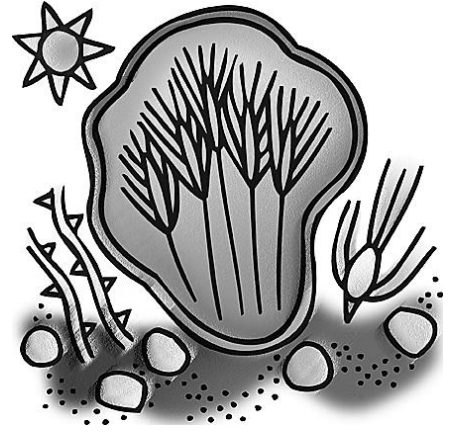


Welcome to
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

**The 7th Sunday
after Pentecost**

July 11 & 12, 2026



PRELUDE

Please stand as you are able.

THE CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives.

C: **Amen.**

A: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

All are invited to a time of silence and reflection.

A: Holy and gracious God,

C: **We confess that we have sinned against you this day. Some of our sin we know — the thoughts and words and deeds of which we are ashamed — but some is known only to you. In the name of Jesus Christ we ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore us, that we may rest in peace. Amen.**

P: As tender as parent to child, so deep is God's compassion for you.
As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God's love for you.
As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you.
Your life has been renewed through the cross of Jesus Christ.
Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

C: **Blessed be God forever. Amen.**

*WHAT IS THIS PLACE***THE GREETING**

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

C: **And also with you!**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING**GENESIS 24:34-38; 42-49; 58-67**

The marriage of Isaac and Rebekah helped to fulfill God's promise that Abraham and Sarah would become the ancestors of many nations.

[Laban received a visitor who said,] ³⁴ "I am Abraham's servant. ³⁵ The Lord has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. ³⁶ And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old, and he has given him all that he has. ³⁷ My master made me swear, saying, 'You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites in whose land I live, ³⁸ but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.'

⁴² “I came today to the spring and said, ‘O Lord, God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going!’ ⁴³ I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, “Please give me a little water from your jar to drink,” ⁴⁴ and who will say to me, “Drink, and I will draw for your camels also”—let her be the woman whom the Lord has appointed for my master’s son.’

⁴⁵ “Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder, and she went down to the spring and drew. I said to her, ‘Please let me drink.’ ⁴⁶ She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder and said, ‘Drink, and I will also water your camels.’ So I drank, and she also watered the camels. ⁴⁷ Then I asked her, ‘Whose daughter are you?’ She said, ‘The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor’s son, whom Milcah bore to him.’ So I put the ring on her nose and the bracelets on her arms. ⁴⁸ Then I bowed my head and worshiped the Lord and blessed the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master’s kinsman for his son. ⁴⁹ Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left.”

⁵⁸ And they called Rebekah and said to her, “Will you go with this man?” She said, “I will.” ⁵⁹ So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham’s servant and his men. ⁶⁰ And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, “May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes.”

⁶¹ Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man, and the servant took Rebekah and went his way.

⁶² Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi and was settled in the Negeb. ⁶³ Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field, and, looking up, he saw camels coming. ⁶⁴ And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel ⁶⁵ and said to the servant, “Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?” The servant said, “It is my master.” So she took her veil and covered herself. ⁶⁶ And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had

done. ⁶⁷ Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife, and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

R: The Word of God, for the People of God!

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

PSALM 45:10-17

The Cantor will sing the verses as the congregation response in singing the refrain.



God has anointed you with the oil of gladness. (Ps. 45:7)

¹⁰ *Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear;
forget your people and your father's house,*

¹¹ *and the king will desire your beauty. Since he is your lord, bow to him;*

¹² *Daughter Tyre will seek your favor with gifts, the richest of the people*

¹³ *with all kinds of wealth. The princess is decked in her chamber with gold-woven robes;*

¹⁴ *in many-colored robes she is led to the king;*

behind her the virgins, her companions, follow.

¹⁵ *With joy and gladness they are led along as they enter the palace of the king. Refrain*

¹⁶ *In the place of ancestors you, O king, shall have sons;*

you will make them princes in all the earth.

