

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



August 16, 2026
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

Organ

ClearWater Ringers

Prelude, Op. 37, No. 2

Simple Gifts

Felix Mendelssohn

arr. Bill Ingram

Welcome

ClearWater Ringers

We Gather Together

arr. Jason W. Krug

Opening Hymn

Drawn to the Light

#593

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.

ClearWater Ringers

For the Beauty of the Earth

arr. Jason W. Krug

Prayer of the Day

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

WORD

Children's Message

The first reading is from Isaiah Chapter 56

¹ Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come
and my deliverance be revealed

⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it
and hold fast my covenant —

⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain

and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar,
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

⁸Thus says the Lord GOD,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel:
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

Word of God, Word of Life.
Thanks be to God!

The second reading is from Romans, chapter 11

Paul writes: ¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself
am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin.

^{2a}God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once
disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience,
³¹so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown
to you, they also may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in
disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

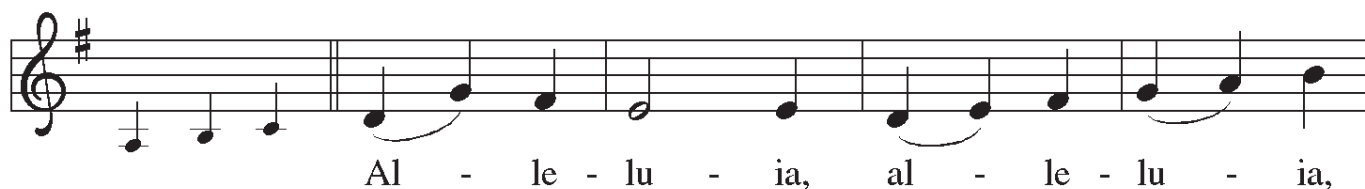
Word of God, Word of Life.
Thanks be to God!

ClearWater Ringers

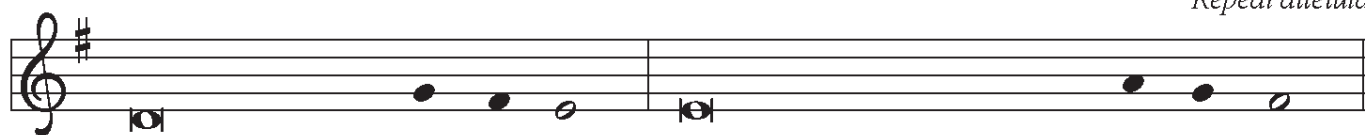
Now Thank We All Our God

arr. Jason W. Krug

Gospel Acclamation



Repeat alleluia



The Gospel for today comes from Matthew, chapter 15
Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³ But he did not answer her at all.

And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me."

²⁶ He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷ She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.

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

Sermon Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

Hymn

Ask the Complicated Questions



1 Ask the com - pli - cat - ed ques - tions.
2 Seek the dis - con - cert - ing an - swers,
3 Knock on doors of new i - de - as,
4 For in strug - gle we dis - cov - er



Do not fear to be found out; for our God makes
fol - low where the Spir - it blows; test com - pet - ing
test as - sump - tions long grown stale, for Christ calls from
truth both sim - ple and pro - found; in the knock-ing,



strong our weak-ness, forg - ing faith in fires of doubt.
truths for wis - dom, for in ten - sion new life grows.
shores of won - der, dar - ing us to try and fail.
ask - ing, seek - ing, we are o - pened, an - swered, found.

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

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

...Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Peace

MEAL

Offering

Offering Prayer

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
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.

