

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



July 17, 2022
10:00am

Welcome

Hymn

Dearest Jesus, at Your Word (Verses 1 & 2)

#520

Apostolic 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.

Hymn of Praise (Refrains and v 3 – all; verse 1 – women; verse 2 – 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, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



Refrain
hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



Refrain
gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Children's Time

First Reading: Genesis 18:1–10a

¹The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ²He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. ³He said, “My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” ⁶And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” ⁷Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹They said to him, “Where is your wife Sarah?” And he said, “There, in the tent.” ^{10a}Then one said, “I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.”

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Second Reading: Colossians 1:15–28

¹⁵[Christ Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation;¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

²¹And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²²he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him—²³provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

²⁴I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. ²⁵I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Gospel: Luke 10:38–42

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁸Now as [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. ³⁹She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; ⁴²there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom



1 Come and seek the ways of Wis-dom, she who danced when
 2 Lis - ten to the voice of Wis-dom, cry - ing in the
 3 Sis - ter Wis - dom, come, as - sist us; nur - ture all who



earth was new. Fol - low close - ly what she teach - es,
 mar - ket - place. Hear the Word made flesh a - mong us,
 seek re - birth. Spir - it - guide and close com - pan - ion,



for her words are right and true. Wis - dom clears the
 full of glo - ry, truth, and grace. When the word takes
 bring to light our sa - cred worth. Free us to be -



path to jus - tice, show - ing us what love must do.
 root and rip - ens, peace and righ - teous - ness em - brace.
 come your peo - ple, ho - ly friends of God and earth.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: MADELEINE, Donna Kasbohm, b. 1933

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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 of the Church

United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.

A brief silence.

... God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God of every time and place, in Jesus' name and filled with your Holy Spirit, we entrust these spoken prayers and those in our hearts into your holy keeping.

Amen.

Offering

Dearest Jesus, at Your Word

David Cherwien

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

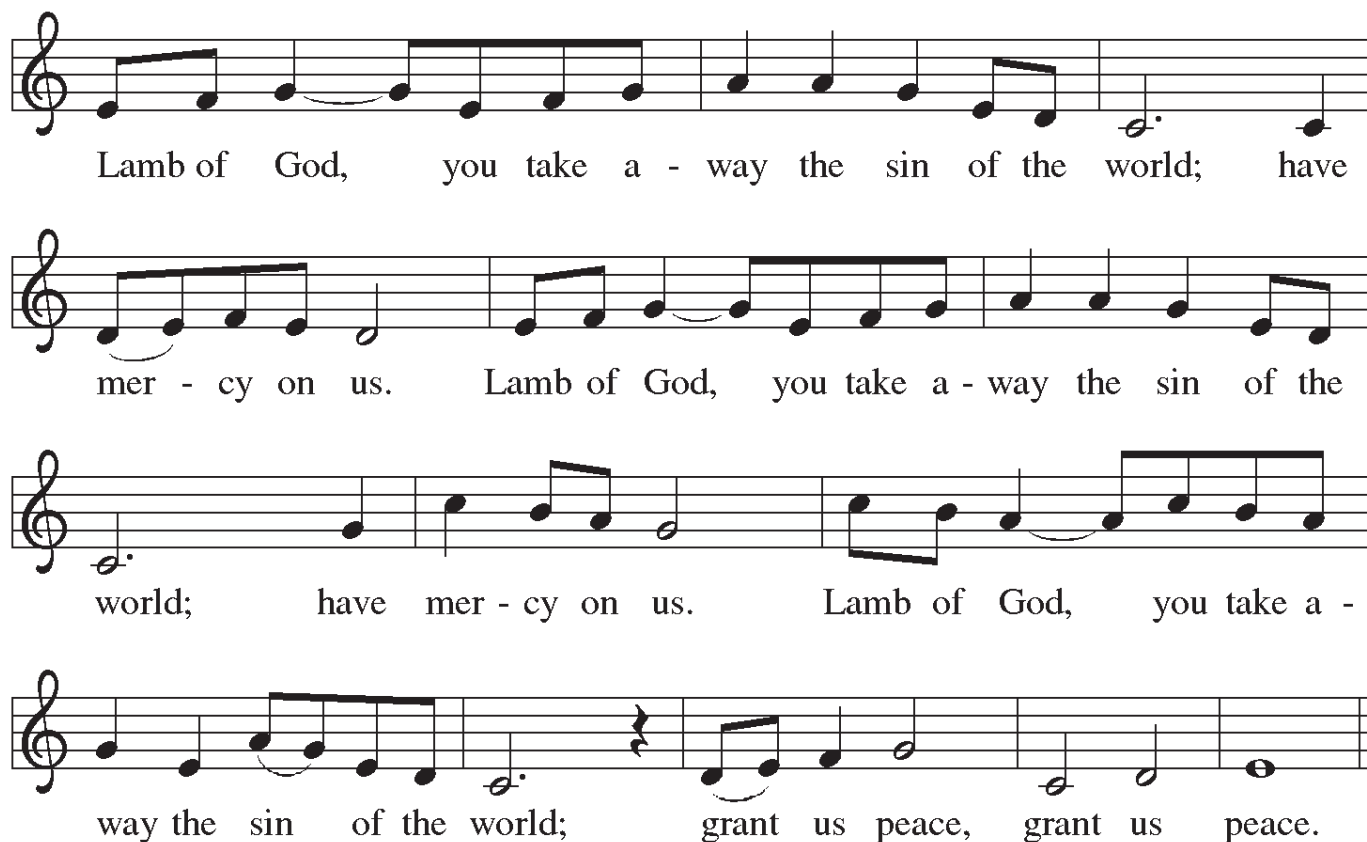
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer

