

12th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 16, 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

In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

+ + + GATHERING + + +

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

WELCOME & KIDS' TALK

PRELUDE

Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now

J. G. Walther, arr. B. M. Culli

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.

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.

GATHERING SONG

ELW #886, *Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*
Harmonies may be found in ELW – the cranberry hymnal.



- 1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
- 2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
- 3 The name of Je-sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,
- 4 He speaks, and lis-t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re-ceive;



the glo-ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace!
 to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.
 sings mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
 the mourn-ful, bro-ken hearts re-joice, the hum-ble poor be-lieve.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace! | 6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n. |
|---|---|

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.

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!

Text: South African traditional
Music: AMEN SI AKUDUMISA, attr. S. C. Molefe, as taught by Gobingca George Mxadana
Music © Gobingca Mxadana.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, 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 56:1, 6-8

The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.

A reading from Isaiah.

¹ Thus says the Lord:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come
and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,
to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it
and hold fast my covenant—

⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar,
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

⁸ Thus says the Lord God,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel:
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

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

PSALM 67

Cantor: Let the people praise you, O God, let all the peoples praise you.

All:



*Cantor: May God be merciful to us and bless us; may the light of God's face shine upon us. Let your way be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. **Refrain***

*Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. **Refrain***

*The earth has brought forth its increase; God, our God, has blessed us. May God give us blessing, and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe. **Refrain***

SECOND READING: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.

A reading from Romans.

[Paul writes:] ¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a} God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

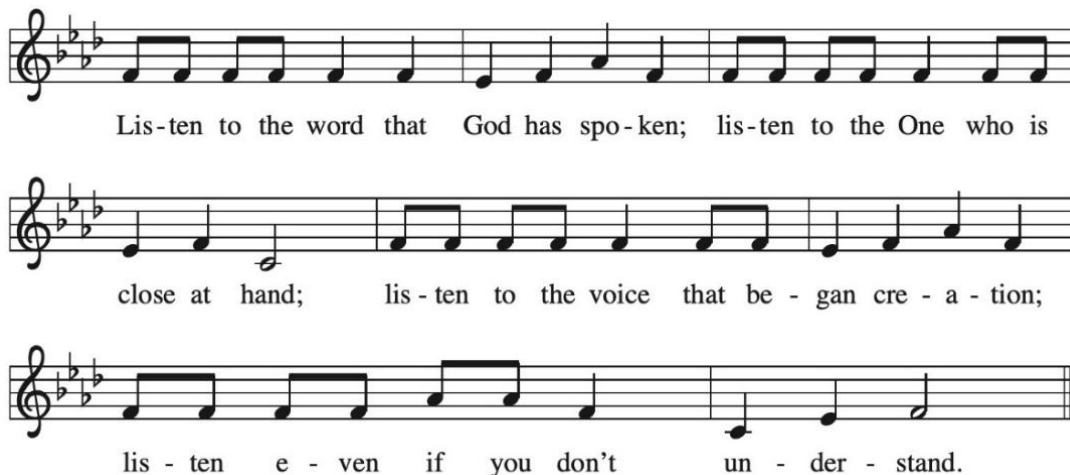
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Listen to the Word

The cantor introduces the gospel acclamation; all repeat it.



Lis-ten to the word that God has spo-ken; lis-ten to the One who is
close at hand; lis-ten to the voice that be-gan cre-a-tion;
lis-ten e-ven if you don't un-der-stand.

GOSPEL: Matthew 15:10-28

Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁰ [Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand:¹¹ it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." ¹² Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" ¹³ He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴ Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." ¹⁵ But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." ¹⁶ Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷ Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸ But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰ These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶ He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷ She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW #650, *In Christ There Is No East or West*

1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev-'ry-where their high com - mu - nion find;
 3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.
 4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;

but one com - mu - ni - ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.
 his ser - vice is the gold - en cord close bind - ing hu - man-kind.
 All chil - dren of the liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.
 all Christ-ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

Text: John Oxenham, 1852–1941, alt.
 Music: MCKEE, African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866–1949

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.

+ + + MEAL + + +

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.



To donate electronically, use this QR code.

MUSICAL OFFERING

The Heavens Declare God's Glory

Benedetto Marcello, arr. J. F. Wilson

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.

