

# GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



## Today's Worship Theme

Three weeks ago, we heard Peter's confession of faith as told in John's gospel. This week, we hear Mark's version, when Peter says, "You are the Messiah." In John, the stumbling block is Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark, too, the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus' words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of messiah) in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.

## Welcome & Worship Notes

- We're glad you are here! Please know children can join us for worship too.
- Congregation responses are in **bold** print. "ELW" is the red hymnal. The Holy Bible is in the lower racks below the pews.
- Our ushers can provide devices for those with hearing impairment.
- Need the internet? *GraceGuests Network* Password: *GraceGuests1234*
- Please turn off all cell phones or place them in silent mode.
- Restrooms and water fountain are down the hall from the Sanctuary.
- A quiet, comfortable room is available to anyone needing it; it is located around the corner from the restrooms.
- **Got kids?** Children are welcome in worship. Grab an activity bag and children's bulletin located at the entrance. Children are invited to come forward for the Children's Message and may continue upstairs for Children's Church & Music (about 20 minutes), during the sermon. Children will return for Holy Communion and are welcome to receive the sacrament. Nursery is available for children 6 weeks–4 years old.

## Grace Lutheran Church Affirmation of Welcome

In the name of Jesus, who invites us with reconciling love and grace to join in the kingdom of God, Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church welcomes all who profess, or seek to profess, Jesus Christ as their Savior. Believing that the Gospel is God's gift to all, we rejoice in the diversity of God's people and welcome all, regardless of age, cultural and economic background, ethnic and linguistic heritage, gender, marital status, physical and mental ability, race, sexual orientation, or any other distinction. We are all one in God's eyes, sharing in the free gifts of the Gospel and the Holy Spirit. Therefore, we encourage all to take part in the life of this congregation as we worship, witness and openly share the love of God through Christ our Lord.



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*Greeter: TBD*  
*Altar Guild: Elizabeth Smythe*

*Usher: Roger Bodo*  
*Coffee Host: Elaine Testerman*

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Scan the QR code for our "Grace Happenings" weekly e-newsletter.



**PRELUDE**

"Kelvingrove"

Matthew H. Corl

*Please stand as you are able.*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Tyler Ruddy

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

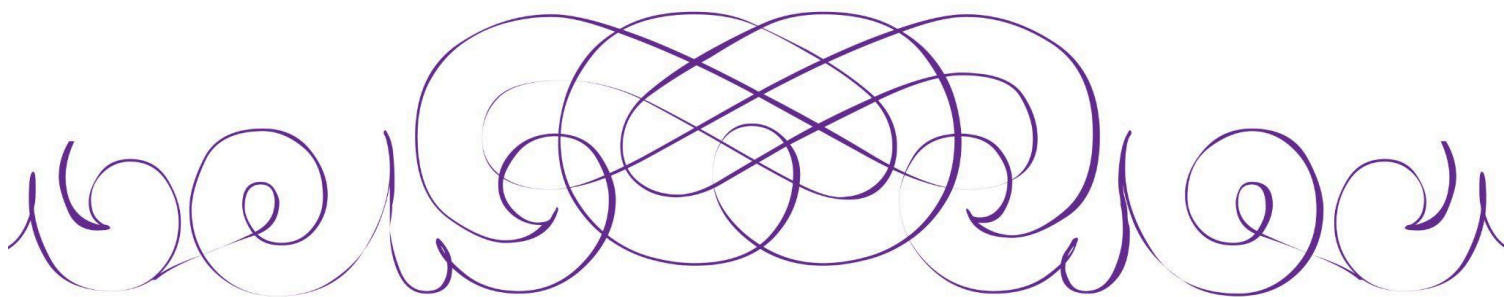
Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing, kneeling as you are able. Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

