REFORMATION DAY OCTOBER 26, 2025



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA) 303 N. Green Bay Rd Thiensville, WI 53092

Phone: 262-242-1174 www.grace53092.org

Worship services: Sundays at 9am, Tuesdays at 12:10pm



CHURCH STAFF

Bill Beyer – Pastor (C: 262-674-4714) Sandy Luettgen - Administrative Asst.

Fred Lynk - Custodian

Brian Dearing - Organist/Music Director Shonda Schaff - Nursery Attendant Sunday School Coordinator - Kathryn Koppa Online Giving

<u>Our Mission</u>: "Reaching out to all people as Disciples of Christ, we serve God, proclaim our faith, and care for all creation."

<u>Vision Statement</u>: At Grace, we strive to <u>G</u>uide and nurture all individuals to be <u>R</u>esilient, <u>A</u>ccepting Children of God rooted in the Enrichment of God's word.

<u>Welcome to Worship</u>: We encourage visitors to talk with our pastor following worship! Know that you are always welcome to join us for worship! If you are interested in becoming a member at any time, please contact the pastor.

<u>Communion Instruction</u>: Jesus Christ, present in this Meal of bread and wine, invites every person to share in Holy Communion, especially children. Ushers will direct you to the front, where you will come forward in an orderly fashion, receive a piece of bread, and then select either the red wine or the white grape juice and return to your seat. *Gluten-free wafers are also available; talk to the pastor if you require gluten-free*. If you would prefer not to commune today, you are welcome to come forward with your hands crossed to receive a blessing instead. If you would like your children to receive communion instruction prior to sharing in this Meal, please talk with the pastor before or after worship.

<u>Offering</u>: Offerings are not taken during worship. There is an offering plate at the back of the sanctuary and one near the front for you to drop an offering when you come up for communion. You may also scan the QR code on this page to give online.

<u>Hearing Assistance Available</u>: This facility is equipped with a hearing-assistance system. Please see an usher for assistance.

<u>Nursery Available</u>: We love to have children in worship with us. For those that play quietly there is a space for them to play with quiet toys in worship (the Pray-ground). A separate staffed nursery is provided for healthy children that are more active and like to be a bit louder.

(♦ = The congregation is invited to stand)

PRELUDE (Bell Choir)

- 1. Lloyd Larson (arr.), "O God, our Help in Ages Past" (2019) Tune: St. Anne
- 2. Lloyd Larson (arr.), "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart" (2019) Tune: Vineyard Haven

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO WORSHIP (Chancel Choir) Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750), "Now Thank We All Our God" (from the cantata, "Gott der Herr ist Sonn und Schild," BWV 79; keyboard realization by Mark Bighley, 1999) – ELW #840

♦ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (Please stand)

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin....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.

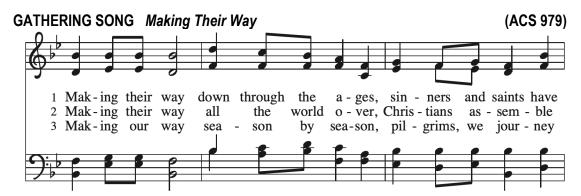
P: In the mercy of almighty God...and of the Holy Spirit. C: Amen.

◆ **GREETING** (*Please stand*)

P: The grace of our Lord... be with you all.
C: And also with you.

◆ PRAYER OF THE DAY (Please stand)

P: Let us pray. (Silence is kept for reflection) Holy God....Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. C: Amen.





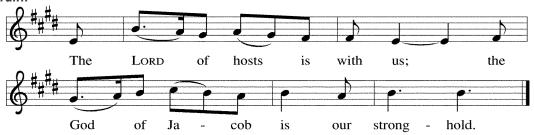
FIRST READING Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

L: Word of God. Word of Life. C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 46

Refrain:



- L: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
- C: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;
- L: though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- C: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.
- L: God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.
- C: The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away. R
- L: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- C: Come now, regard the works of the LORD, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;
- L: behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.
- C: "Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."
- L: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. R

ANTHEM (Bell Choir, Organ, Trumpet) A Mighty Fortress (Moklebust)

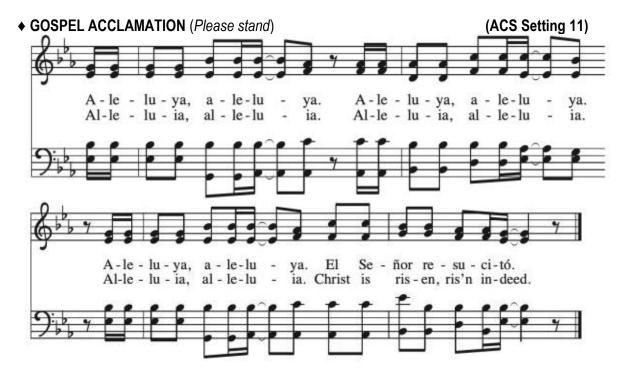
SECOND READING Romans 3:19-28

¹⁹ Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. ²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus. ²⁷ Then

what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

L: Word of God. Word of Life. C: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S TIME



