



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

June 16, 2024
4th Sunday after Pentecost
9:15 a.m.

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,
help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding
rather than trusting in you.**

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you.

Where else can we turn?

**Share with us the words of eternal life
and feed us for life in the world.**

Amen.

Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, † the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: What Is This Place

ELW 524



1 What is this place where we are meet - ing? On - ly a house, the
2 Words from a - far, stars that are fall - ing, sparks that are sown in
3 And we ac - cept bread at this ta - ble, bro - ken and shared, a



earth its floor. Walls and a roof shel - ter - ing peo - ple,
us like seed: names for our God, dreams, signs and won - ders
liv - ing sign. Here in this world, dy - ing and liv - ing,



win-dows for light, an o - pen door. Yet it be-comes a bod - y that lives
sent from the past are all we need. We in this place re - mem-ber and speak
we are each oth-er's bread and wine. This is the place where we can re-ceive



when we are gath - ered here, and know our God is near.
a - gain what we have heard: God's free re - deem-ing word.
what we need to in - crease: our jus - tice and God's peace.

Text: Huub Oosterhuis, b. 1933; tr. David Smith, b. 1933

Music: KOMT NU MET ZANG. A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626

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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



We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the
We are dancing ...
We are singing ...



light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,



we are march - ing in the light of God.



We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



we are march - ing in the light of God.



We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



we are march - ing in the light of God.

Prayer of the Day

P. O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C. Amen

First Reading: Ezekiel 17:22-24

²²Thus says the Lord GOD:

I myself will take a sprig
from the lofty top of a cedar;
I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one
from the topmost of its young twigs;

I myself will plant it
on a high and lofty mountain.

²³On the mountain height of Israel

I will plant it,
in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live;
in the shade of its branches will nest
winged creatures of every kind.

²⁴All the trees of the field shall know
that I am the LORD.

I bring low the high tree,
I make high the low tree;

I dry up the green tree
and make the dry tree flourish.

I the LORD have spoken;
I will accomplish it.

Word of God, word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.



Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

The right - teous shall spread a -
broad like a ce - dar of Leb - a - non.

¹It is a good thing to give thanks | to the LORD,
to sing praise to your name, | O Most High;

²**to herald your love | in the morning
and your faithful- | ness at night;**

³on the psaltery, and | on the lyre,
and to the melody | of the harp.

⁴**For you have made me glad by your | acts, O LORD;
and I shout for joy because of the works | of your hands. R**

¹²The righteous shall flourish | like a palm tree,
and shall spread abroad like a ce- | dar of Lebanon.

¹³**Those who are planted in the house | of the LORD
shall flourish in the courts | of our God;**

¹⁴they shall still bear fruit | in old age;
they shall be | green and succulent;

¹⁵**that they may show how up- | right the LORD is,
my rock, in whom there is | no injustice. R**

A reading from the Gospel of Mark, the 4th chapter (Mark 4:26-34):

²⁶[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

³⁰He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable

will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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

Please stand.

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.

The gospel of Christ, according to Paul in Second Corinthians.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

2 Corinthians 5:4-5 (NRSV):

⁴For while we are still in this tent, we groan under our burden, because we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

2 Corinthians 5:6-17 (The Message):

⁶⁻⁸ That's why we live with such good cheer. You won't see us drooping our heads or dragging our feet! Cramped conditions here don't get us down. They only remind us of the spacious living conditions ahead. It's what we trust in but don't yet see that keeps us going. Do you suppose a few ruts in the road or rocks in the path are going to stop us? When the time comes, we'll be plenty ready to exchange exile for homecoming.

⁹⁻¹⁰ But neither exile nor homecoming is the main thing. Cheerfully pleasing God is the main thing, and that's what we aim to do, regardless of our conditions. Sooner or later we'll all have to face God, regardless of our conditions. We will appear before Christ and take what's coming to us as a result of our actions, either good or bad.

