able to join for all of the previous sessions.

**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. Our first weekend raised \$374 toward the cow. Holy cow! Thank you!

**CHOIR PRACTICE FOR
BUNNY'S SERVICE**

We will hold a choir rehearsal at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 19, here at Grace for those that would like to sing at Bunny's service on Monday, July 24, at 11:00 a.m. All are welcome.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK!

Sunday - 16th

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

Tuesday - 18th

7:00 p.m.	Council
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Wednesday - 19th

4-8:00 p.m.	Kitchen Reserved
5:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary Reserved

Saturday - 22nd

5:00 p.m.	Worship
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Funeral Service for Bunny Lyon

Monday, July 24, 2017

11:00 a.m. ~ Grace Lutheran

Fellowship Time Follows

1:00 p.m. ~ APlex

GENERAL FUND GIVING

Average needed each week to meet budget	\$ 4,058.00
Weekly giving - July 9, 2017	\$ 3,018.00
Year-to-date over/(under)	\$ 596.50

SERVING JULY 16

Ministers God's People
Pastor Rev. Tom Orth
Organist Kat Tomaszewski
Music Assistant Isabelle Denstaedt
Lector Bob Greene
Communion Assts. Wayne & Chris Christopherson
Ushers .. Joel & Logan Suszek, Gary & Kay Grove,
Jo Ann Smith, Rick Engstrom
Greeters Vicki, Trevor, & Isabelle Denstaedt
Hospital Janet Chroninger
Altar Guild .. Chris Christopherson, Jeanne Pankey
Counters Cheryl Lang, Cindy Suszek
Coffee Hour Joel & Cindy Suszek

SERVING JULY 23

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

FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹²For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

PSALM 65:[1-8]9-13

(Psalms begin page 339)

SECOND READING

Romans 8:1-11

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live

according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

GOSPEL Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no

depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!" ¹⁸"Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

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