

EXTRA Grace Notes

Grace Lutheran Church, 2006 60th Street, Kenosha, Wisconsin



October 11, 2020

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Gathering Liturgy

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW pg. 94)

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

C Amen.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

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

Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the **+** Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

GATHERING SONG. All Are Welcome (ELW #641) vv. 1 & 5
1 Let us build a house where love

*can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and
children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and
visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end
divisions:*

Refrain: *All are welcome, all are
welcome, all are welcome in this
place.*

*5 Let us build a house where all
are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught
and claimed
as words within the Word.*

*Built of tears and cries and
laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of
grace,*

*let this house proclaim from
floor to rafter: 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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE: p. 139

P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on Earth.

*Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you,
we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the
world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand
of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,*

*you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy
Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.
Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure,

and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

Lectionary 28 Readings

Isaiah 25:1–9

O LORD, you are my God;
I will exalt you, I will praise
your name;
for you have done wonderful
things,
plans formed of old, faithful
and sure.
For you have made the city a
heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of aliens is a city no
more,
it will never be rebuilt.
Therefore strong peoples will
glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will
fear you.
For you have been a refuge to the
poor,
a refuge to the needy in their
distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm
and a shade from the heat.
When the blast of the ruthless
was like a winter rainstorm,
the noise of aliens like heat in a
dry place,
you subdued the heat with the
shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was
stilled.
On this mountain the LORD of
hosts will make for all
peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of
well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with
marrow, of well-aged wines
strained clear.
And he will destroy on this
mountain
the shroud that is cast over
all peoples,

the sheet that is spread over
all nations;
he will swallow up death forever.
Then the Lord GOD will wipe
away the tears from all
faces,
and the disgrace of his
people he will take away
from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.
It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have
waited for him, so that he
might save us.
This is the LORD for whom
we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in
his salvation.

Psalms 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.
²**The LORD makes me lie
down in green pastures
and leads me beside
still waters.**
³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right
pathways for your name's
sake.
⁴**Though I walk through the
valley of the shadow of
death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.**
⁵You prepare a table before me in
the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with
oil, and my cup is running
over.
⁶**Surely goodness and mercy
shall follow me all the
days of my life,**

**and I will dwell in the
house of the LORD
forever.**

Philippians 4:1–9

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Gospel: **Matthew 22:1–14**

Once more Jesus spoke to *the people* in parables, saying: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son.

“He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’

“But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them.

“The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those

murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those



invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’

“Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’

“And he was speechless.

“Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

“For many are called, but few are chosen.”

Pastor Barker's Sermon: Isaiah 25:1–9

I want you to imagine Utopia or Paradise. What would that look like?

For me that question often reflects what is going on in my life at the time. For instance, when I was in high school and on the basketball team I imagined paradise as basketball courts as far as the eye could see and that I, along with everyone else, could jump as high as Michael Jordan.

Or, in my early 20's when my metabolism was just going off the charts and I was always hungry I imagined that paradise was the longest table I could imagine full of 4x4 cheeseburgers—four patties and eight pieces of meat apiece.

When you think of Utopia or Paradise I wonder what you think of? What images come to mind?

In our Christian tradition we have a fancy word for this: Apocalypse. Apocalypse explains

what God will do at the end of time to fix our world.

Today, we read from Isaiah's Apocalypse, which John the Seer will pick up at the very end of the book of Revelation.

Isaiah's Apocalypse is two fold.

First, Isaiah names an end to the current political system of his time. Judah was located at the major crossroads of the Ancient Near East, and they were surrounded by powerful city-states and empires. These city-states and empires all functioned in similar ways—brutal wars of conquest and brutal suppression of those they conquered.

Isaiah lived in a violent, stratified world. The first part of his Apocalypse is that these powerful cities will be turned into rubble, which will cause all the powerful nations to fear the Lord. “Cities of the ruthless nations will fear you”.

Isaiah reminds everyone that throughout this age of imperial conquest and domination God has “been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress”. And now, at the end of time, God will overturn this militarized domination system. This by the way is a theme throughout Isaiah—Isaiah earlier has prophesied that swords will be turned into ploughshares and spears into pruning hooks.

John the Seer picks up this theme in Revelation 21. John writes that on this last day where God makes all things right that the sea will be no more. This judgment against the sea is really a judgment against the Roman military and merchant system.

In Revelation 18, we read about the wicked ways of Rome at the center of the Roman Imperial system. The city grew wealthy extracting wealth from

the rest of the empire and grew wealthy on the slave trade. To overturn this system God gets rid of the sea.

Second, Isaiah names what will replace the old system. God will hold a banquet in which all the people of the world will feast on the finest food. Not only that, but death will be no more.

Endless banqueting with all the people of the earth and no more death—that is Isaiah’s Apocalypse.

