



Grace Lutheran Church
40 N. Main St., Hatfield, PA 19440
gracelutheranhatfield.org
215.855.4676

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 21, 2025 9:30 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: Ashokan Farewell

**by Jay Ungar
(1946-)**

GATHERING

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands. 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.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

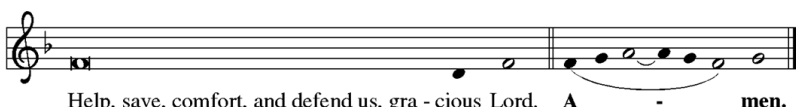
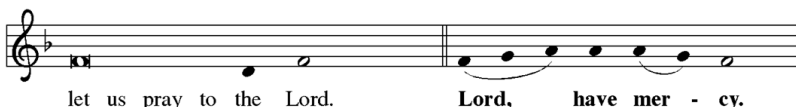
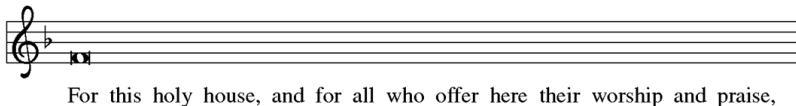
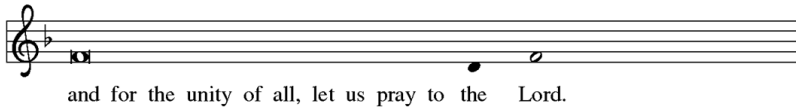
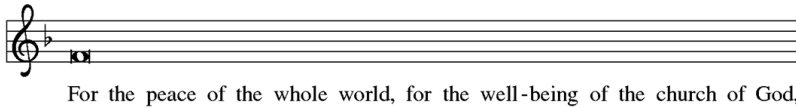
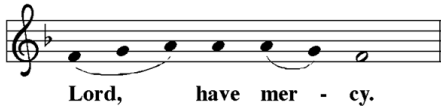
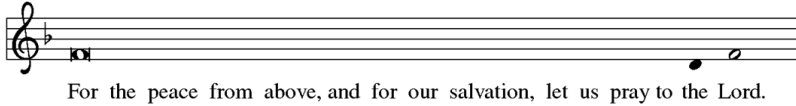
GATHERING HYMN: Let Justice Flow Like Streams

ELW 717

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

KYRIE



THIS IS THE FEAST

Refrain

The musical score is written for a single voice part in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of three systems of music. Each system begins with a 'Refrain' section, followed by a verse section. The first system's verse ends with a double bar line. The second system's verse ends with a double bar line. The third system's verse ends with a double bar line. The lyrics are: 'This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.'

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

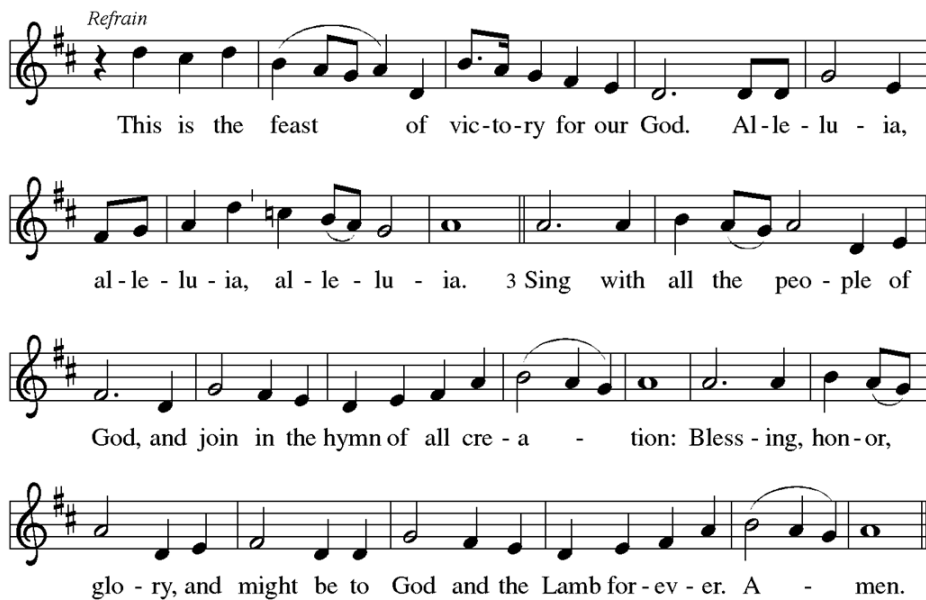
Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of
 God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,
 glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
 Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