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

*Please share a sign of Christ's peace, then remain standing for the hymn.*





1 God, bless the hands stretched out in love through floods be - low and  
 2 Bring com - fort to the hearts that mourn, left bro - ken, emp - tied  
 3 O God, our strength and ref - uge sure, our hope while storms of



storms a - bove; they search and res - cue, com - fort, calm, give  
 by the storm. Give hope to those in deep - est grief; em -  
 life en - dure: teach us to live in har - mo - ny with



shel - ter, of - fer heal - ing balm. Oh, guard them by your  
 pow - er us to bring re - lief. To you, O God, we  
 earth and riv - er, sky and sea, pre - serv - ing wa - ters,



stead - fast hand; reach out in love to help us stand.  
 raise our hands. Save us, we pray, from sink - ing sands.  
 air, and lands as ho - ly work for hu - man hands.

**GREETING**

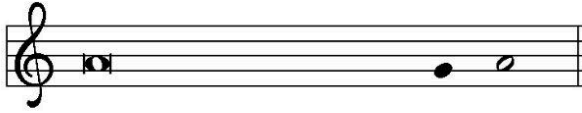
*Assisting Minister: Carolyn Henion*

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.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

# KYRIE



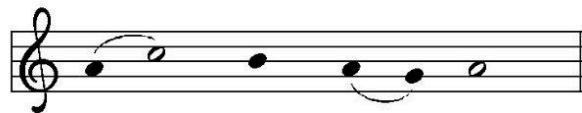
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

# HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



*Please be seated.*

✠ **WORD** ✠

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

*Children may come forward for the Children's Message, then are invited upstairs for Children's Church & Music, and will return before Communion.*

### **A READING FROM Isaiah 50:4-9a**

*Lector: Miriam Walka*

*The servant is vindicated by God*

<sup>4</sup>The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. <sup>5</sup>The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. <sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. <sup>7</sup>The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; <sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. <sup>9a</sup>It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

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

### **A READING FROM James 3:1-12**

*Dangers of the unbridled tongue*

<sup>1</sup>Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup>For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. <sup>3</sup>If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. <sup>4</sup>Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup>So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! <sup>6</sup>And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup>For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, <sup>8</sup>but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup>With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup>From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup>Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? <sup>12</sup>Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine yield fresh.

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

*Please stand as you are able.*

**GOSPEL READING: Mark 8:27-38**

*Christ healing a little girl and a deaf man*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>27</sup>Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” <sup>28</sup>And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” <sup>29</sup>He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” <sup>30</sup>And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

<sup>31</sup>Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

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



Please be seated.

**SERMON**

Pastor Steve Troisi

Please stand as you are able.

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

“Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said”

ELW 667

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith. **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.**

Please kneel as you are able.

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Each portion of the prayer ends with these words:

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Please be seated.

**OFFERING SONG**

✠ **MEAL** ✠

“Witness”

James Halloren

<sup>1</sup> Who’ll be a witness for my Lord? Who’ll be a witness for my Lord?  
Who’ll be a witness for my Lord? Who will be a witness for my Lord?  
Oh, I’ll be a witness for my Lord, I’ll be a witness for my Lord.  
I’ll be a witness for my Lord, I will be a witness for my Lord.

<sup>2</sup> There was a man of the Pharisees, His name was Nicodemus and he didn’t believe.  
The same came to Christ by night, wanted to be taught out of human sight.  
Demus was a man who desired to know how a man can be born when he’s old.  
Christ told Nicodemus as a friend, “Man, you must be born again.  
Marvel not, man, if you want to be wise, repent, believe and be baptized,”  
Then You’ll be a witness for my Lord, You’ll be a witness for my Lord.  
You’ll be a witness for my Lord. Soul is a witness for my Lord.

<sup>3</sup> You read about Samson, from his birth. He was the strongest man that ever lived on earth.  
Way back yonder in ancient times he killed ten thousand of the Philistines.  
Then old Samson went a wand’rin about, Samson’s strength was never found out.  
‘Til his wife sat upon his knee, She said, “Tell me where your strength lies, if you please.”  
Well, old Samson’s wife, she talked so fair, Samson said,  
“Cut off my hair!” Shave my head just as clean as your hand  
and my strength will come like a natural man.