The contrast with the world of his day and our day is sharp.

Our world is full of death—especially present to us now during Covid-19. Not only is our world full of disease but also full of violence. So many of the structures of our world are systems of death and trauma.

Whether this be led pipes that poison young children, air made toxic from vehicles and energy production that harms people of all ages, poverty that leads to so much trauma or so many other systems. Death and trauma are hallmarks of how so much of our world works and yet Isaiah is telling us that on the last day this will be “swallowed” up!

And it’s not just death. But all people will come together and have this beautiful feast together of the finest foods. Again, in a world where we are so divided by nationality, race, gender,

sexuality, political identification, class, and so many others this feels so far from the way our world is. Yet, this is the promise—all people will come together at God’s great banquet table.

The banquet table itself feels so different from our current world. As we know so well at Grace hunger is a part of so many of our neighbors’ weekly experiences. Some of you have probably seen the interview we



did over the summer with one of our guests and she shared that as she looked at her empty cabinets on Sunday

night Tuesday’s food pantry could not come quick enough. Our world is full of hunger—full of people who are not included at banquet feasts. And, as some of you have heard me share at Grace Welcome Center we are practicing for heaven by putting out a feast each Thursday and Friday for our guests.

So Isaiah’s Apocalypse is three fold—on the last day when God makes all things right violent imperial powers will be broken and all the people of the world will come together to feast

at God’s sumptuous banquet with death being no more. What a plan God has for our world!

Before I continue, it is important to know that this is not the only apocalyptic teaching in our scripture.

Now, in our Scriptural tradition Apocalyptic teachings serve two purposes.

First, and most obviously, they give us hope for our future. We know our broken world is not the last word—God will make all things right. This is a beautiful hope we have.

Second, especially in Jesus, but elsewhere in Scriptures as well the apocalyptic informs how we are to live now. Each week, we pray that “thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven”.

Sometimes we think of God’s will as mysterious—but it’s not really. God has told us very explicitly what God’s will for our world is—an end to violence, domination, and death and that everyone can come to a banquet feast with the best foods. This is the end of the story, but God also wants us to work towards this plan now. Jesus reminds us in Luke 17:21 that “the kingdom of God is among you.”

We see God’s vision for our world revealed before our very eyes each week as all people come to our breakfast banquet and pantry.

Amen.

Creed, Prayers and Communion Liturgy

HYMN OF THE DAY. O Day of Rest and Gladness
(ELW #521) vv. 1 & 4

1 O day of rest and gladness,
O day of joy and light,
O balm for care and sadness,
most beautiful, most bright:
on you the high and lowly,
through ages joined in tune,

sing, “Holy, holy, holy,”
to the great God triune.

4 New graces ever gaining
from this our day of rest,
we reach the rest remaining
to spirits of the blest.
We sing to you our praises,

*O Father, Spirit, Son;
the church its voice upraises
to you, blest Three in One.*

C 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 Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

PRAYER VERSE Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying (ELW #752)

Lord, listen to your children praying;

Lord, send your spirit in this place;

Lord, listen to your children praying;

Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Gracious host, fill your church with a spirit of joyous hospitality. We pray for bishops, teachers, church leaders, and all children of God as they invite others to your table of boundless grace. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Gracious host, as creation waits with eager longing for redemption, protect your creatures that are mistreated. Restore valleys, mountains and pastures, and still and running waters. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Gracious host, as you set a table in the presence of enemies, so bless the efforts of diplomats, international peace workers, and world leaders who navigate conflict. May they proceed with dialogue and understanding, so that justice and peace prevails. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Gracious host, let your gentleness be known among those who are weary or ill, *especially:*

- Mary Andrews (Welcome Center volunteer from St. Anthony's)
- Dawn Bench (Welcome Center volunteer)
- Jackie Brichacek (Nancy's sister-in-law)
- Jean Boothe (Grace soup kitchen supervisor)
- Hank Buehrens
- Andrew Calvert
- Pat Calvert
- Alyssa and Aaron Dell
- Barb Caputo
- Holly Cummings
- Eric Dangerfield (Carolyn Reynold's boyfriend)

• Jim & Connie, parents of Welcome Center volunteer Lynda Eirich

- Gregory Foster
- Steve Gapko
- Shirleen Gulick
- Dennis Houston (Dawn's father-in-law)
- Sydney Houston
- David Kramer
- David Kristopeit (Nancy's brother-in-law)
- Dorothy Keuffer
- Dean O'Hanlon
- Nancy Piehl (Andrew Calvert's cousin)
- Carolyn Reynold's children Eddie, Santino, and Lytoshia

- Cynthia Schwartz (Norma's daughter)
- Marcia Swanson
- Joyce Swift
- Florence and Jacqueline Walker (Carolyn's sisters)

