

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Why do you not know how to



interpret the present time?

August 14, 2022

10:00am

Welcome**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose steadfast love endures forever.

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 have not followed your path
but have chosen our own way.**

**Instead of putting others before ourselves,
we long to take the best seats at the table.**

**When met by those in need,
we have too often passed by on the other side.**

Set us again on the path of life.

Save us from ourselves

and free us to love our neighbors.

Amen.

Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins
but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are free to love as God loves.

Amen.

Hymn

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

#807

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.

Kyrie

Lord, Have Mercy



1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.
2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Chris - te e - le - i - son.

Music: Russian Orthodox traditional

Prayer of the Day

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.

Children's Time

First Reading: Jeremiah 23:23–29

²³Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? ²⁴Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. ²⁵I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" ²⁶How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? ²⁷They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. ²⁸Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. ²⁹Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:29–12:2

²⁹By 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. ³⁰By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

³²And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—³³who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵Women received their dead

by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷They 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 — ³⁸of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

³⁹Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰since 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, ²looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our 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.

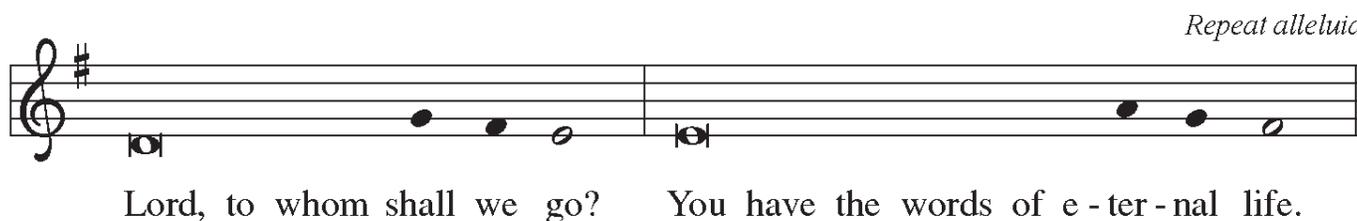
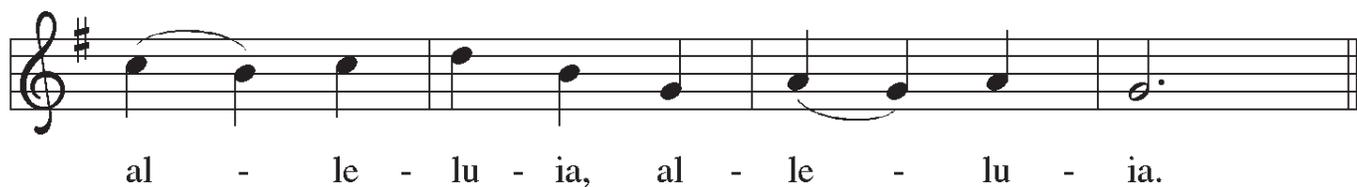
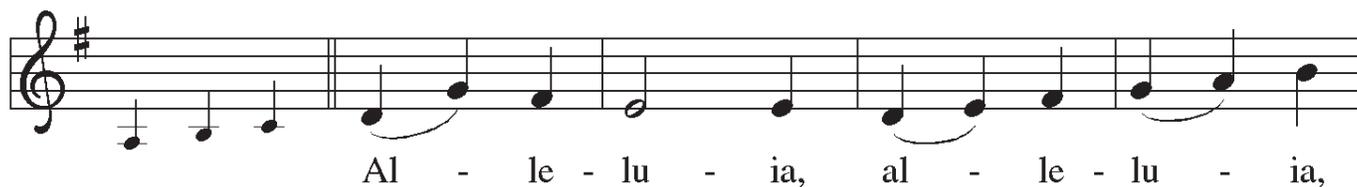
Thanks be to God!

Quartet

Lift Your Light

Mary McDonald

Gospel Acclamation



Repeat alleluia

Gospel: Luke 12:49–56

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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

father against son

and son against father,

mother against daughter

and daughter against mother,

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.**

Offering

Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song

James Biery

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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

On Our Way Rejoicing

#537

Dismissal

Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Thy Strong Word

Paul Manz

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Minister: Rev. Phil Ruge-Jones

Assisting Minister: Paul Lokken

Reader: Stacey Geist

Organist: Elaine Mann

Quartet Singers: Jo Anderson, Wilma Hovland,
Paul Lokken, Peter Lokken



Northwest Synod of Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America
God's Work. Our Hands.



Strengthening Ministry – Today, Tomorrow, Together

From the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin Mission Endowment Committee

Matthew 13:32 : “It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

This passage beautifully illustrates an image of something so small growing into a vibrant network and support system. This, in many ways is symbolic of your Synod Endowment Fund. Since its planting in 2001, the Fund has continued to sprout new branches and has supported dozens of ministries by:

1. Encouraging whole life stewardship
2. Strengthening and resourcing the ministry of the synod and
3. Enhancing the ministry of the synod in addition to, and apart from, its yearly operating budget, with emphasis on, but not limited to:
 - Strengthening congregational vitality
 - Developing ministry for the next generation and
 - Equipping and supporting new leaders through seminary debt assistance, training, and lay leader development

Since inception, the fund has grown to almost a half million dollars and has gifted over two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. In the last five years, the Endowment Fund has made gifts to ministries totaling over \$200,000 with \$81,000 of that total given toward Seminary debt assistance.

