

# FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



*September 1, 2024,  
10:00am*

## Land Acknowledgment

We recognize that we gather on the ancestral lands of the Ojibwe, Ho Chunk, and Dakota. We acknowledge their leaders, past, present, and emerging.

## GATHERING

**Prelude**      Praeludium in C      Dietrich Buxtehude

**Opening Hymn**      For the Beauty of the Earth      #879

**Introit**      Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence      Sondra Tucker  
Pacibells & Organ

## Apostolic Greeting

**Hymn of Praise**      This Is the Feast



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



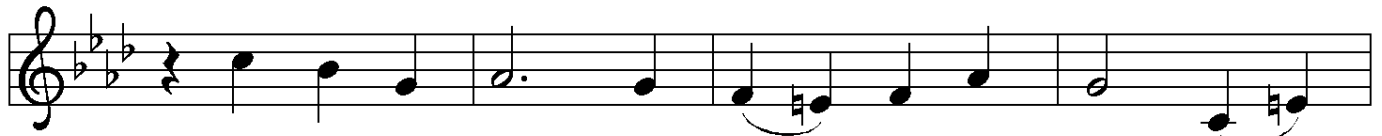
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



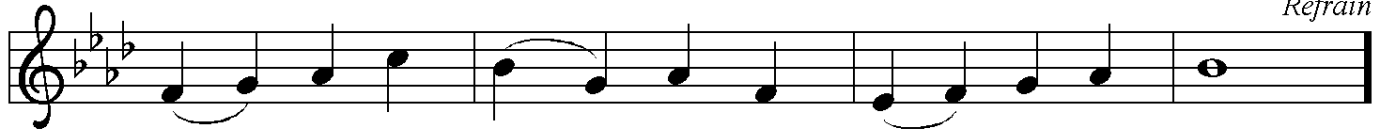
1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



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



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 -



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

### Prayer of the Day

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen**

---

## WORD

### Children's Message

#### The First Reading is from Deuteronomy, chapter 4

<sup>1</sup>So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. <sup>2</sup>You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you.

<sup>6</sup>You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" <sup>7</sup>For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our

God is whenever we call to him? <sup>8</sup>And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

<sup>9</sup>But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Special Music**     *Thine Is the Glory*  
                              *Paci bells*

*arr. Jason W. Krug*

### **The Second Reading is from James, chapter 1**

<sup>17</sup>Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. <sup>18</sup>In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

<sup>19</sup>You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup>for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. <sup>21</sup>Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

<sup>22</sup>But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. <sup>23</sup>For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; <sup>24</sup>for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. <sup>25</sup>But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

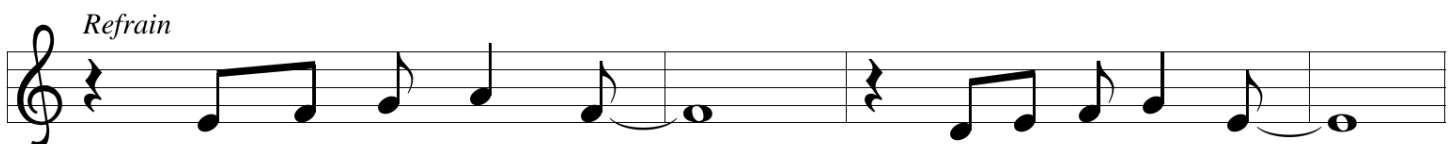
<sup>26</sup>If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup>Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

### **Gospel Hymn**

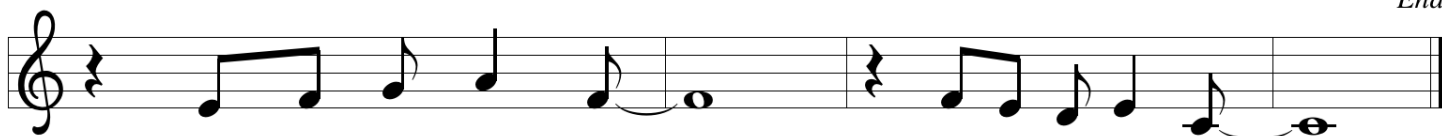
## **Change My Heart, O God**



Change my heart, O God;

make it ev - er true.

