

# Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church!



To glorify God, to grow in faith,  
to give in service, together in Christ

**15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**September 5, 2021**

Rev. Nancy M. Raabe, Pastor  
Kevin Freaney, Minister of Music  
Lynn Fasick, Office Administrator

**Prelude: “All are welcome” & “Healer of our every ill” (Harold Schaefer, Guitar)**

**Welcome**

**Rev. Karen M. Sease**

*Rev. Sease is Assistant to the Bishop for Vocations and Leadership/ Mission Advancement for the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the ELCA. She is here to welcome Pastor Raabe and to bring greetings from the Synod.*

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
whose teaching is life,  
whose presence is sure,  
and whose love is endless.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God our comforter:

**like lost sheep, we have gone astray.**

**We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.**

**We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.**

**We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.**

**Free us from our sin, gracious God.**

**Listen when we call out to you for help.**

**Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.**

**Amen.**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in † Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN: “Oh, For a Thousand tongues to sing” ELW 886



1 Oh, for a thousand 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 breaks the pow'r of can - celed sin; he sets the pris - 'ner free.  
5 To God all glor - y, praise, and love be now and ev - er giv'n



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.  
His blood can make the foul - est clean; his blood a - vails for me.  
by saints be - low and saints a - bove, the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.  
Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829

### 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.**

### Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord.

**Amen.**

## WORD

### First reading: Isaiah 35:4-7a

<sup>4</sup>Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

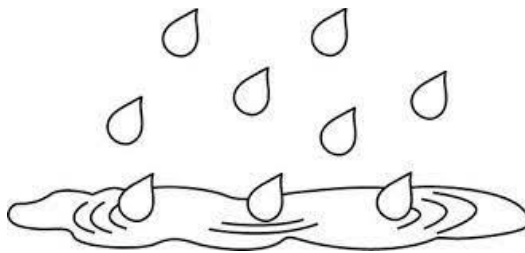
<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

<sup>6</sup>then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;

<sup>7a</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**



# Psalm 146: “Sing unto the Lord”

Ray Makeever

Refrain: All; verses: solo


*Refrain*



Sing un - to the Lord, O my soul, O my soul!




Sing un - to the Lord, O my soul!



1 I will sing your prais - es as long as I live:  
2 You are faith - ful ev - er, the eyes for the blind,  
3 Friend un - to the strang - er, the lost and the blamed;

*Refrain*



I will play for you while I am breath - ing, breath-ing! breath - ing!  
man-na for the hun - gry, cap - tives free - ing, free - ing! free - ing!  
cour-age to a low - ly peo - ple sing - ing, sing - ing! sing - ing!

Psalm prayer

**Second reading: James 2:1-10, 14-17**

<sup>1</sup>My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? <sup>2</sup>For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, <sup>3</sup>and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, “Have a seat here, please,” while to the one who is poor you say, “Stand there,” or, “Sit at

my feet,” <sup>4</sup>have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup>Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup>But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup>Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

<sup>8</sup>You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>9</sup>But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. <sup>10</sup>For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

<sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? <sup>15</sup>If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, <sup>16</sup>and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? <sup>17</sup>So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Word of God, Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## 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.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## **Gospel: Mark 7:24-37**

The Gospel of the Lord, according to Mark, the 7<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>24</sup>[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,<sup>25</sup>but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. <sup>26</sup>Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup>He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” <sup>28</sup>But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” <sup>29</sup>Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” <sup>30</sup>So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

<sup>31</sup>Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup>They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup>He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup>Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” <sup>35</sup>And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup>Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup>They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON: “The world that we long for”**

**Pastor Nancy Raabe**

HYMN of the DAY: “Light dawns on a weary world”

ELW 726



1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to  
 2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find  
 3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea-tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a  
 bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a  
 lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.  
 wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.  
 wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.



The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.



## **PRAYERS**

To the petition “Lord, in your mercy” please respond, “Hear our prayer.”

## **GREETING OF THE PEACE**

*You are invited to greet those around you but we request that you refrain from shaking hands.*

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church, gathered today.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

God of abundance,

you cause streams to break forth in the desert  
and manna to rain from the heavens.

Accept the gifts you have first given us.

Unite them with the offering of our lives

to nourish the world you love so dearly;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**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 God thanks and praise.**

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:

Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.

You have filled all creation with light and life;

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age:



the promise to Israel,  
the rescue from Egypt,  
the gift of the promised land,  
the words of the prophets;  
and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son,  
who proclaimed the good news in word and deed  
and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

On the night in which he was betrayed....