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

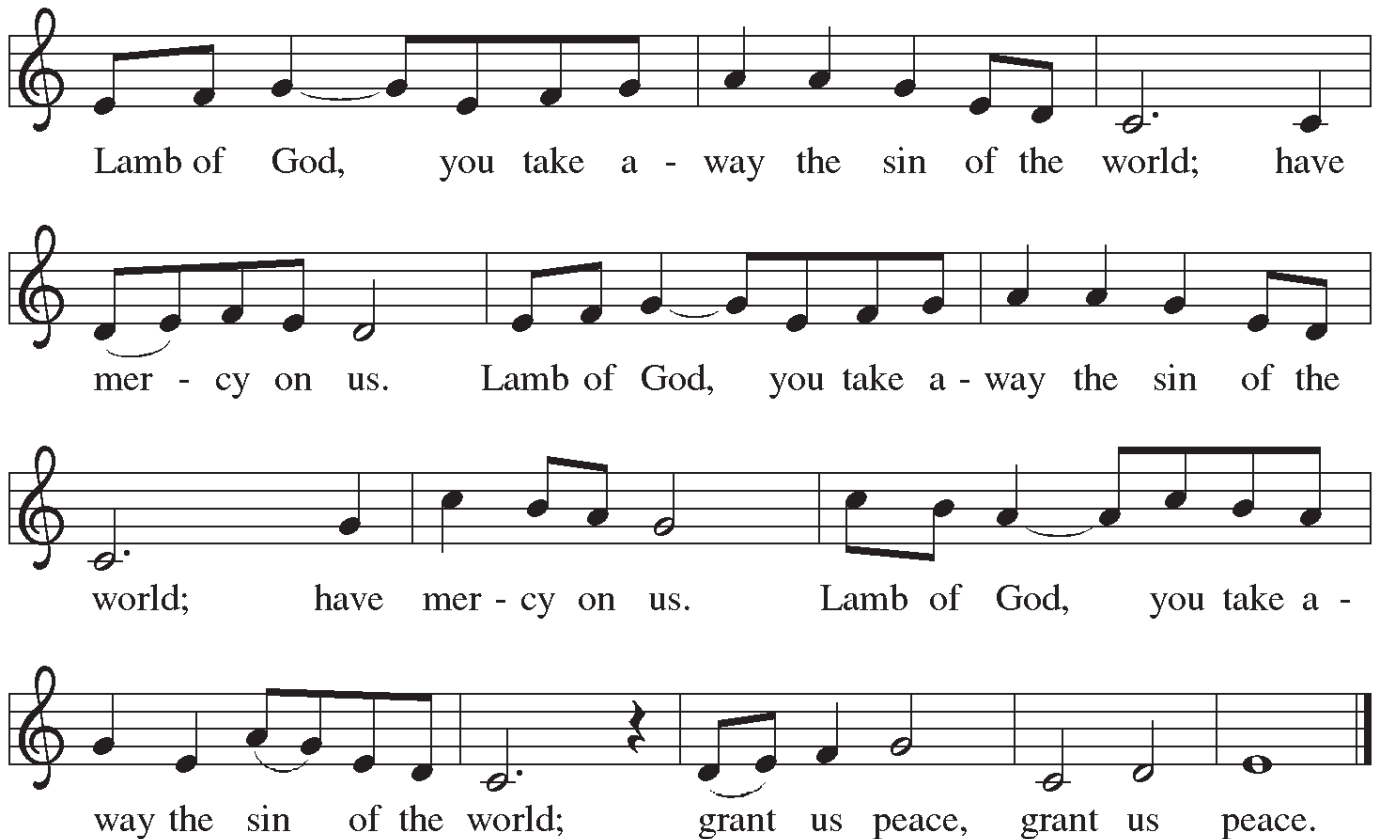
Words of Institution

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.



The musical notation is written on four staves, each with a treble clef. The notes are simple, using quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The lyrics are written below the notes, aligned with the music. The first staff ends with a double bar line. The second staff begins with a new line of music. The third staff begins with a new line of music. The fourth staff begins with a new line of music and ends with a double bar line.

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

Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

Sending Hymn *Jesus Shall Reign*

#434

Dismissal

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Fugue, Op. 37, No. 2

Felix Mendelssohn

ClearWater Ringers would like to thank Grace Lutheran for hosting rehearsals and providing equipment for our community handbell group. We rang for worship on Aug 9th at Concordia Lutheran, and will ring for Hike for the Homeless on Aug 18. Thanks to all the ringers for their dedication and flexibility! (Norma Lionberger, Geneva Koleski, Katrina Cooper, Elaine Mann, Andrea Phan, Violet Meyer, Kathy Delfosse.)