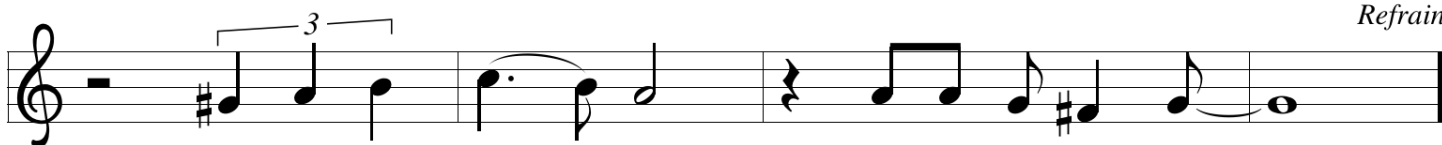
End



Change my heart, O God;                      may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter;                      I am the clay.



Mold me and make me;                      this is what I pray.

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953

Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa

Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

## The Gospel for today comes from Mark, chapter 7 (Pastor Phil's translation) Glory to you, O Lord.

And the Pharisees and some of the legal experts came from Jerusalem and gather around him. And seeing that some of his disciples were eating bread with defiled, that is, unwashed, hands—'cause the Pharisees and all the Judeans don't eat unless they wash their hands up to the elbows, thus observing the tradition of the elders, and they don't eat anything from the market unless they purify it, and there are many other traditions that they have received and adhere to, such as cleansings for cups and pitchers and kettles—the Pharisees and the legal experts ask him, "Why don't your disciples walk according to the tradition of the elders, but instead eat bread with defiled hands?" He said to them, "How well Isaiah prophesied about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with the lips,  
but their hearts are far away from me.

In vain they worship me,  
teaching teachings that are human teachings.'

Having abandoned the commandments of God, you adhere to the traditions of humans." And he said to them, "How well you nullify the commandments of God in order to establish your tradition! For Moses said,

'Honor your father and your mother'  
and 'Whoever pronounces misfortune on father or mother must surely die.'

But you say, 'If a man says to his father or mother, "Whatever might have been a benefit to you from me is corban"—that is, designated for God's temple—"you no longer allow

him to do anything at all for his father or mother, thus annulling the word of God by your tradition that you handed on. And you do many other things like this.”

And summoning the crowd again he said to them, “Hear me everyone and understand. There is nothing from outside people that by going into them is able to defile them. Instead the things that come out from people are the things that defile them.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**                      Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