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.

Communion



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.

Organ Music

Dearest Jesus, at Your Word

Paul Manz

Prayer after Communion

Life-giving God,

through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

Hymn

Give Me Jesus

#770

Dismissal

Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

A Joyous Recessional

Matthew Corl

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Minister: Rev. Phil Ruge-Jones

Reader: Mitch Piper

Assisting Minister: Molly Wilson

Organist: Elaine Mann



A N N O U N C E M E N T S



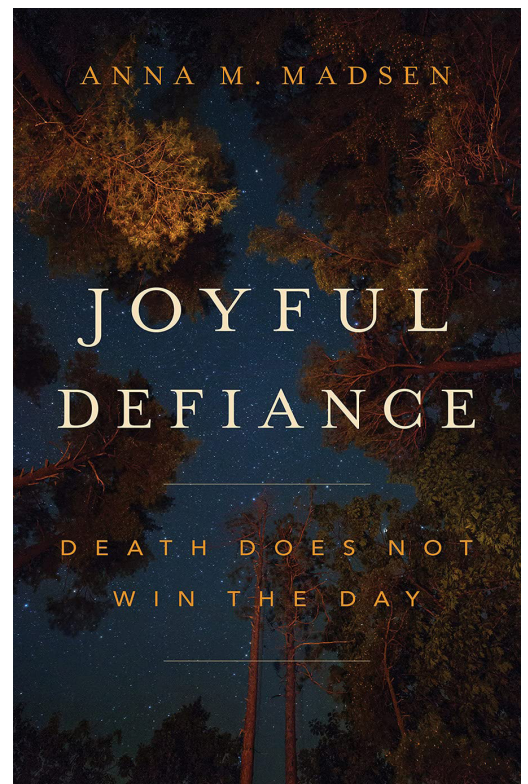
Guatemala Mission

Pastor Phil has returned from Guatemala where he has worked with the team of people in the photo above. They continued the work of translating biblical stories from Spanish into three indigenous languages. The fifteen translators learn these stories by heart and tell them in their communities in the way we have occasionally seen Pastor Phil tell the gospel at Grace. After three years they know nineteen long stories from the Old Testament which totals more than two hours of stories learned by heart to share. If you would like to know more about this ministry, ask him. Thanks to Grace for allowing him the time to share the Word of God abroad.