¹⁷ *I will cause your name to be celebrated in all generations;*

therefore the peoples will praise you forever and ever. Refrain

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Following the Children's moment, children in pre-k through 5th grade are invited to gather for an activity by the chapel.

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

THE GOSPEL

MATTHEW 13:1-9, 18-23

In Matthew's gospel, both Jesus and his disciples "sow the seed" of God's word by proclaiming the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near." Now, in a memorable parable, Jesus explains why this good news produces different results in those who hear.

P: This is the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 13th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea.
² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ If you have ears, hear!"

¹⁸ "Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Please be seated.

THE REFLECTION

REV. DR. MARK A. SHIMER

Please stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW # 656

BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS

THE CREED

A: Living together in trust and hope we confess our faith as expressed in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C: **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.**

THE PRAYERS

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

At this time you are welcome to share the Peace of Christ with those around you. Following the Sharing of the Peace you may be seated.

OFFERING AND OFFERING MUSIC

Please stand.

OFFERING SONG

ELW # 184

LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. 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.

C: **Amen.**

THE DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

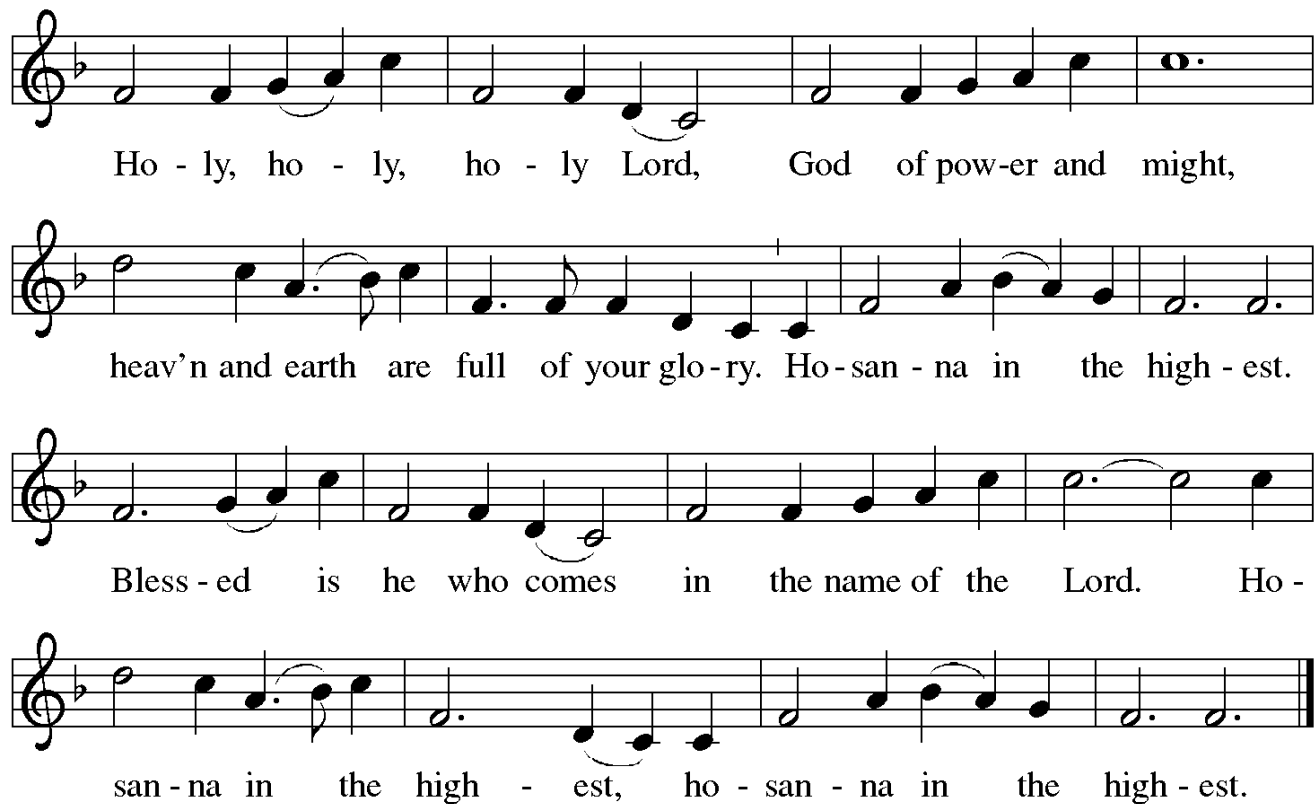
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

