

19th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, October 4, 2026
10:30am

ELW setting 10

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. We also encourage parents and guardians to point out **Kids' Cues** during the service, as a way to help younger worshipers be more fully engaged.*

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

In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

+ + + 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

All Creatures of Our God and King/Shaker Song

arr. Rachel Trelstad Porter

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection.

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.**

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**



Kids' Cue

Join Pastor
at the
baptismal font.

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**



Kids' Cue

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

GATHERING SONG

ELW #835, *All Creatures, Worship God Most High!*



1-All
2-Low voices (TB)
3-High voices (SA)
4-All

All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev-'ry voice in earth and
Sing, broth-er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and
Sing, broth-er fire, so mirth-ful, strong; drive far the shad-ows, join the
All who for love of God for-give, all who in pain or sor-row



sky: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Sing, broth-er sun, in splen-dor
grain: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Dear sis-ter wa-ter, use-ful,
throng: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Dear moth-er earth, so rich in
grieve: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



bright; sing, sis-ter moon and stars of night:
clear, make mu-sic for your Lord to hear: Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-
care, praise God in col-ors bright and rare:
fears; still make your song a-mid the tears:



lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

5-Choir

And you, most gentle sister death,
waiting to hush our final breath:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
fair is the night that leads us home.
Alleluia.

6-All

O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
Alleluia.

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226; tr. composite
Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623
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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

Extend your hands
to also share your
blessing with
Pastor.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!



Kids' Cue

Throughout the
canticle, ring a
chime.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

+ + + WORD + + +

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

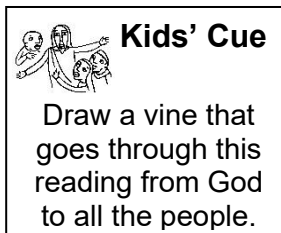
FIRST READING: Isaiah 5:1-7

The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about the relationship between God and Israel. In this song Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God's loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth "rotten grapes" of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.

A reading from Isaiah.

- ¹ I will sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.
- ² He dug it and cleared it of stones
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded rotten grapes.
- ³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.
- ⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield rotten grapes?
- ⁵ And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.
- ⁶ I will make it a wasteland;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.
- ⁷ For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his cherished garden;
he expected justice
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness
but heard a cry!

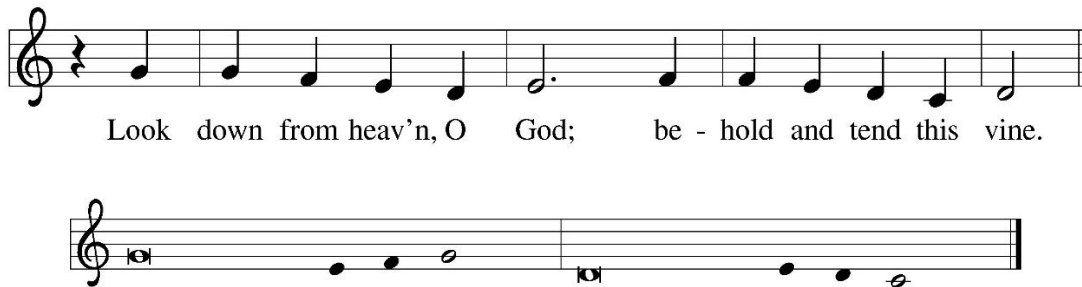
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM 80:7-15

The choir introduces the refrain; all repeat it.

All sing verses and refrains as indicated.



Restore us, O God of hosts;

let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

⁸You have brought a vine out of Egypt;

you cast out the nations and planted it.

⁹You cleared the ground for it;

it took root and filled the land.

¹⁰The mountains were covered by its shadow

and the towering cedar trees by its boughs. *Refrain*

¹¹You stretched out its tendrils to the sea

and its branches to the river.

¹²Why have you broken down its wall,

so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?

¹³The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it,

and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

¹⁴Turn now, O God of hosts,

look down from heaven;

¹⁵behold and tend this vine;

preserve what your right hand has planted. *Refrain*

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14

Paul reviews some of his supposed credentials, which no longer have any bearing in comparison to the right relationship he has been given through the death of Christ. The power of Christ's resurrection motivates him to press on toward the ultimate goal, eternal life with Christ.