<sup>4</sup> Samson was a witness for my Lord, Samson was a witness for my Lord.  
Samson was a witness for my Lord, Soul is a witness for my Lord,  
There’s another witness, There’s another witness,  
There’s another witness for my Lord! My soul is a witness for my Lord!

Thank you for partnering with Grace. Visit [www.graceboone.org/donate](http://www.graceboone.org/donate), or place your gift in the Narthex offering box or mail it to 115 E. King St, Boone, NC 28607.

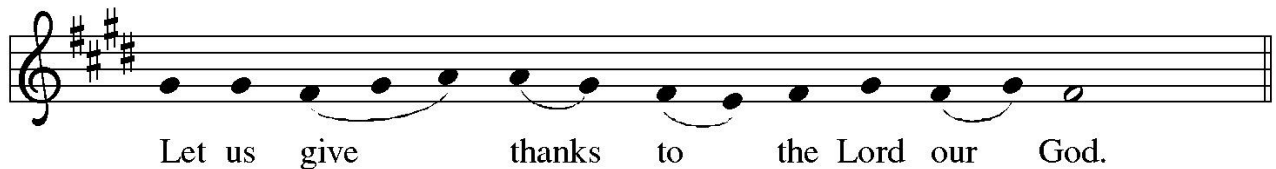
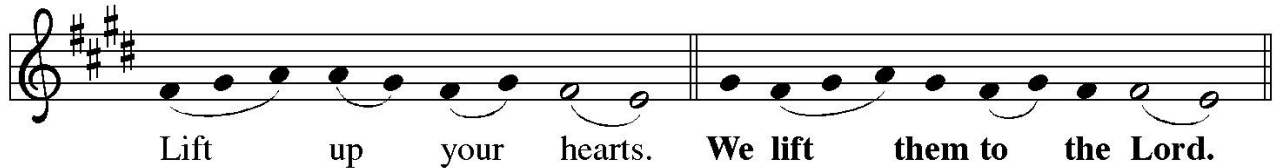
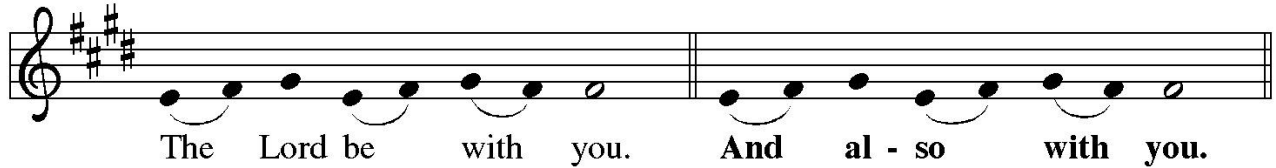


*Please stand as you are able.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