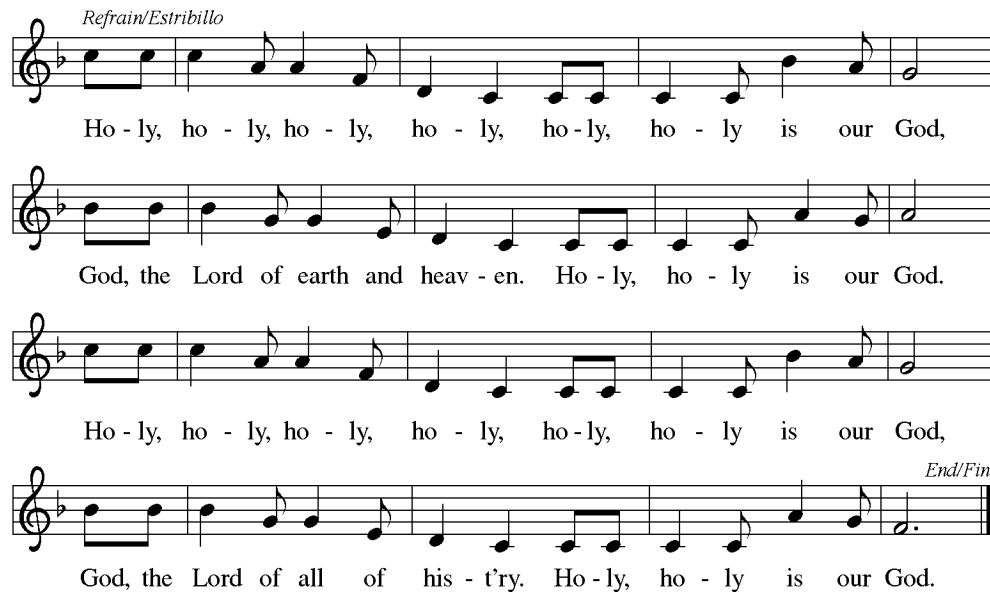
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Refrain/Estribillo



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.**

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Heaven has come near.

Come, share in the feast!

Please be seated.

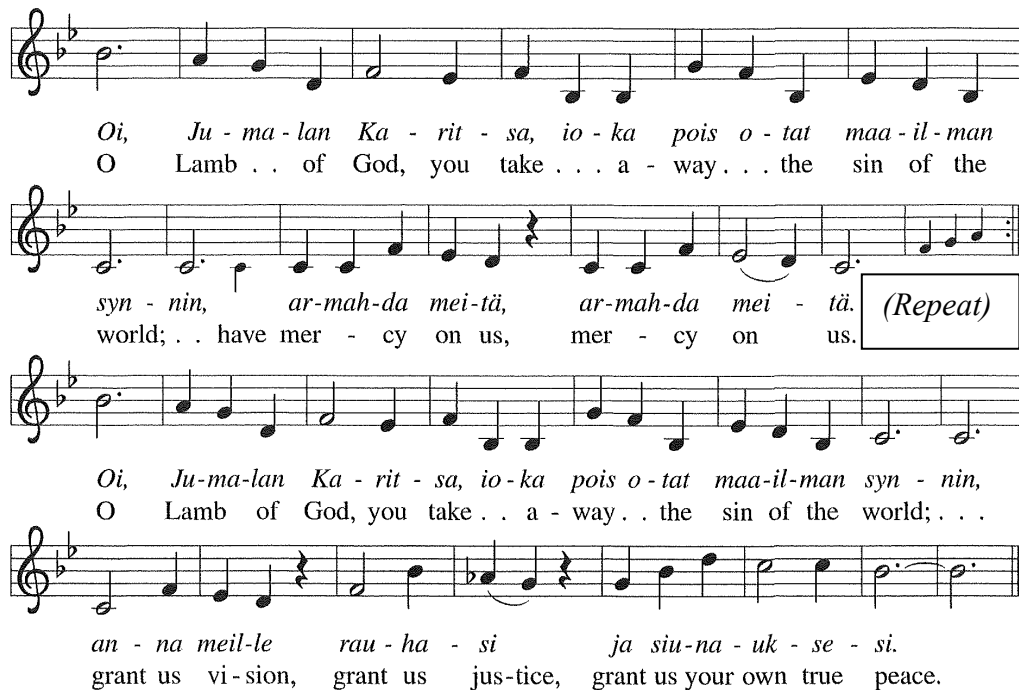
COMMUNION

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 #496, *One Bread, One Body*

Refrain



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of
bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y
through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,
3 Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,

Refrain

wom - an or man, no more.
one in the Lord of all.
gath - ered to one for all.

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, SJ

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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.**

SENDING SONG

Commonwealth Is God's Commandment



- 1 Com-mon-wealth is God's com-mand-ment; com-mon goods are meant to share.
- 2 Shar-ing lav-ish gifts and bless-ings, love that not one mite with-holds,
- 3 Gen-ders, rac-es, tribes, and na-tions, hear the Ho-ly One who calls,



Ta-bles set and doors wide o-pen wel-come an-gels un-a-ware.
stretch out arms to friends and strang-ers: God has sheep of man-y folds.
bid-ding all to work to-geth-er, bridg-ing lives and breach-ing walls.



Plead for the peace of all cre-a-tion. Pray for a place where grace is found.



Shan-ti, pax, sha-lom, mas-la-ha: com-mon good is ho-ly ground.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: RESTORATION, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Variations on 'Restoration'

W. Walker, D. Busarow

Serving in Today's Worship

Presiding Minister:	Rev. James Aalgaard
Lector:	Dee Ann Gregg
Ushers/Greeters:	Vinny & Mark Lee, Jane Dunbar
Guitar:	Kent Heminger
Flutes:	Karen & Lisa Zanol
Percussion:	Kate Gregg, Candy Koch, Sherry Krebs
Tech:	Marlena La Paz

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Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt. P.D. Music: Carl G. Gläser, 1784-1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872. P.D.

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.

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Listen to the Word, Text: Anonymous, Canada. P.D. Music: Anonymous, Canada, adapt. *Church Hymnary*, 4th Edition, 2005. P.D.

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.

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