A reading from Philippians.

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

...continued on p. 7 ...

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ.
⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.



Kids' Cue

What is the goal of our life of faith in Jesus?

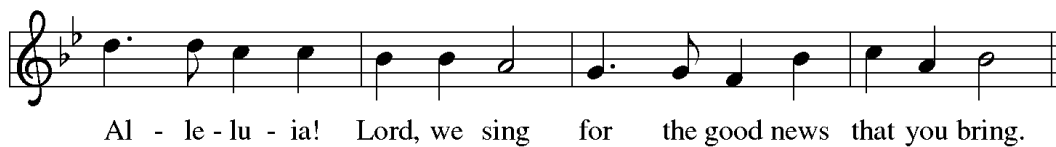
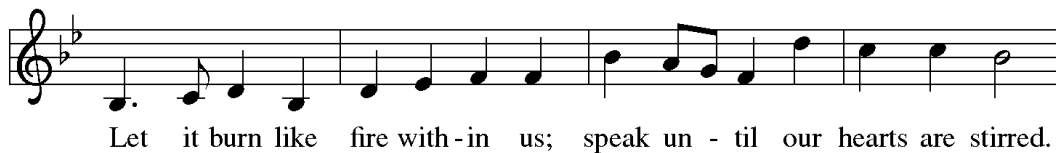
¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 21:33-46

Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ³³ “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹ They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes’?

⁴³ “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

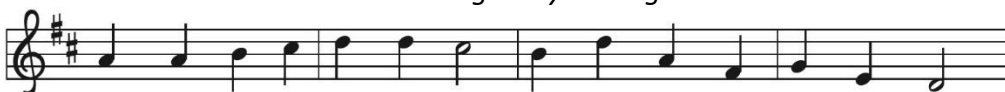


Kids' Cue

Draw a picture of
your growing faith.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Faith Begins By Letting Go



1 Faith be - gins by let - ting go, giv - ing up what had seemed sure,
2 Faith en - dures by hold - ing on, keep - ing mem - 'ry's roots a - live
3 Faith ma - tures by reach - ing out, stretch - ing minds, en - larg - ing hearts,



tak - ing risks and press - ing on, though the way feels less se - cure:
so that hope may bear its fruit; prom - ise - fed, our souls will thrive,
shar - ing strug - gles, liv - ing prayer, bind - ing up the bro - ken parts;



pil - grim - age both right and odd, trust - ing all our life to God.
not through mer - it we pos - sess but by God's great faith - ful - ness.
till we find the com - mon - place ripe with wit - ness to God's grace.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, *Choralbuch*, 1815

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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.



Kids' Cue

Who is part of your communion of saints?

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new,
we pray for the church and the world.

After each portion of the prayers:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God,
we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Kids' Cue

Close your eyes
and "listen deeply"
to everything
around you.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated.

+++ MEAL +++

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.



To donate electronically, use this QR code.

MUSICAL OFFERING

My Song Is Love Unknown
Voices of Grace

Edwin T. Childs

My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me, love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?

Sometimes they strew his way, and his sweet praises sing; resounding all the day Hosannas to their king.
Then "Crucify!" is all their breath, and for his death they thirst and cry.

Why, what has my Lord done to cause this rage and spite? He made the lame to run, and gave the blind their sight.
What injuries! Yet these are why the Lord most high so cruelly dies, my Savior dies, my song of love so cruelly dies.

Here might I stay and sing of him my soul adores. Never was love, dear king, never was grief like yours!
This is my friend in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend. My song is love.

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.
Amen.



Kids' Cue

Draw a vine through
the offering prayer,
from God to all
people.

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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

A musical score for the hymn 'Holy, Holy, Holy'. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff continues the melody. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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

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

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



Kids' Cue

What belongs to
God?

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

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

LAMB OF GOD



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION SONG

ELW #824, *This Is My Father's World*

1-All	This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis-t'ning ears all
2-Choir	This is my Fa-ther's world; the birds their car-ols raise; the
3-All	This is my Fa-ther's world; oh, let me not for-get that,

na - ture sings, and round me rings the mu - sic of the spheres.
 morn - ing light, the lil - y white, de - clare their mak - er's praise.
 though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul - er yet.

