



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

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 17, 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: Prelude in B Minor

by Tat'iana Salutrinskaya

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.**



GATHERING HYMN: All Glory Be to God on High

ELW 410

Call to Worship

P: Gather us in, Lord, and hear our prayers.

C: We have come to this place in need for healing and hope.

P: Gather us in, Lord, and heal our spirits.

C: We come here seeking guidance and strength.

P: Gather us in, Lord, and open our hearts to receive your word.

C: Open our hearts, our spirits, our souls to comprehend your word and follow you faithfully. Amen.

Hymn of Praise: Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

The musical score is written on five staves in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: 'Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word. Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood. When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way. Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.'

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950

Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson

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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.**

Prayer of the Day

P. O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Hebrews 11:29—12:2

²⁹ By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.



³² And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵ Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground.

³⁹ Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

^{12:1} Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

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

Psalm 82

(read)

- ¹ God stands to charge the divine council assembled,
giving judgment in the midst of the gods:
- ² **“How long will you judge unjustly,
and show favor to the wicked?**
- ³ Save the weak and the orphan;
defend the humble and needy;
- ⁴ **rescue the weak and the poor;
deliver them from the power of the wicked.**
- ⁵ They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander about in darkness;
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.
- ⁶ **Now I say to you, ‘You are gods,
and all of you children of the Most High;**
- ⁷ nevertheless, you shall die like mortals,
and fall like any prince.’”
- ⁸ **Arise, O God, and rule the earth,
for you shall take all nations for your own.**

“All God’s Children’s Time”

Annette

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (sing twice before & once after Gospel reading)



Gospel: Luke 12:49-56

P. The gospel of our Lord, according to Luke, the 12th chapter.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ⁴⁹ “I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! ⁵⁰ I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹ Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵² From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³ they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

⁵⁴ He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain,’ and so it happens. ⁵⁵ And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. ⁵⁶ You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

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

Please be seated.

Sermon: What Lord?

Pastor Littleton

HYMN of the DAY: Have Thine Own Way, Lord



1.-4. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!



Thou art the pot - ter, I am the clay. Mold me and
Search me and try me, Sa - vior to - day! Wash me just
Woun - ded and wea - ry, help me I pray! Po - wer, all
Hold o'er my be - ing ab - so - lute sway. Fill with thy



make me af - ter thy will, while I am
now, Lord, wash me just now, as in thy
po - wer, sure - ly is thine! Touch me and
Spi - rit till all shall see Christ on - ly,



wait - ing, yiel - ded and still.
pre - sence hum - bly I bow.
heal me, Sa - vior di - vine!
al - ways, li - ving in me!

Hymnary.org

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 "Hear us, O God," please respond: "Your mercy is great."



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: Come, Let Us Eat

by Billema Kwillia,
 arr. John Helgen (1957-)

OFFERTORY

ELW Setting 3

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
 bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
 fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
 nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
 pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

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.

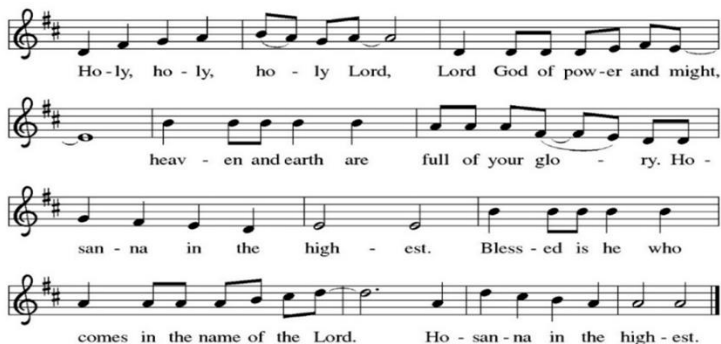
P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins_ of the world, have mer - cy on us, have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins_ of the world, have
mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sins_ of the world, grant_ us_ peace, grant_ us_ peace.

Communion Hymn: I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

ELW 815

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: Let the Whole Creation Cry

ELW 876

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Let the Whole Creation Cry

**by Anne Krentz Organ
(1960-)**

Serving today – Thank You!!

Preacher and Presider, Rev. Dr. Littleton
Minister of Music, Susanna Faust
Lector: Carol MacDonald
Ushers: Paul MacDonald and Don Capanear
Communion Assistant: Carol MacDonald
Altar Guild: Barb Hess
Acolyte: Usher
Altar Flower Prep: Carol MacDonald
Council Offering & Lockup: TBD
Video Team: Harold Schaefer, Dan & Tami Sarm

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