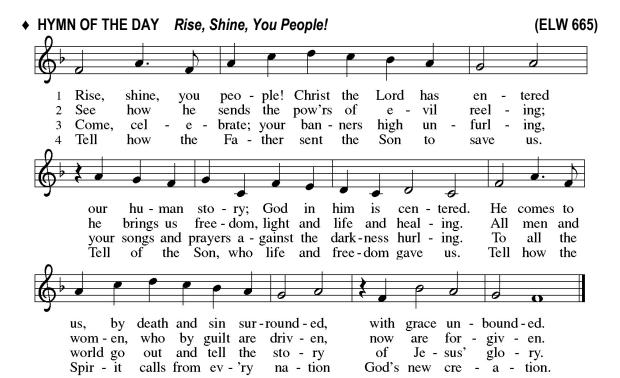
♦ GOSPEL John 8:31-36

P: The holy gospel, according to John, the 8th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord. (The gospel is announced)

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³ They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?" ³⁴ Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

SERMON



NICENE CREED

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: God of mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

P: We offer our prayers.... through Jesus Christ our Lord. C: Amen.

◆ EUCHARISTIC PRAYER (Please stand)

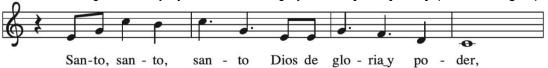
Ho - san - na,

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

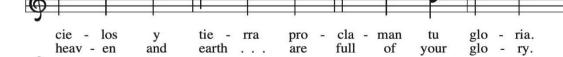
P: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them to the Lord.

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...join their unending hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy (ACS Setting 11)



Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God of pow - er and might,



Ho - san - na, los cie - los. ho - san - na, ho - san-na en

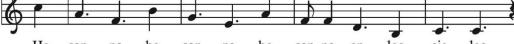
ho - san-na

ho - san - na,

the

high - est.

in



los cie - los. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na en Ho - san - na. ho - san - na. ho - san-na in the high - est.



vie - ne en Ben - di - to a - quel que el nom - bre de Dios. Bless-ed is the one who God. comes in the name of our



cie - los. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na los en Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.



cie - los. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na los en Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

P: Holy God, you alone are holywith every breath. C: We praise you, O God.

P: Generations bless your faithfulness.....into the future. C: We bless you, O God.

P: We give you thanks for your dear Son....with us now. C: We thank you, O God.

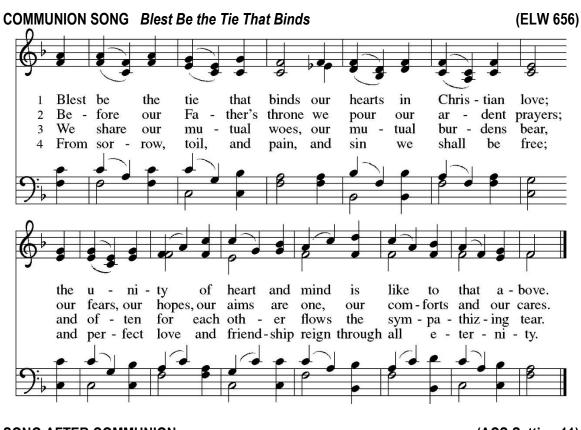
- P: In the night in which he was betrayed we proclaim the mystery of faith:
- C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P: We pray for the gift of your Spirit.... without end. C: Amen.

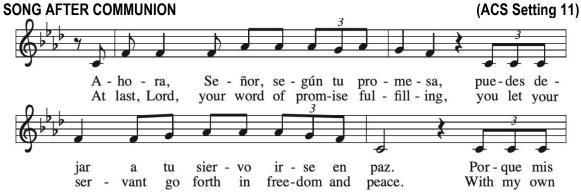
♦ THE LORD'S PRAYER

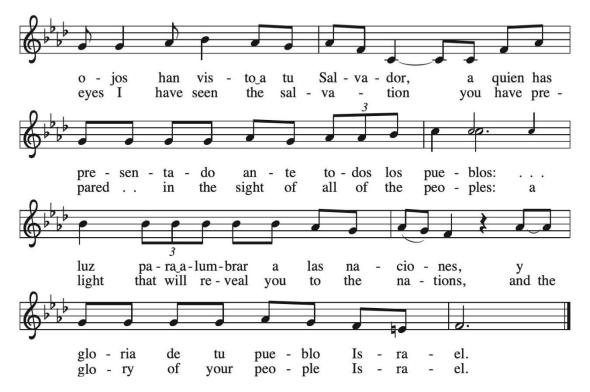
C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.









