

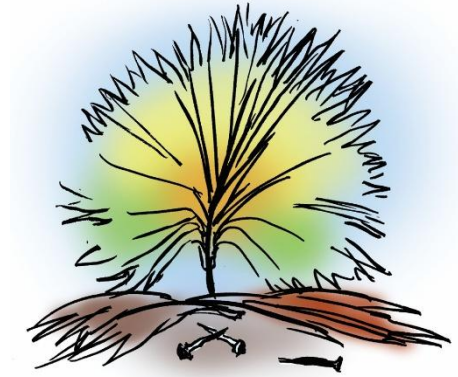
14th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 30, 2026

9:30am

All Times and Places: WOV setting 6

Grace Lutheran Church
Wenatchee, WA



Welcome to Grace!

The stained-glass windows in our church display a beautiful collection of glass pieces, each one unique and important. The same is true for all of God's children. As people of Grace Lutheran Church, our diversity makes us stronger and more resilient.

We strive to welcome all. We want to be a church where all are safe, all are welcome. Believers, non-believers, doubters, seekers, and questioners: You are welcome here. Old and young. Able or disabled. People of all sexual orientations and gender identities: You are welcome here. Rich and poor. Black, brown, and white: You are welcome here. Jeans and a t-shirt or a suit and tie. Addiction and mental health concerns: You are welcome here.

You are welcomed and valued here, because we are all pieces of stained glass, broken and beautiful in our own way.

As a church, we resolve to open our hearts, our minds, and our doors. We seek to reconcile ourselves to one another and to God, the master artist.

Holy Communion: *We celebrate the grace of God with Holy Communion each Sunday. All are welcome!*

If you are worshipping with children: *Children are welcome and encouraged to join us in worship! We have a few options especially for our young worshipers. **Children's bulletins** are available from the ushers. We have a **Cozy Corner**, with books and quiet activities, in the back part of the sanctuary. We also have a staffed **nursery** available during our worship gathering. You will find it down the administrative wing, on the left.*

Our Mission Statement: *"To proclaim and celebrate the gospel of Jesus Christ through word and sacraments so that a community of believers is created, trained, nurtured, and sent into mission."*

Grace Lutheran is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation.



Introduction to the day

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

+ + + GATHERING + + +

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

A note to children and families: watch for "kids' cues" throughout today's service.
These are opportunities to engage in worship and stay connected as all generations of Grace worship together. Parents and other helpers - we encourage you to help your children notice these cues and participate at whatever level is appropriate for them.



WELCOME & KIDS' TALK

PRELUDE

Siciliano from Flute Sonata in E Flat Major

C. P. E. Bach

Please stand as you are able.

LITANY IN TIME OF WILDFIRES

Holy God, in the wake of fires that devour and consume,
Refresh us with the water of life.

In the barren places of ash and dust,
Restore us with the water of life.

When all we can see is devastation and despair,
Renew us with the water of life.

In Christ, we are washed clean.
We are refreshed.

In Christ, we drink from the wellspring of hope.
We are restored.

In Christ, we dance in the fountain of life.
We are renewed.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**



Kids' Cue

Join the pastor at the baptismal font.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence for reflection.

Compassionate God,

we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,

all you who are weary

and are carrying heavy burdens,

and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,

your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love. **Amen.**



Kids' Cue

Walk with the pastor to the front,
then go back to your family.

GATHERING SONG

ELW #879, *For the Beauty of the Earth*

Harmonies may be found in ELW – the cranberry hymnal.



- 1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
- 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
- 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
- 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
- 5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.



Kids' Cue

Use your hands to give the blessing
back to the pastor.

SONG OF PRAISE

ELW #846, *Amen, We Praise Your Name*
Sing 3 times, in harmony (either language).

Leader Assembly

Ma - si - thi! A - men si - a - ku - du - mi - sa! Ma - si - thi!
Sing prais - es! A - men, we praise your name, O God! Sing prais - es!

A - men si - a - ku - du - mi - sa! Ma - si - thi! A - men, ba - wo.
A - men, we praise your name, O God! Sing prais - es! A - men, a - men.

A - men, ba - wo. A - men si - a - ku - du - mi - sa! Ma - si - thi!
A - men, a - men. A - men, we praise your name, O God! Sing prais - es!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

+++ WORD +++

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

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 15:15-21

Jeremiah's delight in the word of the Lord is contradicted by the heaviness of God's hand upon him and God's seeming unfaithfulness. God's tough love to Jeremiah says that if he repents, he will be allowed to continue in his strenuous ministry. Jeremiah is strengthened by the simple words, "I am with you."

A reading from Jeremiah.

¹⁵ O Lord, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.

¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart,

for I am called by your name,
O Lord, God of hosts.

¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?

Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.

¹⁹ Therefore thus says the Lord:
If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.

It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.

²⁰ And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
says the Lord.

²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.