This year alone, the Endowment Fund gifted over \$47,000 to various congregations and ministries with almost \$20,000 of that total going to Seminary debt assistance. As you can see, the Endowment Fund has been actively supporting ministries throughout the church by not only speaking of God's Love but putting that Love into action.

At this year's April Synod Assembly, the Endowment Fund launched a two-year campaign to raise awareness of the Endowment Fund and to grow the Fund so that the work of the church and its ministries can continue to be supported and enriched. The theme for this campaign is: “Strengthening Ministry – Today, Tomorrow, Together” with an emphasis on:

- equipping and supporting leaders (seminary debt assistance and training lay leaders)
- strengthening congregational vitality
- developing ministry for the next generation

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The goal over the next two years is to increase the endowment fund by \$125,000 and to generate future commitments of an additional \$150,000. The Endowment Fund is committed today and into the future to assist and support churches, ministries, and seminarians with their ministry journeys. Therefore, the Endowment Fund is asking for your partnership through a gift to help ministries of the church in their journey. Gifts may be cash or an optional future financial commitment. Whether you have much to give or a small amount to share, leaving a gift through the Today, Tomorrow, Together campaign will have long lasting impact. Together we are responding to the story of God's generosity in the world.

The Endowment Fund is only able to do all this great work because of people just like you who chose to make a gift to the Synod Endowment Fund. Because of your generosity, incredible stories are unfolding, and lives are being touched. It is truly God's Work, Our Hands.

For more information or to make a gift, please contact the Synod Office or visit the Synod Website at: <http://nswi.org/giving>

The image in Matthew 13:32 gives us a promise of new growth, strength, and support. We know that the church in ten years will look far different than it does today. We know that we need to do more to support those changes within ministries and prepare church leaders for the future. Because of your generosity, the smallest of seeds can become the strongest of trees. Thank you for your continued support of the Northwest Synod Mission Endowment Fund.



Coffee Hours

We are watching Covid conditions and hoping we can get back to Coffee Hours in the Fall. You may remember that in the past each congregational committee was assigned two months to provide for the snacks and coffee. With the decision to reduce the committees (which we now call ministries) to three members that model is not sustainable. We will invite those who participate in coffee hour to sign up for weeks and provide a simple snack, make the coffee, and clean up. Sign ups will be out to do this in late August.

Thank You to the Beacon House Volunteers

There was a nearly full house at the family homeless shelter in the first week of August. There were 7 adults and 6, at times 10, teen-agers and 1 baby who were nourished by the food our members provided. The menus were geared to summer-time fare and were very well received. Again, our Grace members prepared or purchased all the food needed. The names of our gracious Grace members are listed at the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Blessing Box

Please help us Replenish Our Blessing Box

Our Blessing Box, located at the front entrance of Grace Church, provides non perishable food as well as hygiene items to our neighbors in need. Our Blessing Box is getting low! The Mission Outreach Ministry

will collect nonperishable and personal hygiene products August 14–21. A basket will be in the Narthex for collection.

Suggested items include:

- Cereal
- Canned soup
- Canned vegetables
- Granola Bars
- Fruit Cups
- Canned Meat
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Shampoo
- Soap
- Toothpaste

Of course, you are always welcome to put your items directly in the Blessing Box at any time.



It'll be a Great Day! September 11, 10:00

Rally Day: Let's Launch

Worship Food – Games – Our Grace Family – Scouts –
Ministries' Displays – and YOU!

Life & Growth and Education Ministries

ADRC Health Promotion Workshops

The Aging & Disability Resource Center of Eau Claire County offers evidence-based workshops that can help your clients maintain or improve behaviors for better health and independence! Registration is open for these upcoming health promotion workshops:

- StrongBodies Information Session for new participants (virtual and phone conference) orientation for 10-week strength and balance training classes that meet twice weekly for 1-hour – on **September 1**
- Reduce your risk of falling! Stepping On falls prevention workshop (in person) meet for 2 hours once weekly for 7 weeks, classes start **September 13**
- Healthy Living with Diabetes self-management workshop (in person) meets for 2.5 hours once weekly for 6 weeks – starts **September 13**
- Stand Up and Move More (in person) is designed to reduce sedentary behavior (or 'sit time') for better health. Meets 1 hour weekly for 4 weeks – starts July 19 and (telephone conference) **September 28**
- Mind Over Matter: Healthy Bowels, Healthy Bladder (in person) for prevention or early intervention of incontinence among women, 3 sessions over one month – starts July 21 and (virtual) on **October 12**

To register for any of these workshops: Call the ADRC at 715-839-4735 or go to www.adrcevents.org.



Pacibells Welcomes New Members

If you would like to join our music ministry at Grace, and can read music, you are invited to try handbells! Pacibells rehearses every Thursday, beginning Sept. 1, from 6:00–7:00pm, and we ring for 10:00 worship on the 3rd Sunday of the month, beginning Sept. 18.

Please contact Karen Lionberger at bellhog76@gmail.com if you are interested or would like more info.

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

