

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

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost July 6, 2025 9:15 a.m.

The Rev. Dr. D. E. Littleton, Transitional Pastor Susanna Faust, Minister of Music Annette Dittman, Director of Youth Ministries Lynn Fasick, Office Administrator Jessica Moran, Stepping Stones Director

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: Jesus Christus, Unser Heiland, BWV 666

by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father,

and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you free us to love others,

but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.

You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,

but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.

You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity,

but we grow weary in doing what is right.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Do not give up on us.

Heal us, break our bonds,

and show us the path of life.

Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith.

In the cross of + Christ,

and through the power of the Holy Spirit,

your sins are forgiven.

Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. Amen.





Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: IN DIR IST FREUDE, Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, 1556-1622

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Call to Worship: Psalm 66

P; Shout out to God, all the earth! Break into joyful songs to the one true God! Sing of the glory due His name, and offer the most magnificent praises!

C; All Your works are wonderful!
The entire earth bows down to worship You, singing songs of praise and glory to Your name.

P. Come, let's bless God together! Let's praise the One who gives us life and keeps us safe; who watches over us, and keeps our feet from stumbling.

C: Break into joyful songs to the one true God!

Hymn of Praise: I've Got The Joy, Joy, Joy



Text: George W. Cooke Music: DOWN IN MY HEART, George W. Cooke

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.**

Prayer of the Day

P. O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus, you are the city that shelters us, the mother who comforts us. With your Spirit accompany us on our life's journey, that we may spread your peace in all the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

First Reading: Galatians 6:7-16

⁷Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. ⁸ If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. ⁹ So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. ¹⁰ So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

¹¹ See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! ¹² It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that try to compel you to be circumcised—only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³ Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. ¹⁴ May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵ For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! ¹⁶ As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

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

Psalm 66:1-9 *(read)*

¹ Be joyful in God, all you lands; be joyful, all the earth.

² Sing the glory of God's name; sing the glory of God's praise.

³ Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! Because of your great strength your enemies cringe before you.

- ⁴ All the earth bows down before you, sings to you, sings out your name."
- ⁵ Come now and see the works of God, how awesome are God's deeds toward all people.
- ⁶ God turned the sea into dry land, so that they went through the water on foot,

and there we rejoiced in God.

- ⁷ Ruling forever in might, God keeps watch over the nations; let no rebels exalt themselves.
- ⁸ Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.
- ⁹ Our God has kept us among the living and has not allowed our feet to slip.

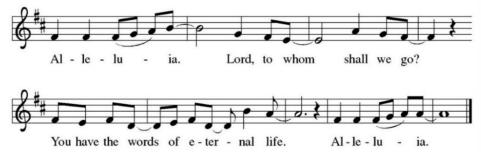
"All God's Children's Time"

Annette

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW Setting 6



Gospel: Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

P. The gospel of our Lord, according to Luke, the 10th chapter.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. ² He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³ Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. ⁴ Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no

one on the road. ⁵ Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' ⁶ And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. ⁷ Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. ⁸ Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; ⁹ cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' ¹⁰ But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, ¹¹ 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.'"

¹⁶ "Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me."

¹⁷ The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" ¹⁸ He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. ¹⁹ See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. ²⁰ Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

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

Please be seated

Sermon: The Greatest Joy Pastor Littleton

HYMN of the DAY: Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee ELW 836

The 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 "God of grace," please respond: "Hear our prayer."



GREETING OF THE PEACE

P. The peace of Christ be with you always. **C. And also with you.** *Please be seated.*

OFFERING

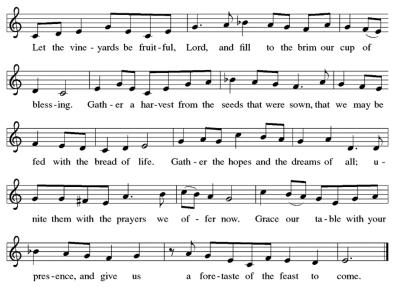
The ushers will pass the offering plates at this time.

Music at the Offering: Elegy

by William Grant Still (1895-1978)

ELW Setting 3





OFFERING PRAYER

A. Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

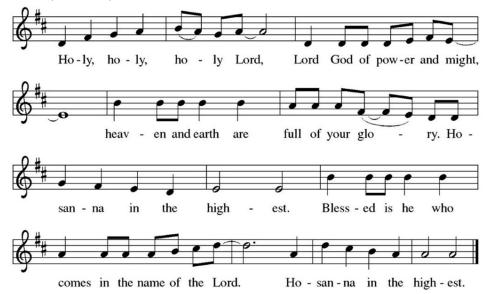
C. Amen.

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, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. 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:



HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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,
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

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

Please be seated.





Communion Hymn: Shall We Gather at the River ELW 423

Please stand.

TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Mothering God,
you gathered us to your table
and we drank deeply of your grace.

Send us out by your Spirit
to love our neighbors as ourselves
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit

☐ bless you and give you peace. Amen.

SENDING HYMN: This is My Song ELW 887

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Jesus Christus, Unser Heiland by Brenda Portman (1982-)



CALL PROCESS

You are invited to another of our discussions about the future of Grace. This one will be held on <u>July 13</u>, at approximately 10:30, following the church service. The main question will be, "What do you see for Grace 5 years in future?" We are hoping you all will come prepared to offer your thoughts so that we can have an open and wide-ranging discussion. A follow up question might be, "What can you do to help us get there?" We expect to schedule a Zoom session for an evening later that week.



Grace will be partnering with other area churches for Vacation Bible School this year. Join us on July 28-31 for a "Road Trip - On the go with God" at Little Zion Church in Franconia. Volunteers are needed and if you can't be there in person there are other ways you can help; check the display in the narthex for supplies needed. Check registration details by following the link: https://bit.ly/Roadtrip2025 Thanks, Annette

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Serving today – Thank You!!

Preacher and Presider, Rev. Dr. Littleton

Minister of Music, Susanna Faust

Lector: Frank Stone

Ushers: Dave Kunkel & Kay Deussing Communion Assistant: Frank Stone

Altar Guild: Sue Wieland

Acolyte: Usher

Altar Flower Prep: Kay Stone Coffee Hour: Kay Stone

Council Offering & Lockup: Dave Kunkel

Video Team: Harold Schaefer, Dan & Tami Sarm

PASTORAL CARE: For urgent prayer needs, illnesses or hospitalizations, convey these to Pastor Dee Littleton by email or text at drdee3@gmail.com or 610-213-9725.





Grace Lutheran Church

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