Karen Lionberger, director

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Drawn to the Light, 593 Text and music © 1990 John C. Ylvisaker

Jesus Shall Reign, 434 Public Domain

Minister: Rev. Phil Ruge-Jones

Assisting Minister: Bev Page

Reader: Barb Piper

Organist: Elaine Mann

ClearWater Ringers Directors: Karen

Lionberger

Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY (16th)

Coffee Hour – 9:30am
Worship – 10am

MONDAY

Summer Camp – 6am

TUESDAY

Summer Camp – 6am
Grace Pacers – 9:30am
Prayer Group – 11am
Church Council – 7pm

WEDNESDAY

Summer Camp – 6am
Crafters – 9am
Text Study – 12noon
AA meeting – 7pm

THURSDAY

Tchaikovsky debuts 1812
Overture in Moscow – 1882
Summer Camp – 6am

FRIDAY

Summer Camp – 6am

SATURDAY

*Richard III dies at the Battle of
Bosworth Field – 1485*

SUNDAY (23rd)

Gary Heath Ordination
Anniversary
Coffee Hour – 9:30am
Worship – 10am

Other groups using the building this week: Grace Lutheran Foundation, Brighter than Sunshine, Grace Rising Wellness, ECWiT, Theater Guild



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Ordination Celebration

Next Sunday we will celebrate Pastor Gary Heath's 50th anniversary of his ordination that happened at Grace Lutheran Church. Gary is Don's son and Jeff's brother. He served as the senior pastor of Lord of Life Lutheran in The Woodlands Texas until his retirement six years ago. Before that he worked in pastoral care and counseling in the Milwaukee area. He will preach and preside at communion. A cake reception will follow.

Blessing Box

Summer is rolling on and we still need food and other supplies for our Blessing Box. Our Blessing Box is open all year and we would like to keep it stocked especially in the summer months when many of us are away on vacation. Here are some of the items we need:

- cereal
- crackers
- soap
- packaged soup
- packaged noodles
- toothpaste
- tuna pouches
- packaged potatoes
- granola bars
- peanut butter

Since we are in the warmer months, we are able to collect any canned goods or liquid items.

You can drop off any donations outside the church office or at the Friendship Door. You are also always welcome to put any donations directly into the Blessing Box at any time.

Thank you for your continued support.



Join our regular community walks around
the neighborhood.

Grace Pacers

Tuesdays 9:30am / Starting June 16th
Meet in Chapel on 2nd floor off Sanctuary
(Rain day Thursday same week)

Duration: 30 minutes (approx.)

Pace: At your own pace

Age: All are welcome

Intensity: Low to moderate (no steep hills or stairs) with a variety of routes

What to bring: Comfortable walking shoes and your water bottle

Need a ride to join: Let us know!

Let's walk this road together!

Grace Walking Group

As our first response to the areas of interest expressed in the survey we took several weeks ago, weekly walks by the informal group we will call “Grace Pacers” will begin this Tuesday morning at 9:30am, weather permitting. This is a time to get to know each other better and to tend the bodies God has given us. The information is below. Thanks to Barb Piper for thinking through the details for us.

Help the Crafters

The Grace Crafters are looking for some metal spice tins for their projects. They do not need the newer plastic ones. If you have any of the older metals tins lying around your kitchen unused, please consider donating them to the Crafters. You can drop them off at the office during the week, or give them to one of the ushers at worship and they will put them in the office. Thank you.



Reading to see the world more justly!

Zoom Book Club

3rd Monday at 2pm

August 17 - A Paradise Built in Hell by Rebecca Solnit
September 21 - The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood
October 19 - Into the Beautiful North by Luis Alberto Urrea
November 16 - Indian Horse by Richard Wagamese
December 21 - Theo of Golden by Allen Levi
January 18 - Our Sister Killjoy by Ama Ata Aidoo
February 15 - Family Lore by Elizabeth Acevedo
March 15 - Kindred by Octavia Butler

Contact Pastor Phil to request Zoom link.



Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday : 10AM — 2PM

Phone: 715-832-9713

PO Box 965, Eau Claire, WI 54702

202 W Grand Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54703

Email: info@grace-church.org

Rev. Dr. Phil Ruge-Jones: 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 — <http://grace-church.org/our-ministry>

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 or by calling the office at 715-832-9713