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

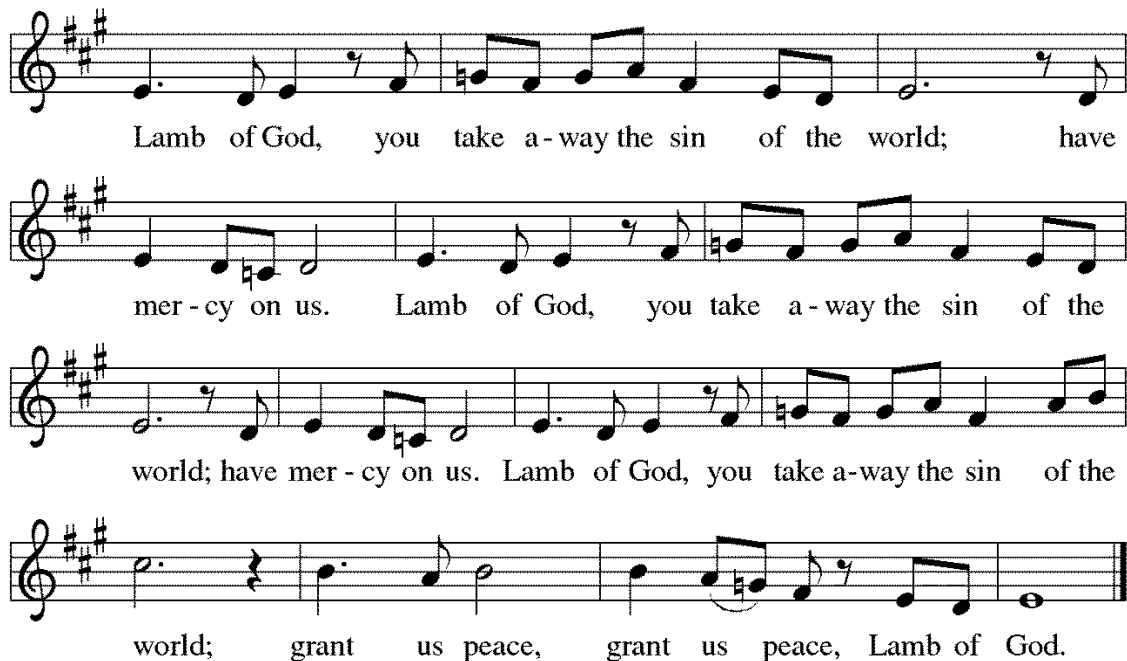
**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## **Invitation to Communion**

All who hunger and thirst, come.  
The table is ready.

*Communion will be received in your seat.*

## LAMB OF GOD



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, Lamb of God.

## Prayer after Communion

Lord of life,  
in the gift of your body and blood  
you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.  
Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,  
bearing witness to the abundance of your love  
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

People of God,  
you are Christ's body,  
bringing new life to a suffering world.

The holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Announcements**

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please remain in your seats until the candles are extinguished.*

**Postlude: “Trumpet Tune in D Major”**

**David N. Johnson**

*Thank you to Rev. Karen Sease for her presence here with us today.*

## **Serving today**

Preacher and presider, Rev. Nancy M. Raabe

Organist, Kevin Freaney

Psalm led by Frank Stone

Lector, Jayson Tula

Ushers, Karen & Ken Seiler

Communion Assistant, Carol MacDonald

Acolyte, Cristiano Tula

Altar Guild, June Detweiler

Video Recorder, Harold Schaefer, Dan Sarm, Tami Sarm

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## Grace Lutheran Church

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Visit our web site at [gracelutheranhatfield.com](http://gracelutheranhatfield.com)  
and stay in touch on Facebook!

### Coming up at Grace

- Ministry Fair following worship next Sunday, September 12
- Sunday School begins September 19 at 10:30 a.m. in the garden
- Pastor Raabe's installation service is September 19 at 4:30 p.m.
- Confirmation begins September 25 at 5 p.m. on Zoom (link will be sent)

Happy Labor Day

Founded in 1904, Grace is a congregation of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Led by Bishop Patricia A. Davenport, SEPA encompasses 143 communities of faith, more than 300 rostered leaders, and nearly 70,000 baptized Lutheran Christians in Philadelphia and Bucks, Chester, Delaware, and Montgomery counties. Learn more at [ministrylink.org](http://ministrylink.org).

# The Kingdom of God in Isaiah 35

L	E	D	E	P	P	O	T	S	N	U	S	R	C
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G	A	R	N	F	F	E	U	T	R	E	T	P	D
E	M	T	D	E	V	R	L	N	E	P	C	E	E
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C	L	Y	T	S	R	I	H	T	F	E	I	E	E
E	T	C	O	F	A	H	U	W	N	E	E	G	S
D	P	I	U	S	A	I	T	E	H	U	O	P	S
I	A	A	I	L	S	E	P	R	N	E	E	S	S
B	R	I	D	R	R	O	D	W	A	T	E	R	E

OPENED  
 DEAF  
 THIRSTY  
 SPRINGS  
 VENGEANCE  
 LEAP  
 SPEECHLESS  
 FEARFUL  
 LAME  
 STREAMS  
 RECOMPENSE  
 GROUND  
 WILDERNESS  
 ISAIAH  
 TONGUE  
 DESERT  
 WATER  
 BLIND  
 UNSTOPPED  
 HEART

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