¹¹⁻¹⁴ *That* keeps us vigilant, you can be sure. It's no light thing to know that we'll all one day stand in that place of Judgment. That's why we work urgently with everyone we meet to get them ready to face God. God alone knows how well we do this, but I hope you realize how much and deeply we care. We're not saying this to make ourselves look good to you. We just thought it would make you feel good, proud even, that we're on your side and not just nice to your face as so many people are. If I acted crazy, I did it for God; if I acted overly serious, I did it for you. Christ's love has moved me to such extremes. His love has the first and last word in everything we do.

¹⁴⁻¹⁵ Our firm decision is to work from this focused center: One man died for everyone. That puts everyone in the same boat. He included everyone in his death so that everyone could also be included in his life, a resurrection life, a far better life than people ever lived on their own.

¹⁶⁻²⁰ Because of this decision we don't evaluate people by what they have or how they look. We looked at the Messiah that way once and got it all wrong, as you know. We certainly don't look at him that way anymore. Now we look inside, and what we see is that anyone united with the Messiah gets a fresh start, is created new. The old life is gone; a new life emerges! Look at it!

Word of God, word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

Sermon: Be of Good Cheer

Pastor Nancy Raabe

HYMN of the DAY: God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me ACS 1084



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to
2 Bind to my-self the name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness -
3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light - ning,
4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to
5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:
es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:
strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:
light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:
hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



O Christ, sur - round me; O Christ, sur - round me.

PRAYERS

To the petition "Merciful God," please respond: "Receive our prayer."

GREETING OF THE PEACE

P. The peace of Christ be with you always.

C. And also with you.



Please be seated.

OFFERING

*You may use this QR code to give using your credit card, or you may place your offerings in the plates by the sanctuary entrances. We rely on your gifts to sustain Grace and all its ministries. Forms for electronic giving are in the narthex or ask us for help. You may also text a gift to Grace at **844-613-0815**.*



Music at the Offering: This is My Father's World (*Handbells*)

Please stand.

OFFERTORY



1 All you works of God, bless the Lord! All you an - gels, now
2. Bless the Lord all you pure of heart, All you hum - ble his



bless the Lord; come, you heav - ens and pow'rs that be,
praise im - part; God the Fath - er and Son a - dore,

Refrain



praise the Lord and his maj - es - ty: Raise your voic - es high,
bless the spir - it for - ev - er more.



praise and mag - ni - fy, all you works of God, bless the Lord!

OFFERING PRAYER

A. Let us pray.

Jesus, Bread of life,

you have set this table with your very self,

and called us to the feast of plenty.

Gather what has been sown among us,

and strengthen us in this meal.

Make us to be what we receive here,

your body for the life of the world. **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....

....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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.

In the night in which he was betrayed...

P. 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

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

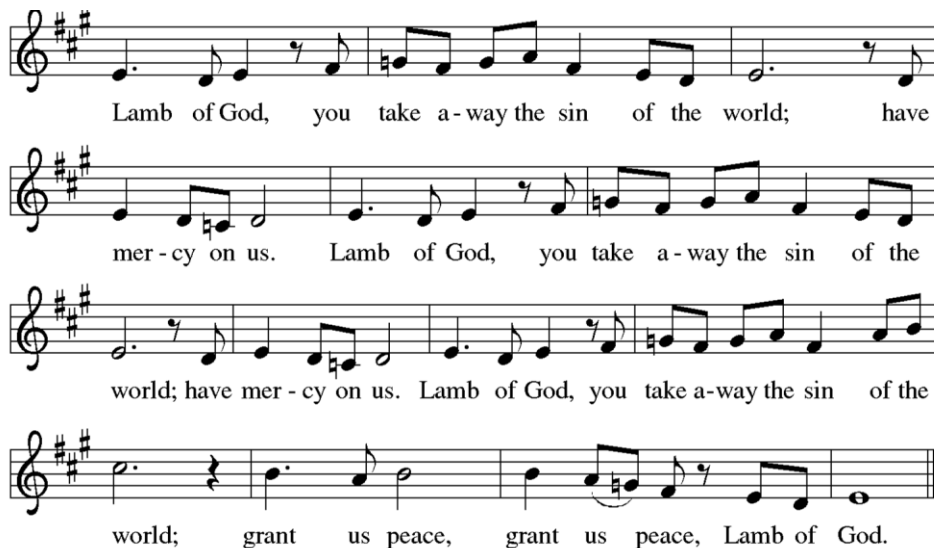
Our Father, who art in heaven....

