

Welcome to Worship

Grace Lutheran Church
40 N. Main St., Hatfield, PA 19440
GraceLutheranHatfield.org

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



November 19, 2023
Pentecost 25
8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Stepping Stones Sunday

Rev. Nancy M. Raabe, Pastor
Kevin Freaney, Minister of Music
Lynn Fasick, Office Administrator
Jessica Moran, Stepping Stones Director

We warmly welcome Stepping Stones families and children to worship today! Our partnership in ministry is something that has defined Grace Lutheran Church for decades, and we treasure the relationships that we have formed, past and present. We hope you will find this celebration of shared ministry uplifting! Please make use of the children's quiet play area at the right rear of the sanctuary.

Prelude: Morning has Broken

Royce Eckhart

GATHERING

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.**

P. At Grace Lutheran Church, we gather:

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

Please stand and face the font.

Confession and Forgiveness

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



Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

Silence for reflection

Most merciful God,

C. we confess that we are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our sisters and brothers. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are afflicted by the sin that keeps us from truly loving one another. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

P. Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through ✠ Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world. **C. Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: For the Fruit of all Creation

ELW 679

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.**

Hymn of Praise: Oh, Sing to the Lord

ELW 822



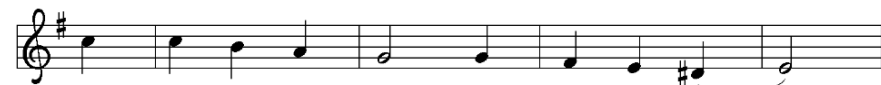
1 Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song.
2 For God is the Lord, and God has done won - ders.
3 Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spir - it.



Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song.
For God is the Lord, and God has done won - ders.
Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spir - it.



Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song.
For God is the Lord, and God has done won - ders.
Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spir - it.



Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.
Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.
Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.

Prayer of the Day

P. Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C. Amen.**

WORD



FIRST READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.

¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts,

“The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm.” ¹³Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

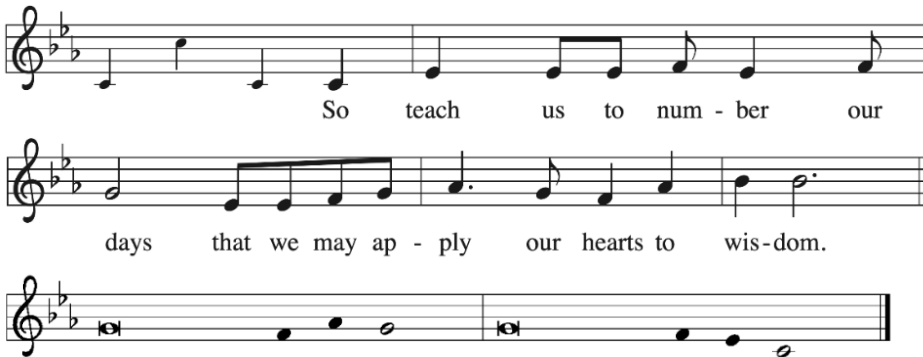
¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there.

¹⁵That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, ¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

¹⁷I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. ¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD’s wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

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

Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12



¹Lord, you have ¹ been our refuge from one generation ¹ to another.

²**Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the ¹ earth were born, from age to age ¹ you are God.**

³You turn us back to the ¹ dust and say, “Turn back, O child- ¹ ren of earth.”

⁴**For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when ¹ it is past and like a watch ¹ in the night; R**

⁵you sweep them away ¹ like a dream, they fade away suddenly ¹ like the grass:

⁶**in the morning it is ¹ green and flourishes; in the evening it is dried ¹ up and withered.**

⁷For we are consumed ¹ by your anger; we are afraid because ¹ of your wrath.

⁸**Our iniquities you have ¹ set before you, and our secret sins in the light ¹ of your countenance. R**

⁹When you are angry, all our ¹ days are gone; we bring our years to an end ¹ like a sigh.

¹⁰**The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength ¹ even eighty; yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and ¹ we are gone.**

¹¹Who regards the power ¹ of your wrath? Who rightly fears your ¹ indignation?

¹²**So teach us to num- ¹ ber our days that we may apply our ¹ hearts to wisdom. R**

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30

P. The gospel of our Lord, according to Matthew, the 25th chapter.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ ²¹His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ ²³His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ ²⁶But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did

not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

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

Please be seated.

