

GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

415 10th Street ~ DeWitt, Iowa 52742 - Church: 563-659-9153 ~ www.gracedewitt.org

+ The Order of Service +

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 2026 - 8:00 a.m.

WELCOME GUESTS! We are delighted to have you join us for worship this morning; please take a moment to sign one of our attendance cards. Please come and worship with us again.

We are following the Divine Service, Setting 1, beginning on page 151 in the Lutheran Service Book.

The Preservice Music

A Time for Meditation

The Prelude and Lighting of the Candles

The Ringing of the Bell

The Words of Welcome by Pastor Merle Warnsholz

Opening Hymn **#816 “From All That Dwell Below the Skies”**

- 1 From all that dwell below the skies
Let the Creator's praise arise;
Alleluia, alleluia!
Let the Redeemer's name be sung
Through ev'ry land by ev'ry tongue.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord;
Eternal truth attends Thy Word.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore
Till suns shall rise and set no more.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 3 All praise to God the Father be,
All praise, eternal Son, to Thee.
Alleluia, alleluia!

Whom with the Spirit we adore
Forever and forevermore:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text (sts. 1–2): Isaac Watts, 1674–1748; (st. 3): William W. How, 1823–97

Confession and Absolution

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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 Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Ps. 34:4-8; antiphon: Ps. 34:1

P I will bless the Lord at all times;

C His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

P I sought the Lord, and he answered me

C And delivered me from all my fears.

P Those who look to him are radiant,

C And their faces shall never be ashamed.

P The poor man cried, and the Lord heard him

C And saved him out of all his troubles.

P The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him,

C And delivers them.

P Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good!

C Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P I will bless the Lord at all times;

C His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

Kyrie

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.



C A - men.

Hymn of Praise - ♪♪

Gloria in Excelsis

C Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his 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.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

P Almighty and most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what You want done; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one

God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Job 38:4-18

[The Lord said to Job:] “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

Who determined its measurements—surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

On what were its bases sunk,

or who laid its cornerstone,

when the morning stars sang together

and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

“Or who shut in the sea with doors

when it burst out from the womb,

when I made clouds its garment

and thick darkness its swaddling band,

and prescribed limits for it

and set bars and doors,

and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther,

and here shall your proud waves be stayed’?

“Have you commanded the morning since your days began,

and caused the dawn to know its place,

that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth,

and the wicked be shaken out of it?
It is changed like clay under the seal,
and its features stand out like a garment.
From the wicked their light is withheld,
and their uplifted arm is broken.
“Have you entered into the springs of the sea,
or walked in the recesses of the deep?
Have the gates of death been revealed to you,
or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?
Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth?
Declare, if you know all this.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

L Fear the Lord, you his saints,

C For those who fear him lack nothing!

L Many are the afflictions of the righteous,

C But the Lord delivers him out of them all.

Epistle

Romans 10:5-17

Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) or “‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? “The word is near

you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?” So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



Holy Gospel

Matthew 14:22-33

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourteenth chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life ✝ everlasting. Amen.

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day

#588 "Jesus Loves Me"

1 Jesus loves me! This I know,
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong;
They are weak, but He is strong. Refrain

ref Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.

2 Jesus loves me! He who died
Heaven's gates to open wide.
He has washed away my sin,
Let's His little child come in. Refrain

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820-1915, alt. - Text: Public domain

Sermon

"Why?"

Romans 10:8-9

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Each petition concludes

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

Sit

Offering

Stand

Offertory - ♪ ♪ ♪

LSB 192

C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C Amen.

The Closing Hymn #722 *“Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me”*

- 1 Lord, take my hand and lead me
 Upon life's way;
Direct, protect, and feed me
 From day to day.
Without Your grace and favor
 I go astray;
So take my hand, O Savior,
 And lead the way.
- 2 Lord, when the tempest rages,
 I need not fear,
For You, the Rock of Ages,
 Are always near.
Close by Your side abiding,
 I fear no foe,
For when Your hand is guiding,
 In peace I go.
- 3 Lord, when the shadows lengthen
 And night has come,
I know that You will strengthen
 My steps toward home.
Then nothing can impede me,
 O blessed Friend;
So take my hand and lead me
 Unto the end.

Text: Julie von Hausmann, 1825–1901; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt. -Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001845

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