

Welcome to
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

**The 8th Sunday
after Pentecost**

July 18 & 19, 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.**

COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME

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. Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

GENESIS 25:19-34

Although Jacob was younger than his twin, Esau, he eventually takes the birthright away from his brother. Jacob is portrayed in the Bible as deceptive, gripping his brother when he came out of the womb and driving a hard bargain by buying the birthright for a bowl of lentils.

¹⁹ These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, ²⁰ and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. ²¹ Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife because she was barren, and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. ²² The children struggled together within her, and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the Lord. ²³ And the Lord said to her, "Two nations are in your womb,

and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other; the elder shall serve the younger.”

²⁴ When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. ²⁵ The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle, so they named him Esau. ²⁶ Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau’s heel, so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

²⁷ When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. ²⁸ Isaac loved Esau because he was fond of game, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

²⁹ Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. ³⁰ Esau said to Jacob, “Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!” (Therefore he was called Edom.) ³¹ Jacob said, “First sell me your birthright.” ³² Esau said, “I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?” ³³ Jacob said, “Swear to me first.” So he swore to him and sold his birthright to Jacob. ³⁴ Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

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

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

PSALM 119:105-112

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



¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
¹⁰⁶ I have sworn an oath and confirmed it, to observe your righteous ordinances.
¹⁰⁷ I am severely afflicted; give me life, O Lord, according to your word.
¹⁰⁸ Accept my offerings of praise, O Lord, and teach me your ordinances. **Refrain**
¹⁰⁹ I hold my life in my hand continually, but I do not forget your law.
¹¹⁰ The wicked have laid a snare for me, but I do not stray from your precepts.
¹¹¹ Your decrees are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart.
¹¹² I incline my heart to perform your statutes forever, to the end. **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 13:24-30, 36-43

Jesus tells a parable about the coexistence of good and evil in this world. God's judgment will remove all evildoers and causes of sin, but not until the end of human history.

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable about the coexistence of good and evil in this world. God's judgment will remove all evildoers and causes of sin, but not until the end of human history.

²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸ He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them.'

³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' ”

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷ He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

Please be seated.