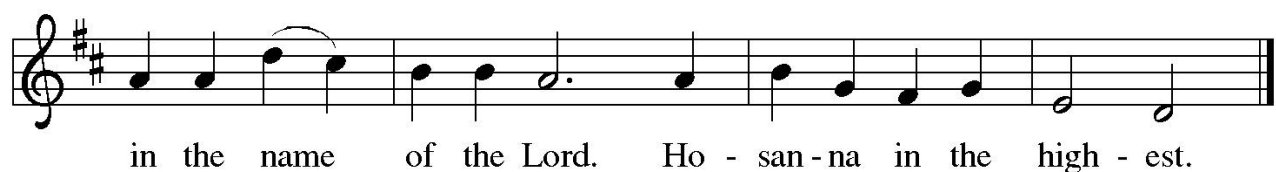
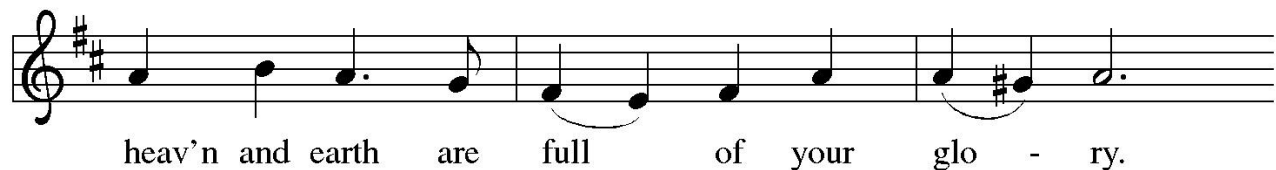
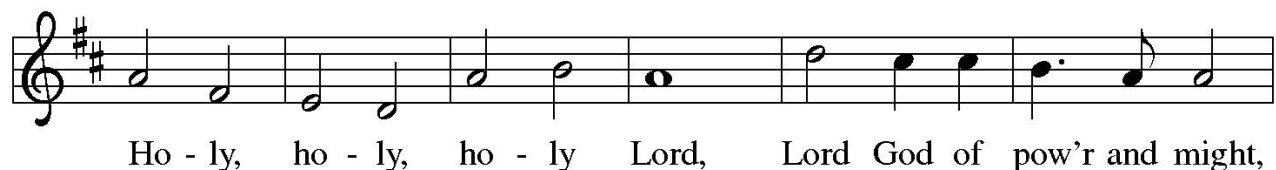
## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**



## **PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... and join their unending hymn:

## **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**



## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

## LORD'S PRAYER

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

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*Communion Assistant: Bryan Berger*

Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.  
**Thanks be to God!**

*Please be seated. This is the Lord's Table; all who seek Christ's true presence promised through this bread and wine are welcome and invited to partake in communion. You'll receive bread first (it is gluten-, nut-, soy- & dairy-free) and then wine (grape juice is available). Please alert an usher if you require the sacrament to be brought to you. Communion is normally served around the altar rail the first Sunday of the month. On the Sundays, communion is served at the head of the aisle. (Note that Healing prayers are offered in the Chapel after receiving communion on the first and third Sundays.)*

## COMMUNION SONG



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION HYMNS

*"In the Singing"  
"Will You Come and Follow Me"*

ELW 466  
ELW 798

*Please stand as you are able.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

✠ **SENDING** ✠

## BLESSING

God all mighty, God most merciful ✠ bless you, keep you, and give you peace. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

*"O Jesus, I Have Promised"*

ELW 820

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*"Crucifer"*

*Rebecca Groom TeVelde*

### CHANCEL FLOWERS

Are given to the glory of God and in memory of my dearly missed husband, Allan. September 16 would have been our 46th anniversary by Cinda Williamson.

### SANCTUARY LAMP

Is burning to the glory of God and in celebration of Ron's 88<sup>th</sup> birthday by Gail Schuette.

## READINGS FOR September 22

Jeremiah 11:18-20 | Psalm 54 | James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a | Mark 9:30-37

## GIVING REPORT

Giving September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024

August Giving	August Budgeted Giving	Year to Date Giving	Year to Date Budgeted Giving
\$23,890.00	\$30,000.00	\$345,305.59	\$360,000.00

## HERE'S A GLANCE OF THIS COMING WEEK AT GRACE!

15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Confirmation starts (Y)	• Council Mtg. (Z)	• Wood Lot work day	• Staff Mtg.	App State vs. S. Alabar		
• Sunday School (C)	• AA Mtg.(LLFH)	• LSA meet at App St.	• Grace Quilters	• Adult Bible Study (C)		
• LSA Sunday School (C)	• PIKA (FH)	• Habitat Mtg. (FH)	• LSA (CH)	• Susan recording		
• Worship (S)		• RBTW Club (off site)	• Handbell Rehearsal	• Tyler's Book Study (C)		
• YA Bible Study (YR)			• Choir Rehearsal			

For the most up-to-date events & details, see the weekly "Grace Happenings" e-newsletter and our online monthly calendar:  
<https://www.gracelutheranboone.org/calendar>