Joyful Defiance

The copies of Joyful Defiance have arrived. If you missed the pre-order and would like to join us for this month's book club discussion, you can purchase copies on Amazon or through Dotters Books (715-829-0468) a local, independent bookseller.

The Grace book club will be discussing the book on Monday, July 18th at 2pm, either via Zoom or with Pastor Phil at Grace as he takes care of the technology for you.



Women's Summer Bible Study

August 3 at 1pm Spirit Lutheran will host a Bible study workshop using the Gather Magazine studies in the May/June and July/August issues. All women are welcome to attend. It will be in our Fellowship Hall downstairs. There is an elevator for your convenience also. Bring your Gather magazines, and copies will also be available. Pastor Becca Holland will lead the study.

Coffee and treats will be provided. We will have a free will offering to be given to the WELCA Katie's Fund, which is used for women's enrichment in the ELCA.

The Bible study uses the concept of quilting to explore rest, renewal, and Christian community. Bring a quilt to display. This can be any size quilting project, your work or maybe a family piece. Attach your name and a short explanation.

Hope to see you there.



Summer Suppers

Summer Suppers are needed for the families at Beacon House.

Our upcoming commitment for providing food at the homeless shelter is for the following dates:

- Sunday, July 31
- Monday, August 1
- Tuesday, August 2
- Wednesday, August 3

Lighter fare is always welcome during the summer. Check out the menus posted on the Lighthouse in the Narthex. We will learn about the number of residents by July 27 so that we can plan the amount of food needed each evening.

Thank you for your continued support of this community outreach mission of our congregation.

Wait for It....

(Life & Growth and Education Ministries)

Lutheran World Relief

Earlier this year, the members of Grace donated \$2,675.00 to help Ukrainian refugees fleeing their homes. This week we received the following card from Lutheran World Relief:

Pastor Phil and the people of Grace Lutheran,
Thank you for sharing your love and generosity
with our neighbors in Ukraine. You are bringing
hope in the form of food, shelter, quilts & kits,
medical supplies and cash assistance. Please
let me know if you have any questions and
I hope we can continue our partnership into
God's promised future.

Grace + Peace, Tim Krick

The On-Going Conversation

Several groups of our congregation have been listening to God by reflecting together on the Manna story in Exodus 16. We also have been holding intentional conversations with a variety of people to try to understand what God might be calling us to be and do in this time and place. Below are some of the things that were recorded. We'd emphasize that this is food for thought at this point and will feel a bit random. There are also reflections that contradict each other because we are a complex community. This is normal.

On Wednesday, August 17th at 6pm we will be seek to understand what God might be saying to us through what we have heard. Even if that would be your first time, you are welcome to join us in the Parlors. We will be looking at this open list of reflections asking the following questions:

- What stood out to you in the listening work? What did you notice, what themes arose?
- What do you wonder about through our listing work? What do you want to learn more about?
- What might God be saying to us through our listing work? Is there a direction God is nudging us toward?

Dwelling

- Would you trust you could eat this stuff at first
- Creation Care -- take what need
- How did they know what is enough?
- God is testing them. They were not punished when disobeyed.
- Why did they have to be tested?
- Trust is 2 way street. We need to trust God. He trusts us.
- Punishment Moses angry?
- Manna Spoiled because they did what they wanted not what God told them.
- Humans be Humans

Dwelling

- Trust
- Disciples from place to place
- God will provide
- Did they have anything else?
- God comes through Moses -- we talk/listen to God
- Sabbath practice -- what is God calling us?
- ★ Trust (God, leaders, each other)
- ★ Trust the truth that this isn't working
- ★ What is it?