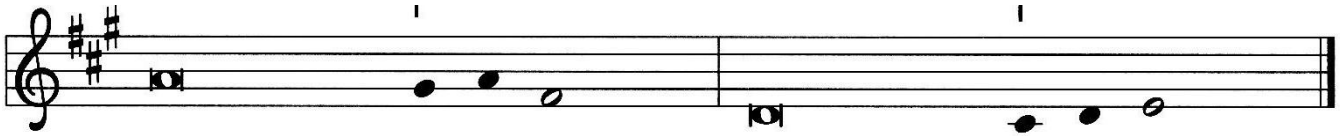
Kids' Cue

What does it mean to "eat"
God's word with delight?

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 26:1-8

All sing responsively, beginning with the cantor.



¹ Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived [|] with integrity;
I have trusted in the Lord and [|] have not faltered.

² Test me, O [|] Lord, and try me;
examine my heart [|] and my mind.

³ For your steadfast love is be- [|] fore my eyes;
I have walked faithful- [|] ly with you.

⁴ I have not sat [|] with the worthless,
nor do I consort with [|] the deceitful.

⁵ I have hated the company of [|] evildoers;
I will not sit down [|] with the wicked.

⁶ I will wash my hands in inno- [|] cence, O Lord,
that I may go in procession [|] round your altar,

⁷ singing aloud a song [|] of thanksgiving
and recounting all your won- [|] derful deeds.

⁸ Lord, I love the house in [|] which you dwell
and the place where your glo- [|] ry abides.

SECOND READING: Romans 12:9-21

Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.

A reading from Romans.

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.



Kids' Cue

How many "alleluias" are there?

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Cantor:

All:

Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

Cantor:

All:

Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

Music: South African; arr. Gobingca Mxadana
Arr. © Gobingca Mxadana

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28

After Peter confesses that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a "rock."

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²¹ From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.



Kids' Cue

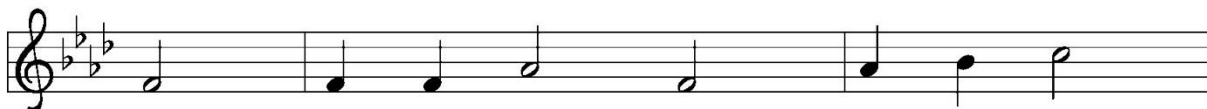
How many "cross" are there?

HYMN OF THE DAY

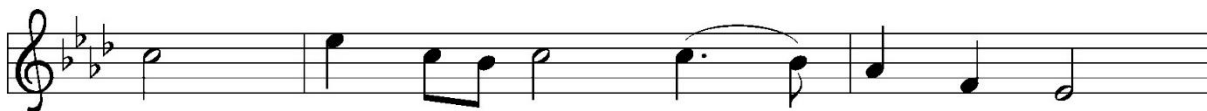
ELW #667, *Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said*
Harmonies may be found in ELW – the cranberry hymnal.



1 "Take up your cross," the Sav - ior said,
2 Take up your cross; let not its weight
3 Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,
4 Take up your cross and fol - low Christ,



"if you would my dis - ci - ple be;
per - vade your soul with vain a - larm;
nor let your fool - ish heart re - bel;
nor think till death to lay it down;



for - sake the past, and come this day,
his strength shall bear your spir - it up,
for you the Lord en - dured the cross
for those who hum - bly bear the cross



and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me."
sus - tain your heart, and nerve your arm.
to save your soul from death and hell.
one day will wear the glo - rious crown.

Text: Charles W. Everest, 1814–1877, alt.
Music: BOURBON, W. Hauser, *Hesperian Harp*, 1848

APOSTLES' 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 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. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

After each portion of the prayers:

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Please be seated.



Kids' Cue

Find someone new and say,
"Peace be with you."

+++ MEAL +++

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.



To donate electronically, use this QR code.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Sing Unto the Lord
Vocal Quartet

G. F. Händel, arr. Carl Fredrickson

Sing unto the Lord, all ye nations; sing His praises among all people. Let all the earth be joyful, and praise His name with singing, for great is our Lord. Sing unto Him with thanksgiving; sing unto God with joy. O sing unto the Lord; say unto all the nations that the Lord God is merciful, and ruleth the world with righteousness.

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right ... join their unending hymn:



Kids' Cue

Listen for the rhythm instruments.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Refrain/Estrillo

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is our God,
God, the Lord of earth and heav - en. Ho - ly, ho - ly is our God.
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is our God,
God, the Lord of all of his - t'ry. Ho - ly, ho - ly is our God. *End/Fin*

*Cantor: Who accompanies our people, who lives within our struggles,
of all the earth and heaven the one and only Lord.
Blest are they who in the Lord's name announce the holy gospel,
proclaiming the good news that our liberation comes. **Refrain (All)***

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God ... both now and forever. **Amen.**



Kids' Cue

Watch for Pastor to lift up the
bread and then the wine.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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.**



Kids' Cue

Can you pray this from memory?

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Heaven has come near.
Come, share in the feast!