**Hymn of the Day**    God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind

#400

### **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**

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

... Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

# MEAL

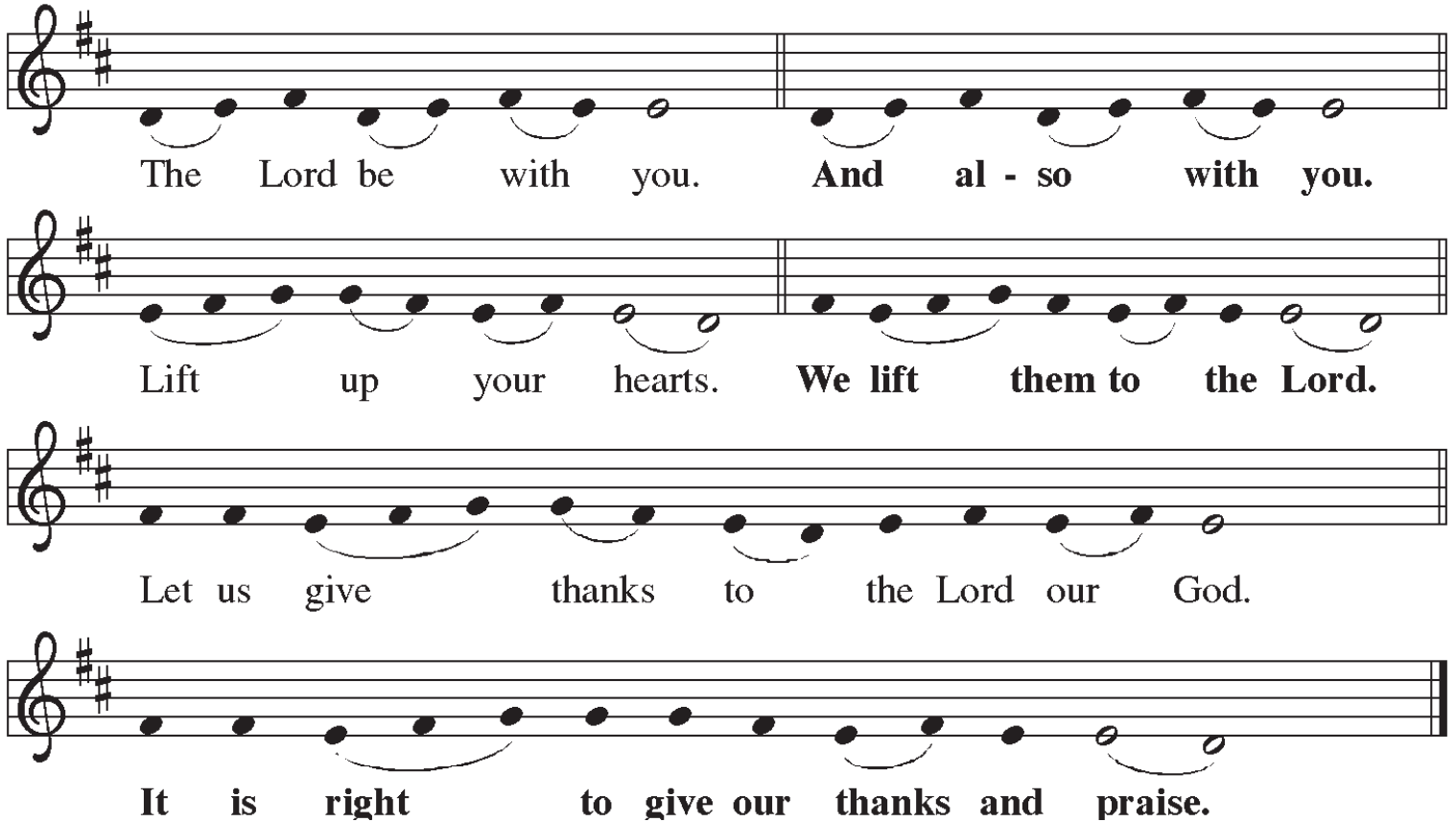
## Offering

### Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving



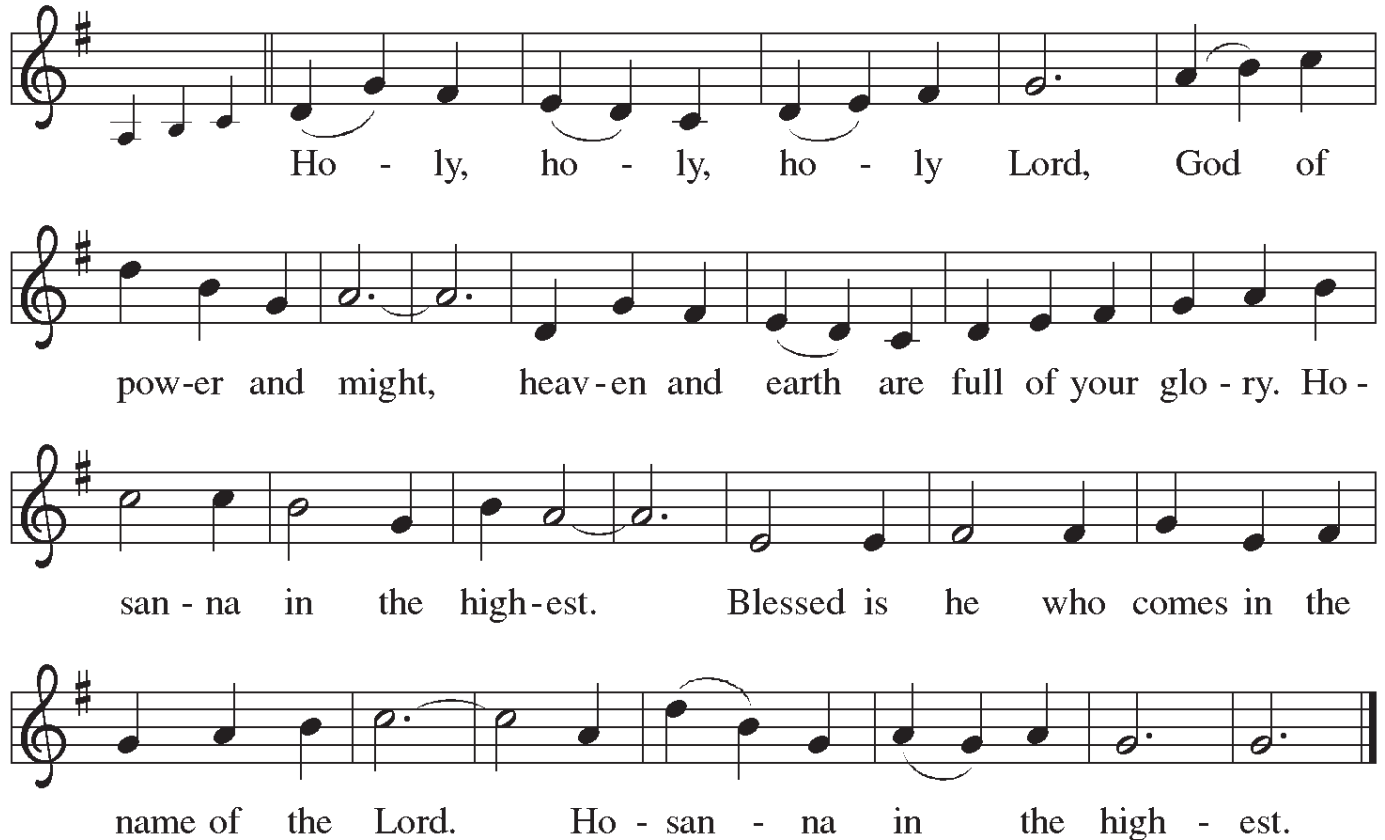
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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