THE PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

THE SANCTUS



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.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In your mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, so that all who believe in him should not perish but have the gift of eternal life.
- P: We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit into our hearts that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in this holy supper.
- C: **Amen. Come Lord Jesus.**
- P: 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

A: As our Savior Christ has taught us, together we are bold to pray.

C: 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.

Please be seated.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Heaven has come near. Come and share the Feast!

AGNUS DEI



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 OF COMMUNION

At Grace, all are welcome to the Table of the Lord. At the ushers invitation, you are invited to come forward to receive the bread and wine. Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available as an additional substitute. As you return to your seat using the side aisle, there is a basket to dispose of your individual communion cup. Those who would like a blessing are also welcome to come forward. Simply ask Pastor for a blessing instead of taking communion.

COMMUNION HYMN

ELW # 512

LET MY HEART BE GOOD SOIL

After all have communed, you are invited to stand.

TABLE BLESSING

P: The Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray. Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine you have united us with Christ to our stories of old. Together, 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.

C: **Amen.**

BLESSING

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C: **Amen.**

SENT FORTH BY GOD'S BLESSING**THE SENDING**

P: Heaven has come near.

A: Go, share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God!

SERVING IN WORSHIP		
	Saturday – 4 pm	Sunday – 9 am
ACOLYTE		
GREETERS: NARTHEX	Thomas O'Brien	Connie Amor John Avers
GREETERS: BAKER ST.		Dennis & Ardis Curliss
WORSHIP ASSISTANT		Peggy Rutherford
PSALM CANTOR		Henry Seibert
READERS	Carole Miller	Helen Biddinger
COMMUNION ASSISTANT		Becky Prasuhn
DEACONS/CLOSER		John Burmeister Mark Gedeon

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What Is This Place Text and Arr. 1967 Gooi en Sticht, BV, Baarn, The Netherlands

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Text and Music 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, Admin. Augsburg Fortress

Let My Heart Be Good Soil Text and music 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc.

Sent Forth By God's Blessing text 1964 World Library Publications

Psalm Refrain from Psalter for Worship Year A, 2007 Augsburg Fortress

Evangelical Lutheran Worship Setting #10: 2026 Augsburg Fortress

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS! You are God's gift to us today. Please introduce yourself to the pastor and come worship with us again.

PLEASE NOTE: Our Sunday worship is live streamed on Facebook.

DRIVE-IN CHURCH - If you are joining us on Sunday in the parking lot, please tune your radio to 90.3 FM.

ALTAR FLOWERS are given with a thankful heart to our healing Father; my church family for your card, thoughts and prayers; and to Pastor Bailey for your visits, text and calls during my surgery in May, by Kathy Burmeister.

THE RADIO BROADCAST is given as a gift to the congregation. **(Radio Broadcasts can be heard each Sunday morning at 9:30 am on Eagle 99.1. Anyone wishing to sponsor a radio broadcast [cost is \$72.50 and please make checks payable to BAS Broadcasting.], should contact the church office.)**

THIS WEEK, AS YOU PRAY please remember: Diane Berryman, Yvonne Hammer, Mia Knecht, Dianne McKenzie, Tim Rutherford, Tanya Schardt, Julie Stawowy, Jan Serwin, Melissa Toker, Connie Wasserman, and Bob Wickert.

HOSPITAL VISITS! If you, or a member of your family, are in the hospital, please call the church office and let us know.

HEARING DEVICES are available at the Usher station at the back of the Sanctuary. Please return after worship so that they can be charged and ready for the next service.