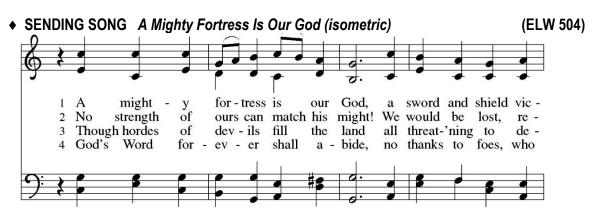


PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: We give you thanks, almighty God ... for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

♦ BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and 🛨 give you peace. **C: Amen.**





◆ DISMISSAL (Please stand)
 P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
 C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE (Bell Choir, Organ, Trumpet): Richard Strauss (1864-1949), "Festival Procession" (arr. 1989 by Doug E. Wagner)

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Music Notes:

The **Prelude** consists of arrangements by Lloyd Larson of familiar seasonal; hymns. Larson holds a BA from Anderson University (1976) and a MCM from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (1979) and has more than 1,500 published compositions and arrangements. As the **Last Prelude**, the Chancel Choir presents J.S. Bach's magnificent arrangement of "Nun dankett alle Gott" in an English translation by Catherine Winkworth (1829-1878). Trumpet and piano team up for the independent accompaniment. The **Postlude** is the Solemn Entry for the Knights of St. John ("Feierlicher Einzug" AV 103 / TrV 224) by Richard Strauss. Strauss was an eminent German composer, conductor, pianist and violinist, whose style would be described as late Romantic and early modern, using advanced (but not outlandish) harmonies. He was most successful in the areas of opera (e.g., "Der Rosenkavalier") and tone poems (e.g., "Also sprach Zarathustra," which was used by director Stanley Kubrick as the theme from "2001: A Space Odyssey").

The **Hymn of the Day** is by Milwaukee-born Ronald A. Klug (1939-2021). Educated at Dr. Martin Luther College in New Ulm, MN, he was a schoolteacher (including in Madagascar) before becoming a free-lance writer. The tune, "Wojtkiewiecz," was written for this tune by Dale Wood (1934-2003). Wood produced more than 300 compositions, beginning with a prize-winning hymn tune at the age of 13.

<u>Next week</u>: Chancel Choir warms up at 8:15am, sings for 9:00am worship, and rehearses after worship at 10:15am.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Sunday Worship Leaders Next Sunday Worship Leaders

Greeter: Marilyn DeMore Greeter: TBD

Reader: Dawn Omernik Reader: JoAnn Holdmann

Wine: JoAnn Holdmann, Nancy Perez
Usher: TBD
Usher: TBD

Comm. Set Up: Anna Martin Comm. Set Up: JoAnn Holdmann

Coffee Fellowship: TBD Coffee Fellowship: Janie Robbins & Kim Nagel

This week at Grace

Sun 10/26 Reformation Day

7:45am Trumpet Warmup 8am Bell Choir Warmup

8:30am Chancel Choir Warmup

9:00am Worship ~ Chancel & Bell Choirs & Trumpet provide music

10:15am *** No Rehearsals ***
10:15am Confirmation Class
10:15am Pumpkin Patch Outing
10:15am Memorial Team Meeting

10:15am Mutual Ministry Team Meeting

3pm Trunk-or-Treat

Mon 10/27 6pm Scouts

Tue 10/28 12:10pm Devotional Worship

3:30pm Violin Lessons

5:30pm Scouts

Wed 10/29 3:30pm Violin Lessons

Thu 10/30 12pm Bible Study

Sat 11/1 9am SBG Band Rehearsal

10am Decorating Thiensville (Downtown Thiensville)

Sun 11/2 All Saints Sunday

8:15am Chancel Choir Warmup

9:00am Worship ~ Chancel Choir Sings 10:15am ~ Community Life Team Meeting

10:15am Chancel Choir Rehearsal

<u>Grace's Welcome Statement</u>: Grace Lutheran Church is a religious community that celebrates the gifts of God that empower us to engage in the struggles of life, to care for each other, and to serve Christ where we work and live. Grace is a "Reconciling in Christ" congregation, which means we welcome the participation of people of all ages, races, ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender identities, education backgrounds, and economic conditions – all who want to join us in serving God, proclaiming our faith, and caring for all creation.

<u>It's A Boy!</u> Congratulations to Hayley and Brian Kucharski on the birth of their son, Tucker Henry, brother to Tillie, who was born on Wednesday, October 22! Mom and baby are stable. Blessings to the Kucharski family!



<u>All Saints Sunday</u>: Next Sunday, November 2, you will have the opportunity to have loved ones mentioned in worship that have passed away **since the last All Saints Day (November 1, 2024)** by filling out a slip of paper with those names.