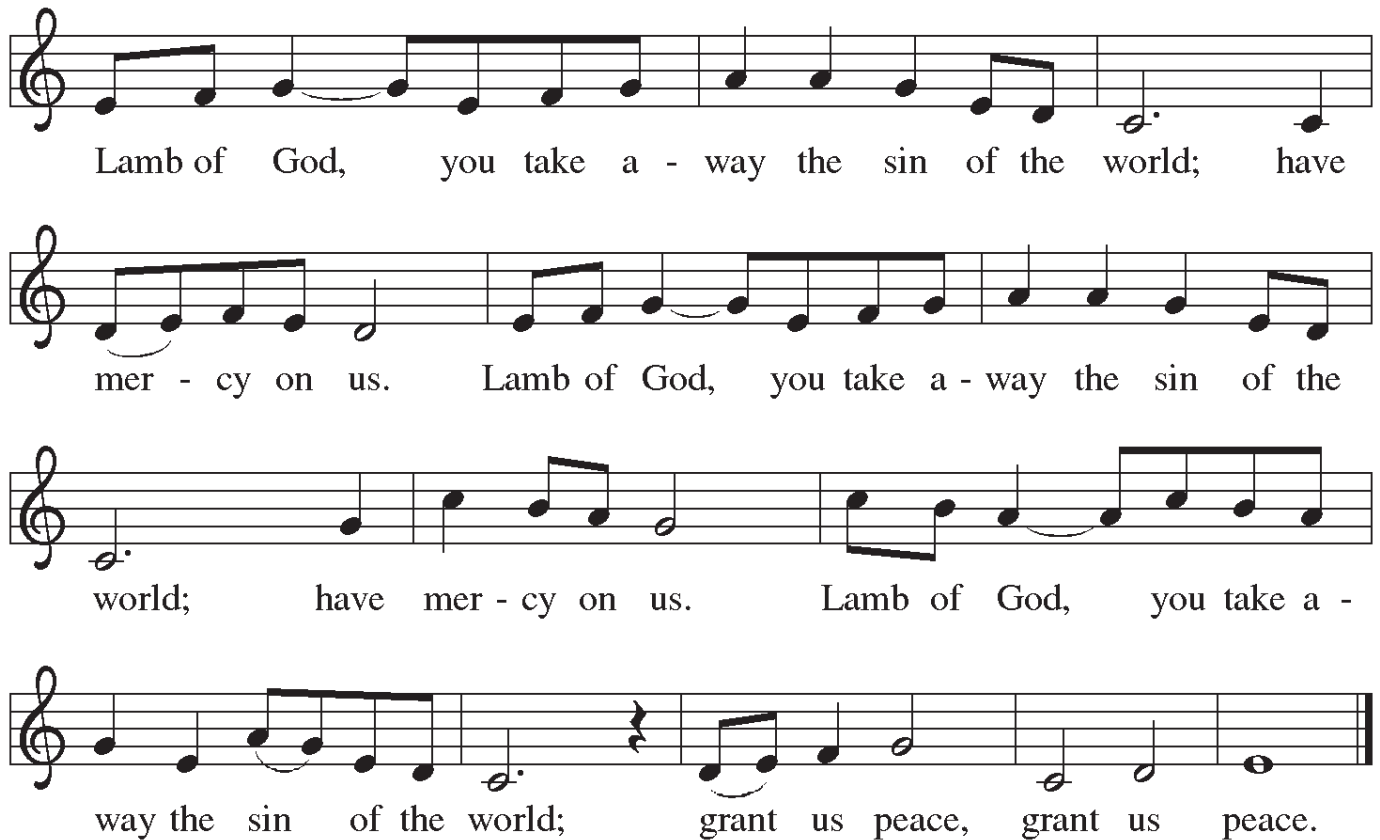
### Lord's Prayer

**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

*Our communion bread is gluten free and the communion cups with clear liquid have grape juice instead of wine.*



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.

## Prayer After Communion

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

---

## SENDING

## Blessing

**Sending Hymn** Create in Me A Clean Heart

#186

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude



2024-9-1

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

Portions of service from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License SAS103714

### Licensing Permission

All music Reprinted/Streamed with permission under One License # A-724795

### Copyright Information

*Change My Heart, O God*, Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing (ASCAP), admin. Music Services

*God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind* Text © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*Create in Me A Clean Heart* Music © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress

**Minister:** Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones    **Organist:** Elaine Mann  
**Assisting Minister:** Arthur Grothe    **Pacibells Director:** Karen  
**Reader:** Evan Casto    Lionberger

## Weekly Calendar

### SUNDAY (1<sup>st</sup>)

Coffee Hour – 9:30am  
Worship – 10am

MONDAY  
*Labor Day*

TUESDAY  
Prayer Group – 11am

### WEDNESDAY

Dependable Strengths – 9am  
Crafters – 10am  
Text Study – 12pm  
Choir Rehearsal – 7pm

THURSDAY  
Pacibells Rehearsal – 6pm

### SATURDAY

Rally Day Setup – 10am

SUNDAY (8<sup>th</sup>)  
*Rally Day*

Coffee Hour – 9:30am  
Worship – 10am

Other groups using the building this week: Jonah, Scouts, ECWiT, Theater Guild, Randall Park Neighborhood Association

## Labor Day

The office will be closed this Monday in honor of Labor Day.