P. God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

First Reading: Amos 8:4-7

⁴ Hear this, you who trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,
⁵ saying, “When will the new moon be over
so that we may sell grain,
and the Sabbath,
so that we may offer wheat for sale?
We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier
and practice deceit with false balances,
⁶ buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals
and selling the sweepings of the wheat.”
⁷ The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.



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

Psalm 113

¹ Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD;
praise the name of the LORD.
² **Let the name of the LORD be blessed,
from this time forth forevermore.**
³ From the rising of the sun to its going down
let the name of the LORD be praised.
⁴ **The LORD is high above all nations;
God's glory above the heavens.**
⁵ Who is like the LORD our God,
who sits enthroned on high,
⁶ **but stoops to behold
the heavens and the earth?**
⁷ The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust

and lifts up the poor from the ashes,
⁸ **enthroning them with the rulers,
with the rulers of the people.**

⁹ The LORD makes the woman of a childless house
to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

¹ First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings
be made for everyone, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may
lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³ This is right and
acceptable before God our Savior, ⁴ who desires everyone to be saved and to come to
the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For

there is one God;

there is also one mediator between God and humankind,
Christ Jesus, himself human,

⁶ who gave himself a ransom for all
—this was attested at the right time. ⁷ For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle
(I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

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

“All God’s Children’s Time”

Annette

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.

Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

P. The gospel of our Lord, according to Luke, the 16th chapter.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ ³ Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ ⁵ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶ He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ ⁷ Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ ⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰ “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹ If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³ No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

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

Please be seated.

Sermon: Squandered

Pastor Littleton

HYMN of the DAY: Lord Whose Love in Humble Service

ELW 712

Litany for the retirement of a Soup Supper Ministry

P: Dear friends: United with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are joined in God's mission for the life of the world. We are called to that mission in our daily lives and in the ministries we share as the church of God.

Today it is our privilege to give thanks for those who are completing a time of service in the Soup Supper Ministry within this congregation:

Lou Farrell

Lisa Boyer

Laura Slugg

Deb Hollenbeck (Faith, Montgomeryville)

Barb Watts

Kay Deussing

Oleg Koninin

Bobby Gloriosio

Linda Pribbernow

Jamie Kaler

P: Creator God, we give thanks for your abundant provision and for the call to feed your people, both in body and spirit. Today, we celebrate and honor the faithful service of **Lou Farrell, Lisa Boyer, Laura Slugg, Deb Hollenbeck (Faith, Montgomeryville), Barb Watts, Kay Deussing, Oleg Koninin, Bobby Gloriosio, Linda Pribbernow, Jamie Kaler**, who have led our Soup Supper Ministry with dedication and love.

C: *For the bowls of hot soup, bread for the shared conversation, and for the hope you have provided, we give thanks.*

P: We remember the countless evenings of planning, preparation, and serving. For the work done behind the scenes and the meals shared with those in our community, we are grateful.

C: *For the hands that chopped, the hearts that served, and the spirits that connected, we give thanks.*

P: You have planted seeds of love and hospitality in our lives through this ministry. You have challenged us to live out the gospel by serving "the least of these" and remembering that in helping others, we serve the Lord.