<u>Isaiah 55 Food Pantry (All Peoples Church)</u>: Donations to the food pantry are appreciated more than ever as the need continues to increase. You may drop food and hygiene items off in the bins just outside the Luther room.



<u>Decorating Thiensville</u>: Let's get involved in our community! Downtown Thiensville is asking a couple of local churches to get at least 10 volunteers each to help install holiday lights on lights poles in downtown Thiensville. The event will take place on November 1 from 10am with donuts and hot chocolate to 11:30am when we will have a pizza and soda lunch at Remington's River

Jan Sand

Inn. If you don't want to climb, there is plenty of ground work. Let's show the community "Grace In Action"! There's a sign-up sheet on the Communication desk. Refer questions to Theresa Umhoefer (262)227-8840 or Janie Robbins (262)646-4628

Endowment Scholarship Applications: The Grace Endowment Board is now accepting applications for 2025 from college students for a scholarship to help fund their college expenses. The program's requirements and directions about how to apply are set forth in the application, which is located on the communication desk, and can also be found on our website. We encourage all members who are enrolled in college to apply for this years' awards by December 1, 2025. Applications may be delivered to the church office or sent to Sandy by email.

Growing in Grace: Families involved in our children's education ministry, don't forget to check our ministry website for updates on events, Education classes, and volunteer opportunities! You can also email Katy Koppa for updates at kathrynkoppa@gmail.com.



Call 877-232-2376 or use the QR code here.

Save the Date! Saturday, November 15, 9am-2pm is Grace's Second Annual Winter Craft Fair! Crafts, Food, Wine Pull, Raffle, and a great opportunity to support the church! Flyers can be found on the welcome desk to post or share with friends. Don't forget to bring in your wine pull donations by November 9!

Trunk-or-Treat: Today is the day! Decorate your vehicle or dress up and join us for Trunk-or-Treat, Sunday October 26th from 3 - 6pm. Set up will begin at 2:30pm in the church parking lot.



Candy and hot drinks will be provided, though feel free to bring additional treats to pass out. And don't forget to stay afterward for pizza!



Guest House Sandwiches: We assemble sandwiches for the guests at the Guest House twice each month – on the first and third Wednesdays at 9am. Join us for this opportunity to serve and to enjoy fellowship with one another on November 5 and 19.

Mutual Ministry Team Members: Below are the current Mutual Ministry Team members in the event you would like to contact one of these leaders. The MMC is the liaison between the congregation, the pastor and other staff.

Dan Umhoefer Theresa Umhoefer Pam Stockbridge Matt Junker

2025 Council: Below are the 2025 Council members in the event you would like to contact one of these leaders.

Ryan Bernard (President): 920-418-5235 Diana Koppa: 414-254-9983 Janie Robbins (VP): 262-646-4628 Kevin Sibley (Treasurer): 262-302-8182 JoAnn Holdmann (Secretary): 262-290-1609

David Rockwood: 262-389-4045 Geri Schesel: 262-227-9251

<u>Sunday Coffee Fellowship Information</u>: We're looking for friendly faces to help with coffee fellowship on Sunday mornings. It's an easy but important ministry towards hospitality. There is a great guideline to follow and support is provided!! Just set up coffee, bring a few treats, one always gluten free, and help create a warm, welcoming space for connection after worship.

If interested, please sign up using one of the following options:

- · Communication desk signup sheet
- Online with SignupGenius using the link in the Grace Notes or the QR code here
- · Call the office and let Sandy know
- · Theresa and Jen will also be reaching out by phone as well
- · You can also reach out to: Jen Bartz ~ 414-550-5231, Theresa Umhoefer ~ 262-227-8840



Worship Volunteers: Calling all readers, wine servers, ushers, greeters, communion setup folks and coffee fellowship helpers! There is a hard copy of the SignupGenius form on the communication desk for those that find it easier to sign up on their way in or out of church. The link sent out in the Grace Notes is still active and available, and this QR code can also be used to connect to the Signup Genius. Emails and phone calls are always welcome as well. Thank you for all your help!

Celebrations last week and this week:

Birthdays: Jeff Wolf - 10/26, Jaci Robar -10/27, Mary Karthauser -10/30, Matt Bartz - 10/31,

Caiden Maciejewski - 10/31

Anniversaries: Ryan & Morgan Bernard – 10/31, Bill & Dawn Luebke – 10/31

<u>Prayers</u>: Chevelle Lutze (Veronica Junker's great-niece), Lana (Janie Robbins's cousin), Andy Roehrborn (cousin of Matt Junker), Debbie (friend of Dawn Omernik), Rick Chu (Veronica Junker's uncle), Jerry Karthauser, Judy Schwartz (friend of Delaine Jacobs), David Rauth, Janie Robbins, Hayley Kucharski, Tucker Kucharski.