## Rally Day

This year Rally Day will be on Sunday, September 8th. Please mark the day on your calendars.

The church service that day will take place in the parlors. After the service will be a potluck meal. Please bring your favorite dish to share.

## Thank You For The Summer Meals At Beacon House

Families at the homeless shelter were served deliciously tempting evening meals provided by our members. The Bratwursts grilled by Deb Heath were a hit for our summer fare theme. Donations to the Deacon Fund supported the fixings for Taco Night and Sub Sandwich night. All the additional sides were brought in by: Jan Adams, Elaine Berg, Bev Page, Nora Gerber, Barb Piper and Diane Pomplun. The



residents were gracious in response to the meals we brought in, especially an 8 year old boy who “loves” blueberries.

## Noisy Offering

On Rally Day, September 8th, a noisy offering will be collected to support Neighbor to Neighbor: Together in Ministry/ Vecino a Vecino: Juntos en Ministerio. This is a ministry of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, where we join together to boldly practice the gospel as we cultivate meaningful relationships between the Anglo ELCA congregations with the Latino American community in the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin. We strive to form a beloved community that is inclusive and diverse, a space to know your neighbor, share the hope of the gospel with the community and a platform for church to start the journey to explore social and racial justice in our context and communities. The ministry includes health fairs, monthly worship with a shared meal in Spanish, generating university scholarships, and anti-racism training.



## Crafters' Corner

Save the Date: November 9, 2024

### UNIQUE BOUTIQUE

The Crafters are hard at work (come join us). We need everyone's help.

Knitters and crocheters: we need Bed Socks, Hats, Mittens, Scarfs, etc.

Sewers: we can use Water Bottle Holders, Totes, Bowl Holders, Pot Holders, Aprons, Lap Throws or whatever else you can think of.

Also remember to save your old treasures. Please mark and hold them until further notice. (We don't have a place for them right now). Thank you.

## Thank You for Making It A Happy Birthday

Thank you for singing and celebrating my birthday with me. It was wonderful to see so many people there.

Wilma Hovland

## An Invitation For Artists

This fall the third annual Fall Celebration of Arts will be hosted by Grace Lutheran Church on Nov, 3. If you are an artist you are invited to participate in displaying and/or selling your art at this event. This early notification will allow you the time to create a piece or pieces by fall. We are looking for paintings, drawings, photography, wood carvings, wood turning, stained glass, sculpture, batiks, quilting, paper art, wood cut prints, note cards, rosemaling or any other fine art.

We look forward to seeing and buying your beautiful creations in November! If you are interested, please contact Kathi Sue Krause ([krauseks@gmail.com](mailto:krauseks@gmail.com)) or Wilma Hovland ([dw.hov@hotmail.com](mailto:dw.hov@hotmail.com))

## Announcement from Pastor Phil

Pastor Phil requests continued prayers for his family. His father-in-law, Russ Jones, died this past Monday night. We have lost three of the four people who raised us in less than two months. Service to entrust him into God's hands will be at the end of September.

## Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday : 10AM — 2PM

Phone: 715-832-9713

Email: [info@grace-church.org](mailto:info@grace-church.org)

Rev. Dr. Phil Ruge-Jones: [pastorphil@grace-church.org](mailto:pastorphil@grace-church.org)

Services are live streamed Sundays at 10am on:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gracelutheraneauclaire/>
- Youtube embedded in our website: <https://grace-church.org/our-ministry> *Bulletins may also be found on the same page.*

Recordings of worship services are broadcast Sundays 10:30am on WQOW Channel 18, Cable 9, 618HD (every other week)

Past services are posted at “Grace Lutheran Church ELCA Eau Claire Wisconsin” YouTube page — <https://bit.ly/49WLWPj>



Do you have information for the bulletin and Grace at a Glance? Deadline is Wednesday by 2:00 p.m. by emailing Andrew at [info@grace-church.org](mailto:info@grace-church.org) or by calling the office at 715-832-9713