



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

September 1, 2024
15th Sunday after Pentecost - 9:15 a.m.

Sermon series, “The crucible of faith: Four women prophets
and their courageous response to God’s call”
Part I: Miriam

Rev. Nancy M. Raabe, Pastor
Annette Dittman, Director of Youth Ministries
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: For the Beauty of the Earth

ELW 879

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

ELW Setting 10



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

Prayer of the Day

P. O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C. Amen

First Reading: Exodus 15:19-21



¹⁹When the horses of Pharaoh with his chariots and his chariot drivers went into the sea, the LORD brought back the waters of the sea upon them; but the Israelites walked through the sea on dry ground.

²⁰Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. ²¹And Miriam sang to them:

"Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

Word of God, word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 15



Lord, who may dwell in your ta - ber - na - cle? ____



¹Lord, who may dwell in your | tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your | holy hill?

²**Those who lead a blameless life and do | what is right,
who speak the truth | from their heart;**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil | to their friends;
they do not cast discredit up- | on a neighbor.

⁴**In their sight the wicked | are rejected, but they honor those who | fear
the Lord. R**

They have sworn upon their health and do not take | back their word.

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- | gainst the innocent.

**Those who | do these things
shall never be | overthrown. R**

Second Reading: James 1:17-27

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

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

Children's Message

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW Setting 10



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

P. The Holy Gospel, according to Mark, the 7th chapter.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” ⁶He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

“This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;

⁷in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.”

⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.

²¹“For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

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

Please be seated.

Sermon: Miriam – Courage, Humility, Propriety

Pastor Nancy Raabe

HYMN of the DAY: For All the Faithful Women

ELW 419

Stanza 1; stanza 3, “Miriam”; stanza 2.

1. *“For all the faithful women...”*
2. *“We praise your name for Miriam...”*
3. *“O God, for saints and servants...”*

APOSTLES’ CREED

**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 “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

*Please leave your gifts in the offering plates at the rear of the sanctuary. You may also use this QR code to give using your credit card, or text a gift to Grace at our special number, **844-613-0815**. 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.*



Music at the Offering: Cantabile

**Beethoven, Arr. by
Gary Davidson**

Please stand.

OFFERTORY: Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing ELW 807

Stanza 1



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.

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

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW Setting 10

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.

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

Come to the table where the abundance of life in Christ is freely shared.

Please be seated.

LAMB OF GOD

WOV Setting 5



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.

COMMUNION HYMN: Let Us Break Bread Together

ELW 471

Please stand.

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

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: Savior, Again to Your Dear Name

ELW 534

DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace. Share the abundance of Christ with all you meet.

C. Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Majestic Postlude

Mark Williams

Serving today – Thank You!!

Preacher and Presider, Rev. Nancy Raabe

Organist: Pat Keen

Lector: Cathy Farrell

Ushers: Don Capanear & Kay Deussing

Communion Asst: Jaime Kaler

Altar Guild: Jaime Kaler

Acolyte: Usher

Coffee Hour: Carol MacDonald

Council Offering & Lockup: Tom Salter

Video Team: Harold Schaefer,

Dan & Tami Sarm

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Word search: Pets and backyard creatures

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

BUTTERFLY
CANINE
CATERPILLAR
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DONKEY

EAGLE
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