Invitation to Communion

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

Please be seated.

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: As the Grains of Wheat

ELW 465

TABLE BLESSING

P. The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A. Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask.

As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

C. Amen.

Announcements and honoring of graduates: Seth Michael Herculini, Wyeth Oliver Slugg, Olivia Grace Stone

Please stand.

BENEDICTION

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: God of the Fertile Fields

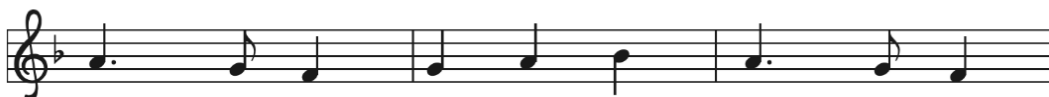
ACS 1063



1 God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of
 2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in
 3 As grows the hid - den seed to fruit that
 4 God of the coun - try - side, dear to the



earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your
 trust from you all that you give; help us in
 serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our
 Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our



boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,
 love to share, teach us like you to care
 toil be used, no gift of yours a - bused,
 lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.



that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.
 for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.
 no hum - ble task re - fused your love be - stows.
 Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace. Be Christ to your neighbor.

C. Thanks be to God!

Postlude: God of Grace

Arr. Paul Manz

Serving today – Thank You!!

Preacher and Presider, Rev. Nancy Raabe

Minister of Music, Kevin Freaney

Lector: Jaime Kaler

Ushers: Bob Smyrl and Kathy Stawasz

Communion Asst: Lennon Kaler

Altar Guild: Sue Wieland

Acolyte: Usher

Coffee Hour: Carol MacDonald

Council Offering & Lockup: Tom Salter

Video Team: Harold Schaefer, Dan & Tami Sarm

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God Be the Love to Search and Keep Me, All Creation Sing (ACS) 1084: Text and music by Richard Bruxvoort Colligan © 2004 This Here Music, admin. Augsburg Fortress

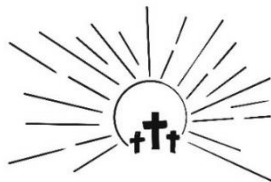
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Hymn of the Day: God Be the Love to Search and Keep Me (ACS 1084)

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

ANGELS
APOSTLES
BRIGHTNESS
CLOUD
DEPTH
ENFOLD
FLASHING
HEARTS
LIGHTNING
LOVE

MOONLIGHT
PLANET
PRAYER
PROPHETS
SEARCH
STRENGTH
SURROUND
UPHOLD
VOICE
WITNESSES

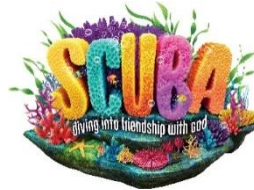
TAKE NOTE

Registration for the Summer Youth Service Camp **closes today**. This experience of learning and service June 24-27 from 8:30 am-3 p.m. is sponsored by the congregations of the Indian Valley Cluster (Grace, Emmanuel Souderton, St. Paul's Telford, Little Zion Telford, Advent Harleysville, Christ Kulpville) and offers youth ages 4th grade and up the chance to work together on local service projects and fun activities. On our "day at Grace" June 24 we will visit Dogtown Rescue, Paradise Manor and the EEC Food Cupboard. All expenses are covered, including meals.

Sign up at bit.ly/3w7hweU (or talk to Pastor Raabe) and don't miss this great opportunity!

Please join us **after worship next Sunday, June 23**, for a potluck hosted by our Sunday School honoring the Slugg family and their many years of dedication to our Sunday School program.

Vacation Bible School returns to Grace **July 14-18 from 5:30-8 p.m.** Please "take the VBS Challenge" by inviting at least one family you know with children ages 4K – 8th grade to join us! Each evening begins with a family meal. Led by Annette Dittman, it promises to be a fun five-day dive into an ocean of ways to experience the truth of God's Word. Just scan this code to register or to volunteer:



Grace Lutheran Church Pastor Nancy M. Raabe

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215-368-2052