This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought of
 This is my Fa-ther's world; he shines in all that's fair. In the
 This is my Fa-ther's world; why should my heart be sad? The

rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the won - ders wrought.
 rus - tling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me ev'-ry-where.
 Lord is king, let heav - en ring; God reigns, let earth be glad!

Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858–1901

Music: TERRA PATRIS, Franklin L. Sheppard, 1852–1930, adapt.

DISTRIBUTION SONG

ELW #595, *Jesus Loves Me!*



1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;
 2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;
 3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;



lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.
 he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.
 when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

Refrain



Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,



yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820–1915, alt.
 Music: JESUS LOVES ME, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

+ + + SENDING + + +

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

Please be seated.

BLESSING OF PACKING FRIENDSHIP MINISTRY

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.



Kids' Cue

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

SENDING SONG

ELW #826, *Thine the Amen*

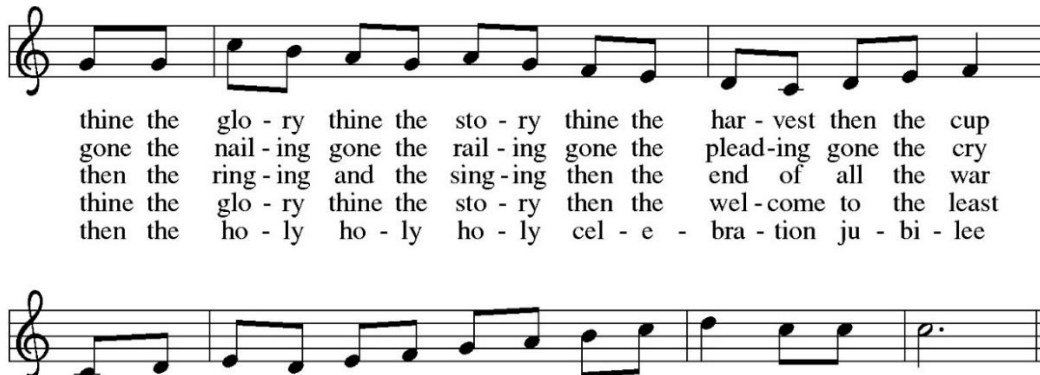


1	Thine the	a - men	thine the	praise	al - le -	lu - ias	an - gels	raise
2	Thine the	life e -	ter - nal -	ly	thine the	prom - ise	let there	be
3	Thine the	tru - ly	thine the	yes	thine the	ta - ble	we the	guest
4	Thine the	king - dom	thine the	prize	thine the	won - der	full sur -	prise
5	Thine the	glo - ry	in the	night	no more	dy - ing	on - ly	light



thine the	ev - er -	last - ing	head	thine the	break - ing	of the	bread
thine the	vi - sion	thine the	tree	all the	earth on	bend - ed	knee
thine the	mer - cy	all from	thee	thine the	glo - ry	yet to	be
thine the	ban - quet	then the	praise	then the	jus - tice	of thy	ways
thine the	riv - er	thine the	tree	then the	Lamb e -	ter - nal -	ly

... continued on p. 15 ...



thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry thine the har - vest then the cup
 gone the nail - ing gone the rail - ing gone the plead - ing gone the cry
 then the ring - ing and the sing - ing then the end of all the war
 thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry then the wel - come to the least
 then the ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee

thine the vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.
 gone the sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.
 thine the liv - ing thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.
 then the won - der all in - creas - ing at thy feast at thy feast.
 thine the splen - dor thine the bright - ness on - ly thee on - ly thee.

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926
 Music: THINE, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929
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DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.



Kids' Cue

Respond with
loud joy.

POSTLUDE

Double Fugue in C Major

John Keeble

+ + +

Serving in Today's Worship

Presiding Minister:	Rev. James Aalgaard
Director of Music Ministries:	Deacon Ruth Anderson
Ushers/Greeters:	Howard Morris & Corinna Nelson
Lector:	Adam Campbell
Communion Assistants:	Suellen Harris, David Belcher
Tech:	Marlena La Paz



Kids' Cue

Check the pews
for anything that
should be recycled
or put in the
garbage.

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.

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