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

COMMUNION SONG

Oi, Ju - ma - lan Ka - rit - sa, io - ka pois o - tat maa - il - man
O Lamb . . of God, you take . . . a - way . . the sin of the
syn - nin, ar-mah-da mei-tä, ar-mah-da mei - tä. (Repeat)
world; . . have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us.

Oi, Ju-ma-lan Ka - rit - sa, io-ka pois o - tat maa-il-man syn - nin,
O Lamb of God, you take . . a - way . . the sin of the world; . . .
an - na meil-le rau - ha - si ja siu-na - uk - se - si.
grant us vi - sion, grant us jus-tice, grant us your own true peace.

Music: Matti Rantatalo
Music © 1992 Matti Rantatalo

DISTRIBUTION SONG

ELW #808, Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

1 *Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te;*
 1 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney;
 2 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
 3 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant,
 4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my jour - ney;

Jé - sus, je vou - drais t'an-non-cer à mes voi - sins par - tout,
 I'll tell ev - 'ry - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er I go:
 May all of my joy be a faith - ful re - flec - tion of you.
 to car - ry your cross and to share all your bur - dens and tears.
 but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.

car toi seul es la vie et la paix et l'a - mour:
 you a - lone are our life and our peace and our love.
 May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.
 For you saved me by giv - ing your bod - y and blood.
 And with all of the fam - 'ly you saved by your love,

Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te.
 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney.
 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant.
 we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our jour - ney.

Text: Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community; tr. Stephen Somerville, b. 1931

Music: LES PETITES SOEURS, Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community

Text and music ©1987 Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Tr. © 1970 Stephen Somerville, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

arr. David Cherwien

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.
Amen.

+ + + SENDING + + +

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Please be seated.

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
✠ one God, bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.
Amen.



Kids' Cue

Try holding your hands out,
like you are receiving a big gift.



SENDING SONG

May the God of Hope Go with Us

A Presbyterian missionary from Michigan, Rev. Alvin Schutmaat lived most of his life in Colombia teaching theology and music. He arranged many Latin American hymns for use in North American churches and wrote both the Spanish and the English words to an Argentinian folk tune. A direct English translation captures the power of the Spanish: "God of hope, give us joy and peace. To a world in crisis, speak your truth. God of justice, send us your light, light and hope in the darkness. Let us pray for peace, let us sing of your love. Let us fight for peace, faithful to you, Lord."

Sing 3 times.



¡Dios de la es - pe - ran - za, da - nos go - zo y paz!
May the God of hope go with us ev - 'ry day,



Al mun - do en cri - sis, ha - bla tu ver - dad.
to a world in need with news of joy and peace.



Dios de la jus - ti - cia, mán - da - nos tu luz,
May the God of jus - tice speed us on our way,



luz y es - pe - ran - za en la os - cu - ri - dad.
bring-ing light and hope to ev - 'ry land and race.



O - re - mos por la paz, can - te - mos
Pray-ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our



de tu a - mor. Lu - che - mos por la paz,
joy with all; work - ing for a world that's new,



fie - les a ti, Se - ñor.
faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.

Text: Alvin Schutmaat, 1921–1988, alt.
Music: ARGENTINA, Argentine folk melody

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.



Kids' Cue

Respond with loud joy.

POSTLUDE

May the God of Hope Go with Us

arr. William McNair



Kids' Cue

Go to the front of the room.
Ask the Holy Communion helpers
about the eternal flame candle.

+ + +

Serving in Today's Worship

Presiding Minister:	Rev. James Aalgaard
Assisting Minister:	Phil Gregg
Lector:	Kate Gregg
Cantor:	Dane Schmidt
Greeters/Ushers:	Kathy & Gary Otheim
Guitar:	Kent Heminger
Flutes:	Karen & Lisa Zanol
Percussion:	Kate Gregg, Candy Koch, Marlena La Paz
Altar Guild:	Denise Miller
Tech:	Erik Olson

+ + +

A note regarding livestreaming at Grace: With your participation in our worship services, we assume you have granted us permission to include you in our videos. If you have a concern about being included, please let the staff know, and we will help find a solution that meets your needs.

+ + +

Acknowledgements

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #46052.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Permission to podcast/stream/print the music in this service obtained from One License #A-706965 and CCLI #11172667.

Litany in Time of Wildfires from our ELCA Worship Resources in the Time of Wildfires. All rights reserved.

Amen, We Praise Your Name, Text: South African traditional, P.D. Music: attr. S. C. Molefe, as taught by Gobingca George Mxadana © Gobingca Mxadana. Permission requested.

Holy, Holy, Holy Text: Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955; tr. Linda McCrae. Music: Guillermo Cuéllar. Text and music © 1993 GIA Publications, Inc., www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

Rev. James Aalgaard
Deacon Ruth Anderson
Jen Pearson-Gale
Ann Martinson-Bartlett

Pastor
Director of Music Ministries
Office Administrator
Office Assistant

pastor@glcwen.org
deacon@glcwen.org
office@glcwen.org

Grace Lutheran Church
1408 Washington Street, Wenatchee WA 98801
509-663-2189
www.glcwen.org