C: *“For I was hungry, and you gave me food to eat... Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me.”*

Leader:

Lou Farrell, Lisa Boyer, Laura Slugg, Deb Hollenbeck (Faith, Montgomeryville), Barb Watts, Kay Deussing, Oleg Koninin, Bobby Gloriosio, Linda Pribbernow, Jamie Kaler, as you retire from this specific work, we release you from the duties and expectations of this ministry. We acknowledge that for everything there is a season, and your season of leadership in this place is complete.

C: *We receive your thankfulness and offer our forgiveness for any expectations we failed to meet. We are grateful for your time, and your faithful example that will continue to inspire us.*

P: You have served well, and we bless you as you seek new ways of serving the Lord. We pray that God will grant you peace, rest, and new opportunities for joy and service.

C: *May you be blessed with good health and surrounded by the love of family and friends. May you continue to find ways to share your gifts, and may you rest in the contentment of a job well done.*

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Holy Spirit equips the church with a rich variety of gifts. We give thanks for the ways these gifts have been shown forth among us through *your servants*.

We praise you for shared joys and accomplishments, and we commend our work to you.

Grant that we may continue to bear witness to Christ in lives that are built on faith and love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: *The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace, this day and forevermore. Amen.*

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 "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 *The ushers will pass the offering plates at this time.*



Music at the Offering: O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High
by Carl Schalk (1929-2021)

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

Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our 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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff ends with a comma, the second with a period, the third with a period, and the fourth with a double bar line.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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 for 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.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

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.**

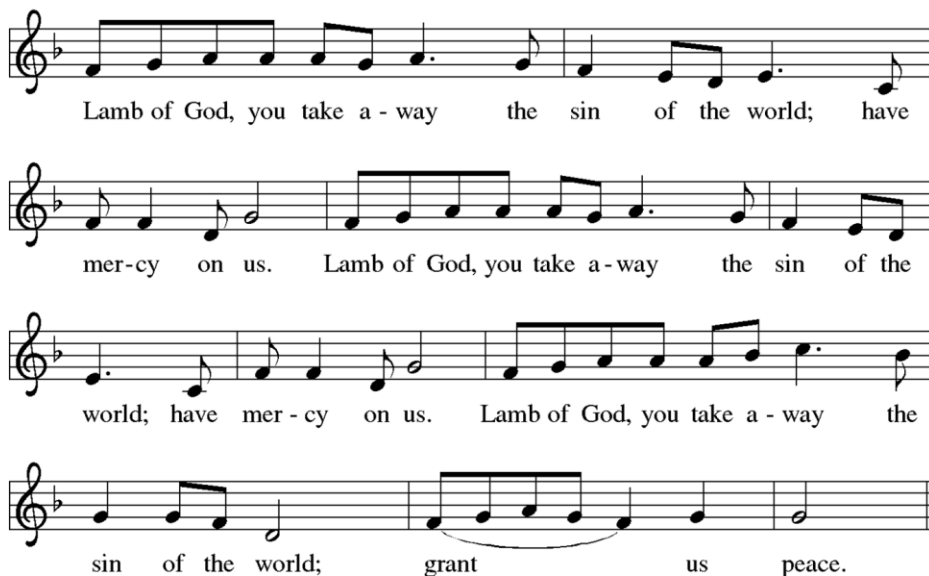
**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

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.

Communion Hymn: You Satisfy The Hungry Heart

ELW 484

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.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN: Oh, Sing to the Lord

ELW 822

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Precious Lord, Take My Hand

**by Sheree Hansen
(1956-2024)**

Serving today – Thank You!!

Preacher and Presider, Rev. Dr. Littleton

Minister of Music, Susanna Faust

Lector: Carol MacDonald

Ushers: Don Capanear and Kay Stone

Communion Assistant: Carol MacDonald

Altar Guild: Don Capanear

Acolyte: Usher

Altar Flower Prep: Kay Stone

Coffee Hour: TBD

Council Offering & Lockup: Tom Salter

Video Team: Harold Schaefer, Dan & Tami Sarm

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