Dwelling

- Dew = manna
- What is it?
- Do we always recognize daily Bread?
- How do you deal with quail?
- Where is water?
- All that they are carrying -- How do they Deal?
- How do you organize all these people day to day?
- Beginning of Exodus - Scared, new situation - Why is Moses angry?

Dwelling

- Natural to worry about tomorrow
- God speaks to us through others...
- The vision of God is here in each of us and we see God's love in each other.
- God's gifts are to be used not stashed
- less about how much and more focus on gifts of God
- Generosity is gift of this congreg.
- Generosity in loose change
- God means what he says
- God will take care of us.

Dwelling

- What's an owner
- How could they do that 40 yrs.
- How do we talk more directly to God?
- Why the wilderness so long?
- Why can't God better direct our listening?
- Wandering + Wondering
- Do we hear anger and concern from all? Who do we hear?
- God worked with Moses + Aaron - diff gift
- Some people were uncomfortable

What did We Learn Community

- Some Student rentals but more family homes than we think
- Major hub activity
- Pride Flags
- Lots of activities
- Optimism! New shops etc.
- Joy about Neighborhood
- Artist neighbor -- why have we never invited him?
- Neighbor church - school torn down
- Why don't we work with neighbor churches?
- Homeless folks out and about
- Big Brew Company - lawn and patio

Each other

- Do we know who we are?
- Do we know what is going on?
- Bringing in more is focus
- Increasing participation
- Increasing sense of community
- Why are spending time listening to God? How do we figure out what to do.
- Conversations were special + uplifting -- why don't we do this?
- God is in everything
- God is revealed in helping others
- Comfort being with others
- Just present.
- Not worried about future

People Don't Go To Church

- History turned him off
- Damaged by church
- Spiritual
- Everyday ~~man~~ asks for help from Spirit
- Didn't want to use church language
- Why can't people just love each other, why can't church welcome all
- Show compassion not judgement
- Church isn't doing enough to meet real needs?
- Felt uninvited because of style/looks judgement
- Find spirituality in music
- Church not welcoming

People Dont go to Church

- Fighting + disagreement
- People feel unwelcome
- We think our church is welcoming
- What does hospitality mean?
- Nature
- Delivers food - serving



Summer Concerts

If you are looking for some free entertainment Wednesday evenings, the Eau Claire Municipal Band has begun their summer concert series. Concerts begin at 7:30pm at the bandshell in Owen Park. Concerts will run every Wednesday evening from now until the last week in July.

Altar Flowers

Altar flower sign-up cards are available again. Pick one up in the entryway off of the Oxford Ave Parking Lot. Please choose a card for the date you would like, fill it out, and place it in the offering plate or bring it to the church office. If you choose a florist other than 4 Seasons, you will be responsible for bringing the flowers the morning of the service.

We are also trying out a new program. If you are giving electronically through Vanco, there is now an option to purchase altar flowers through Vanco's website or their mobile app. Please order at least a week in advance to give us time to process your request.

If you have ordered altar flowers through 4 Seasons and have taken them home, please return the vase to Andrew in the office so we can bring them back to 4 Seasons to be used again.

Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday : 10AM — 2PM

Phone: 715-832-9713

Email: info@grace-church.org

Rev. Dr. Phil Ruge-Jones: pastorphil@grace-church.org

If you missed one of our services, you can find them on the "Grace Lutheran Church ELCA Eau Claire Wisconsin" YouTube page. If you would like to follow along with a bulletin they can be found on our website (<https://grace-church.org/>) under the "Our Ministry" section.

Services are also broadcast on the following platforms:

Televised Service

Sunday 10:30am WQOW Channel 18, Cable 9, 618HD (every other week)

Thursday 1:30pm Cable Channel 993 (ChipVal CTV Pub Ed)

Radio Service

Sunday 8:30am WAYY 790 AM

Do you have information for the bulletin and Grace at a Glance? Deadline is Thursday by 12:00 p.m. by emailing Andrew at info@grace-church.org or by calling the office at 715-832-9713