SERMON: God is Calling – Say Yes!

Pastor Nancy Raabe

HYMN of the DAY: God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens ELW 771

APOSTLES' CREED

P. Let us love one another, that with one mind we may confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize.

**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.**



PRAYERS

To the petition “Hear us, O God,” please respond “your mercy is great.”

GREETING OF THE PEACE

Please be seated.

OFFERING

We rely on your gifts to sustain Grace and all its ministries. Please be generous – all that we do is possible only because of you.

There are many ways to make your gift: Offerings may be placed in the plates at the sanctuary entrances; you may choose various forms of electronic giving by recurring credit card, using this QR code, or by direct deposit (ask Pastor Raabe for help with this).



Music at the Offering: All Things Are Possible with God (10:30; sung by the choir and Stepping Stones children)

Nancy Raabe

All things are possible with God. The lame rise up and walk, the mute begin to talk.

All you need is faith, faith in our Lord and Savior.

Faith can move mountains, so go and share with friend and neighbor!

The multitudes are fed, the ill can leave their bed...

In ten lepers who are healed, Christ's compassion is revealed...

The blind receive their sight, fierce storms lose all their might...

Please stand.

OFFERTORY

ELW 885



OFFERING PRAYER

A. Let us pray.

God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. **C. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.



P. It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

A musical score for a hymn, written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

P. Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father....

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

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C. Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

C. Our Father, who art in heaven....

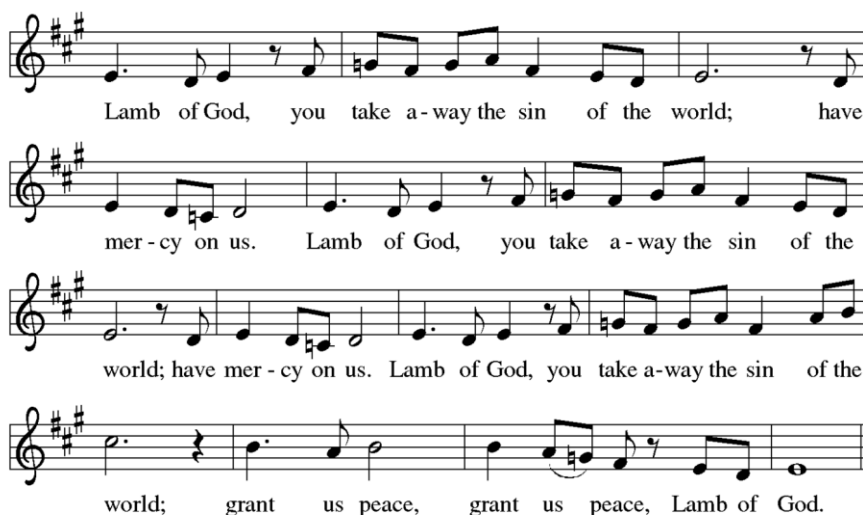
Invitation to Communion

P. There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table.

Please be seated.

Our communion bread is gluten-free. Cups in the outer circles of the communion tray contain red wine, and those in the center contain white grape juice. Please follow the usher's directions.

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.

COMMUNION HYMN: Taste and See

ELW 493

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A. Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.

C. Amen.

Sending of Communion

Prayer for Peace

Henry W. Baker/David Cherwien



1. O God of love, O King of
2. Re - mem - ber, Lord, thy works of
3. Whom shall we trust but thee, O



peace, Make wars through-out the world — to
old, The won - ders that thy peo - ple
Lord? Where rest but on thy faith - ful



cease; The wrath of na - tions now re -
told; Re - mem - ber not our sin's dark
word? None ev - er called on thee in



strain. Give peace, O God, give peace — a - gain.
stain. Give peace, O God, give peace — a - gain.
vain. Give peace, O God, give peace — a - gain.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand.

BLESSING

P. The blessing of Almighty God, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever.

C. Amen.

SENDING HYMN: He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

1 He's got the whole world in his hands.
(3x)
He's got the whole world in his hands.

2 He's got the wind and the rain in his hands. (3x)
He's got the whole world in his hands.

3 He's got the little tiny baby in his hands
(3x)
He's got the whole world in his hands.

4 He's got you and me, brother, in his hands (3x)
He's got the whole world in his hands.

5 He's got you and me, sister, in his hands
(3x)
He's got the whole world in his hands.

6 He's got everybody here in his hands
(3x)
He's got the whole world in his hands.

DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace to love and serve as Christ. **C. Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: Gigue Fugue

J.S. Bach

All are welcome to come for a special coffee hour today in our Fellowship Hall!