PRAYER LIST REQUESTS - If you, or someone you know, is in need of prayer and would like to be added to our prayer list, please write their name on the back of our *Welcome Cards*. You are welcome to indicate what prayers are needed, i.e. "has an upcoming surgery" etc. Names submitted for our prayer list will remain on the list for four (4) weeks. Our goal is to keep the prayer list ever flowing and as up to date as possible.

HELP BRING BEAUTY TO OUR WORSHIP SPACE OR SEND GOD'S WORD BEYOND OUR WALLS THIS SUMMER! With your gift of altar flowers, you can enhance the beauty of our sacred space and sponsoring a radio ministry, helps carry God's Word into homes across our community each week on Eagle 99.1 FM. Interested? Contact Tricia in the church office or by email at dabrunztricia@yahoo.com.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Thursday from 9 am to 4 pm and closed Friday.

SUBMISSIONS FOR OUR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWSLETTER should be sent to Tricia at dabrunztricia@yahoo.com

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

WELCOME PR. MARK SHIMER! Thank you for being here today to share the good news!

COME MEET OUR MISSIONARY PR. DAVID BRONDOS ON JULY 25 & 26! For the last 15 years we have had the honor of partnering with Pr. Brondos to help sponsor his missionary work in Mexico. This summer he will be visiting our area, and he will be joining Pr. Bailey for worship on July 25 & 26. During worship we will hear about the impact of our shared faith continues to have on God's people in Mexico. As part of our worship, a freewill offering will be collected to help further support the work of our ELCA missionaries.

MUSIC AT GRACE

WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED JOINING A HANDBELL CHOIR? The Grace Ringers is a volunteer community bell choir that is dedicated to rehearsing and performing handbell music to commemorate special seasons during the church year. Whether you are a seasoned musician or are new to making music, all are welcome to join the ensemble! Being able to read music is not required. We plan to meet weekly for rehearsals. The bell choir will perform at select Sunday services. If you are interested contact Charlie at pianomancharlie03@gmail.com or scan the QR code.



OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE SPECIAL MUSIC THIS SUMMER - If you have a musical gift you would like to share with the congregation during the summer months, there are plenty of opportunities to do so! Whether you sing, play an instrument or even write music, we invite you to share your gifts as a musical offering. There are also opportunities for volunteer cantors. Please contact our music director, Charles Ligus, (pianomancharlie03@gmail.com) if interested.

FOR OUR YOUTH

ELCA YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT GATHERING INFORMATIONAL MEETING will take place following worship on August 16 in the lounge. The Youth Gathering is open to youth in grades 8 – 12 (in the fall of 2026) and the Young Adult Gathering is open to people ages 18 – 35. *Scholarships are available through LIFT to help defray the cost of attending this event.*

ATTENTION PARENTS - Do you want to keep your children busy during worship, but you don't want to take your child out of the sanctuary? Please check out our new play area in front of the chapel. There are activities, toys to play with, and books to read while you join us for worship. If you feel that you need to take your children out of the sanctuary there is a nursery with live audio of worship, so you don't miss out on anything.



Grace Lutheran Church

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Minister of Youth & Family:

Heather Hawn
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Director of Music:

Charlie Ligu
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Office Administrator:

Tricia Dabrunz
dabrunztricia@yahoo.com

Finance/HR Administrator:

Denise Biddle
gracefremont@yahoo.com

Noah's Ark PreSchool:

Andrea Hort - Director
Susan Sawdo - Teacher
noahsark.fremont@gmail.com

Our Custodial Team:

Jim Post
Michaelle Goodman
Andrew Bailey

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

JULY 12 - 19, 2026

Today

9:00 – Worship

Monday

6:00 – Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday

5:00 – LIFT Community BBQ at Birchard Park

Wednesday

Thursday

11:30 – Soup Kitchen

Friday

Saturday

4:00 – Worship/Food Pantry Challenge

Sunday FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE (canned soup or fruit & crackers)

9:00 – Worship

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: 102

Called to Present the Light of Christ!