THE REFLECTION

REV. CLAYTON J. BAILEY

Please stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW # 636

HOW SMALL OUR SPAN OF LIFE

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.**

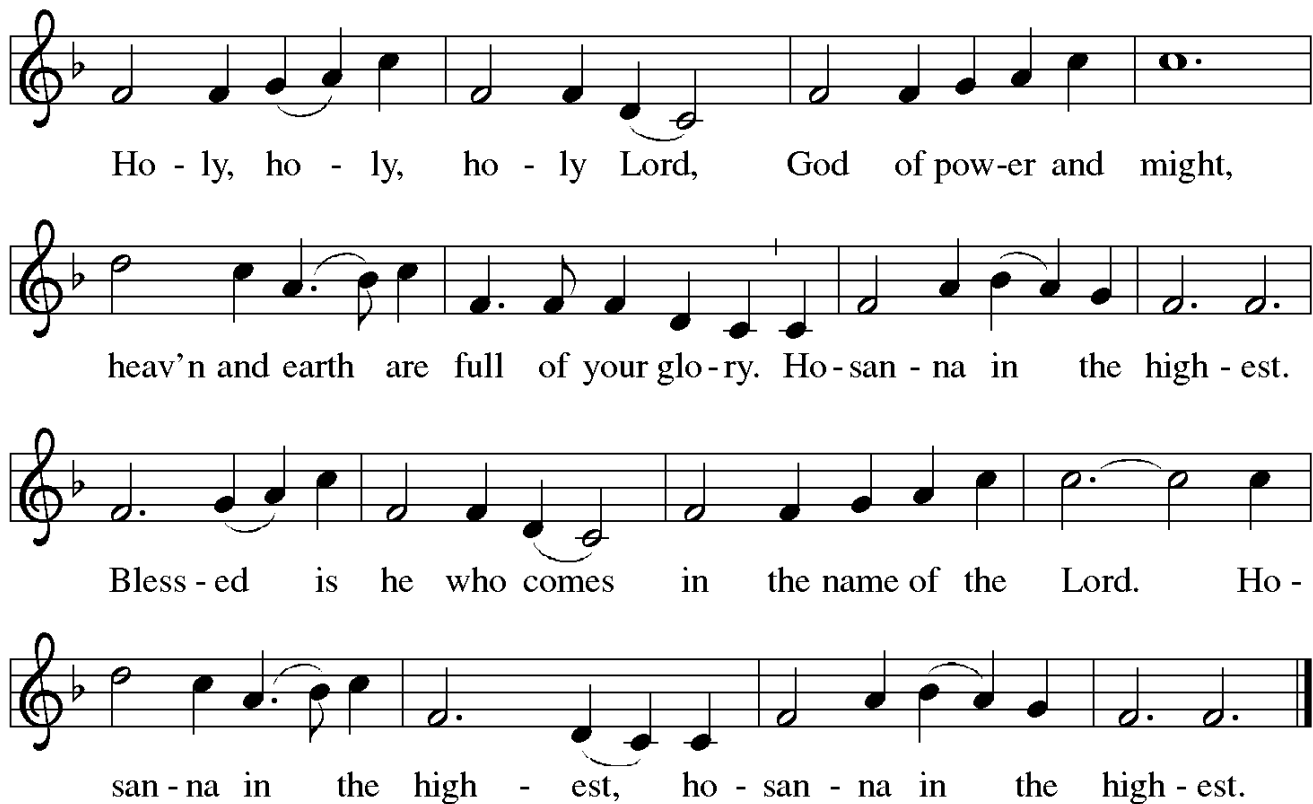
THE DIALOGUE

- 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.

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 # 465

AS THE GRAINS OF WHEAT

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.

LET US TALENTS AND TONGUES EMPLOY**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
GREETERS: NARTHEX	Thomas O'Brien	Dave & Rae Ann Cooper
GREETERS: BAKER ST.		Ken & Ann Overmyer
WORSHIP ASSISTANT		Becky Seibert
READERS	Mark Smith	Henry Seibert
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Wendy Bailey	Tanya Schling
DEACONS/CLOSER		Peggy Kiser Tanya Schardt

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Come, Ye Thankful People, Come Public Domain

How Small Our Span of Life Text 1993 GIA Publications, Inc.

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

As the Grains of Wheat Text and music 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ Text and Music 1975 Hope Publishing Company

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 to the glory of God and in loving memory of David L. & Evelyn White, David W. White & Judy (White) Connors, by Jim & Marsha Thiessen and family.

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, Tim Rutherford, Julie Stawowy, Jan Serwin, 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.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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. He will be joining Pr. Bailey for worship and 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.

A LETTER FROM THE GLCW PRESIDENT

Over the years you may have heard the LWR and GLCW, but do you know what these stand for? LWR stands for Lutheran World Relief and GLCW represents the Grace Lutheran Church Women.

The GLCW is asking for your help assembling two kits for LWR. This year, we are putting together School Kits and Sewing Kits for distribution.

We need the following items to complete our School Kits:

- 60 – Spiral notebooks with 70 – 80 sheets of lined paper
- 23 – Pencil sharpeners
- 23 – Rulers with centimeter markings on one side
- 75 – Black or Blue ball point pens (NO GEL INK PENS)

For the Sewing Kits we need:

- 20 – Spools of neutral colored general-purpose thread

We are always in need of gently used or new flat bed sheets which we use as the back of our quilts.

Thank you for your continued support of the LWR projects.

Jan Harris,
GLCW President



Grace Lutheran Church

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Noah's Ark PreSchool:

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Susan Sauda - Teacher
noahsark.fremont@gmail.com

Our Custodial Team:

Jim Post
Michaelle Goodman
Andrew Bailey

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

JULY 19 - 26, 2026

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

9:00 – Worship

Monday

Tuesday

5:00 – LIFT Community BBQ at Birchard Park

Wednesday

Thursday

11:30 – Soup Kitchen

Friday

Saturday

4:00 – Worship/Pr. Brondos visiting

Sunday VISIT FROM OUR MISSIONARY PR. DAVID BRONDOS

9:00 – Worship

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: 130

Called to Present the Light of Christ!