Virtual Pipe Organ: Romsey Abbey. JW Walker organ, located in the town of Romsey in Hampshire, UK. This virtual organ was recently recorded and produced by Richard McVeigh for Beauty in Sound Co.

Please join us in the fellowship hall on **Sunday, December 10** after the 10:30 service for a **congregational meeting** at which we will discuss and approve the 2024 budget. Coffee and treats will be provided.

Jump into Music



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Morning has Broken, arr Royce Eckhardt. Organmaster 1980

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A note to Stepping Stones parents from Pastor Raabe

I greatly enjoy being with your children every Wednesday for chapel from 10:15-10:30 a.m. This summer we learned and prayed about animals as part of “God’s Amazing Creation.” The children selected these – penguins, giraffes, elephant, lions, pigs, and flamingos. We looked at slides and talked about their special characteristics. I learned a lot, too!

This fall we have been focusing on stories of the Bible – creation (both accounts in Genesis 1 and 2), Noah and the ark, David, and more recently the miracles of Jesus – the feeding of the 5,000 and the healing of the paralyzed man. These last two helped us understand the song “All Things Are Possible with God,” which we’ve been practicing. I hope you enjoy their singing and dancing today.

A blessed Thanksgiving to you from all of us here at Grace!

Word Search: Thanksgiving dinner

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

CASSEROLE
CRANBERRIES
DRESSING
OLIVES
PICKLES
POTATOES
PUMPKIN
ROLLS

SALAD
SANGRIA
SAUSAGE
STUFFING
THANKSGIVING
TURKEY
VEGETABLES
YAMS

Hatfield Community Christmas Tree Lighting and Special Events

Hosted by Grace Lutheran Church and Cub Pack 510

Saturday, December 2nd

**Events Start at Grace Lutheran Church
40 N. Main Street, Hatfield**



**Something for Everyone!
Join the fun in this Cherished
Hatfield Tradition!**



**5:00 – Enjoy the Fun with a Hot Dog Meal, Hot
Drinks by Philly Espresso, and Games and Crafts!**



**6:00 – Walk down to the Railroad Plaza for
caroling and the arrival of Santa Claus!**

**6:30 – Lighting of the Hatfield
Community Christmas Tree!**



Note: In the event of inclement weather, we will virtually watch the tree lighting from the Social Room at Grace Lutheran Church

Serving today – Thank You!!

Preacher and Presider, Rev. Nancy M. Raabe
Minister of Music, Kevin Freaney
Lector: 8:00am, P. Schmidt; 10:30am, J. Snyder
Ushers: 8:00am, P. Schmidt & D. Capanear;
10:30am, K. Stawasz & C. Tula
Altar Guild: 8:00am, L. Kratz;
10:30am, E. Woltmann
Communion Asst: 8:00am, B. Schmidt;
10:30am, J. Snyder
Acolyte: 8:00am, Usher; 10:30am, Lennon Kaler
Crucifer, 10:30 a.m.: Lincoln Kaler
Coffee Hour: Diane Ball
Council Offering & Lockup: 8:00am, L. Kratz; 10:30am, J. Snyder
Video Team: Harold Schaefer, Dan & Tami Sarm

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

God will shepherd Israel

Psalms 95:1-7a

*We are the people of God's pasture and the
sheep of God's hand*

Ephesians 1:15-23

The reign of Christ

Matthew 25:31-46

*The coming of the Son of Man; the separation
of sheep and goats*

COFFEE HOUR is served in **FELLOWSHIP HALL** each Sunday following our services. Please join us for coffee, tasty snacks and conversation. Also, the nursery is available for parents and children; please make use of the "Busy Bags" for young children.



Pastoral Care If you are ill, seeking pastoral care or need a helping hand for any reason, please contact Pastor Raabe through the office. Talk with her about prayer requests, illnesses, hospital stays, weddings, funerals, baptisms, and the joys in your life.

Save Paper! Early access! Receive your Parish News by email! Add your address to the list by contacting Lynn in the office.



Grace Lutheran Church Pastor Nancy M. Raabe

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