• Dottie Watts

• Kristi Weiss (Rollie's daughter)

Strengthen doctors, medical care workers, and caretakers who see to their needs. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Gracious host, when we are quick to judge outward appearance, remind us how you clothe all in your mercy. We pray for ministries that provide needed clothing and other personal care assistance in this community (*local ministries can be named*). Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P Gracious host, as we remember those who have died and are gathered at the heavenly banquet, comfort us with your presence. Assure us of your peace at all times. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEAL

OFFERING. We Give Thee but Thine Own (ELW #686) v. 1

1 *We give thee but thine own,
whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone,
a trust, O Lord, from thee.*

OFFERING PRAYER

P God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING. (ELW p. 144)

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 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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 144)

*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.*

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Holy God, our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food, you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance. You dined with

Abraham and Sarah, promising them life, and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven. You sent your Son to eat with sinners and to become food for the world.

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 life given for us and his rising from the grave, we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.

By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal: strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want, and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come to the banquet table where Christ gives himself as food and drink.

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 146)

*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.*

SONG AFTER COMMUNION: Now We Join in Celebration (ELW #462) vv. 1 & 3

1 *Now we join in celebration
at our Savior's invitation,*

*dressed no more in spirit somber,
clothed instead in joy and wonder;
for the Lord of all existence,
putting off divine transcendence,
stoops again in love to meet us,
with his very life to feed us.*

3 *Lord, we share in this communion
as one family of God's children,
reconciled through you, our brother,
one in you with God our Father.
Give us grace to live for others,
serving all, both friends and strangers,
seeking justice, love, and mercy
till you come in final glory.*

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P We give you thanks, gracious God, 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.

C 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.

SENDING SONG: God Be with You Till We Meet
Again (ELW #536) vv. 1 & 3

1 *God be with you till we meet again;
by good counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you;
God be with you till we meet again.*

Refrain: *Till we meet, (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet again,)
till we meet at Jesus' feet; (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet again.)
God be with you till we meet again.*

3 *God be with you till we meet again;
when life's perils thick confound you,
put unfailing arms around you;
God be with you till we meet again.* Refrain

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C Thanks be to God.

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Pastoral Acts

Marriage:

October 3, 2020: Sarah Anne Black and Evan
Christopher Chumbler

Grace Offerings: October 4, 2020

General offering	\$ 2,847.00
Benevolence.....	\$ 36.00
Via Thrivent.....	\$ 91.00
Memorial: R. Weiss, desig. Infant Moses ..	\$100.00
Altar flowers	\$ 40.00
October bulletins	\$ 40.00
For healing and nurturing.....	\$ 100.00
Parking lot use.....	\$ 40.00
<u>Amistad Cristiana building use.....</u>	<u>\$ 800.00</u>
Total	\$ 4,094.00

Grace weekly budget: \$2,943.20

Thank you to Patsy Calahan for sponsoring the
altar flowers this morning in memory of her
husband, Patrick; and for sponsoring the worship
bulletins in the month of October

Please remember to mail in your offering
checks to Grace if you are not worshipping here in
person. You can also contribute electronically
through the "Donations" link at GraceKenosha.com.

Wednesday Night Soup Suppers Resume

Grace Lutheran resumed
offering Wednesday evening
suppers on October 7. Health
considerations prevent us from

serving meals in the building as
we did before the COVID-19
crisis. As with the Welcome
Center breakfasts, the

Wednesday evening meals are
handed out at the door for people
to take home.

Volunteers are welcome!

Grace Lutheran Church
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www.GraceKenosha.com

Worship service: 9:30 a.m. Sundays, livestreamed at www.facebook.com/GraceLutheranKenosha/

Pastor Jonathan Barker: jonathan.w.barker17@gmail.com 626-864-6404

Church office: graceoffice@wi.rr.com 262-654-9143

Office hours: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday

Roofing Project Slated to Get Underway

Great Lakes Roofing plans to get to work on Grace's roof on October 15. The project will include removing and replacing shingles, inspecting the rood decking for deterioration and repair needs, and installation of ice and water shields on the eaves, valleys, upwalls and penetrations.

The contract stipulates a two-year labor warranty from Great Lakes Roofing Corporation.

As you will recall, Grace has experienced significant leaking and serious damage from the roof during heavy rains and during spring snow melt in recent years. We expect that this improvement will return our building to good repair for a good time to come.



Elsewhere in Our Area

On October 18 at 2:00 p.m., Incarnation Lutheran Church in Milwaukee will present its annual Fall Organ Concert, played by James Stoebe.

The concert will be streamed on Incarnation's You Tube channel as well as in person at 1510 West Keefe Avenue.

All pieces are new to our concert series.

Visit www.incarnationlutheranchurch.org
or Incarnation's facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/Incarnation-Lutheran-Church-114593287250/>