

RALLY DAY



September 13, 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

Prelude on "Beecher"
Cantilena on "Nicaea"

Jaebon Hwang
Brenda Portman

Welcome

Opening Hymn Earth and All Stars! (verses 1, 2, & 4)

#731

Apostolic Greeting

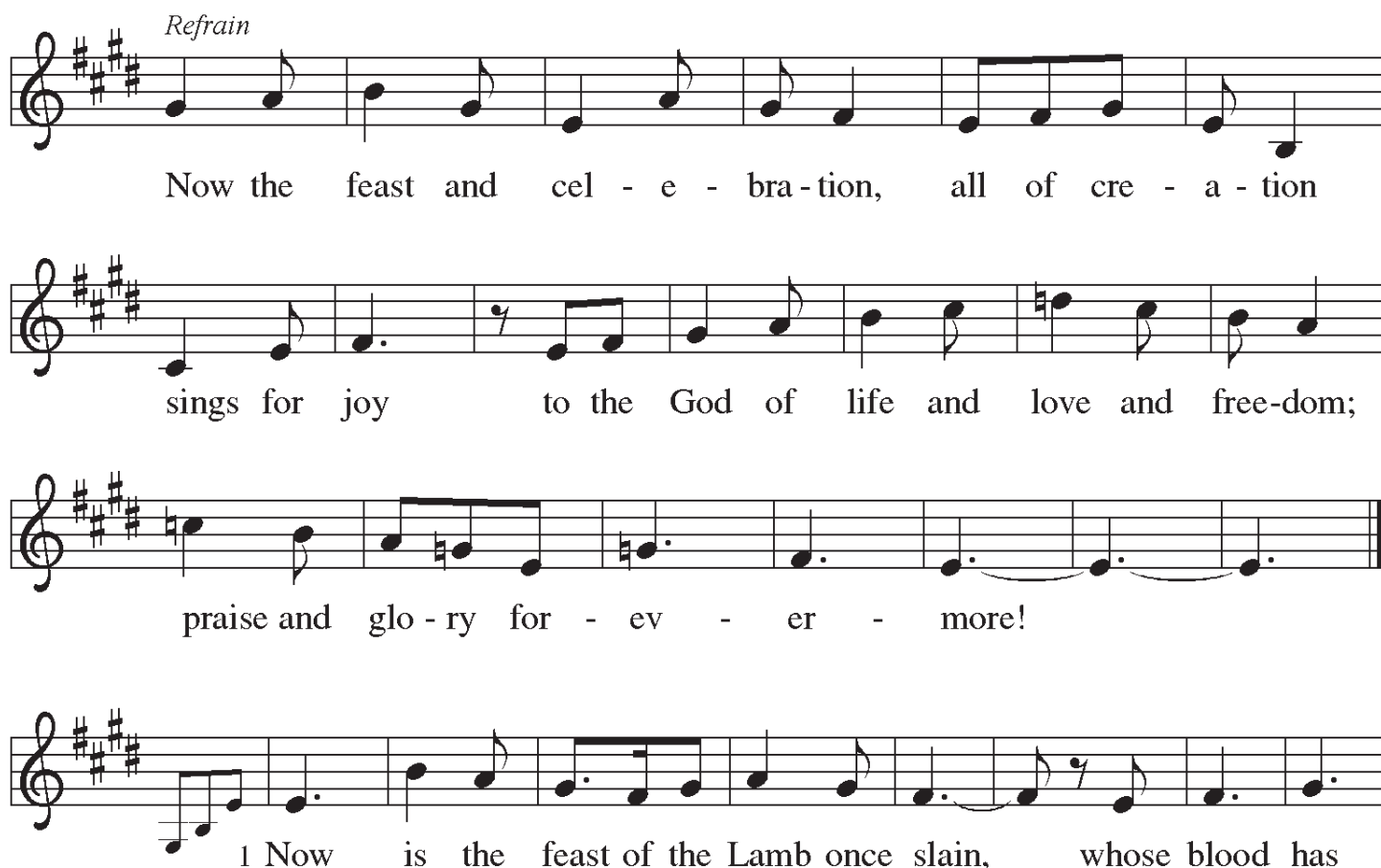
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Hymn of Praise

Now the Feast and Celebration

Refrain



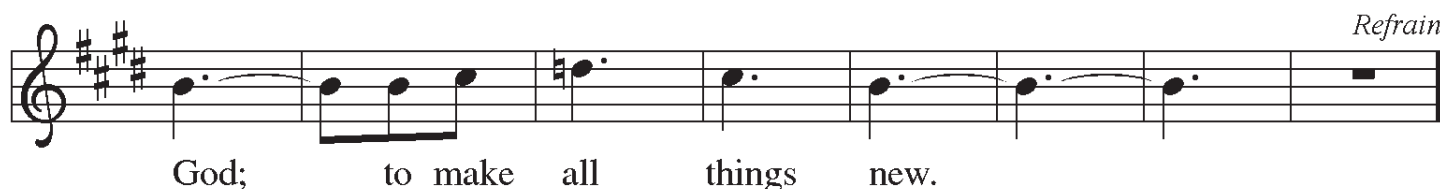
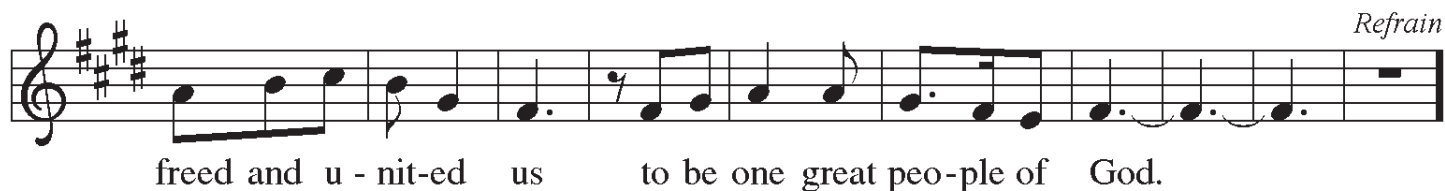
The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are: 'Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion'. The second staff continues the melody with a quarter rest followed by eighth notes. The lyrics are: 'sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;'. The third staff continues with quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: 'praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!'. The fourth staff begins with a quarter note and a quarter rest, followed by eighth notes. The lyrics are: '1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has'.

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion

sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;

praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

WORD

Children's Message & Noisy Offering

The first reading is from Genesis chapter 50

¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father."

Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves."

¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you turned to do harm to me, God turned it toward [something] good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones."

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem

The Gift of Love

By Hal Hopson

The second reading is from Romans , chapter 14

⁷For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves.

⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.

¹¹For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

¹²So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation

Congregation:



Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we



go? You have the words of e - ter - nal



life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Optional Repeat

The Gospel for today comes from Matthew, chapter 18
Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹ Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²² Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³ "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king `who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made.

²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.

²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.

³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.

³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?'

³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

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

Sermon Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

Hymn Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

#807

Affirmation of Baptism for New Members

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism, and we come before God with Emily and Paula as they make affirmation of their baptism into Christ to become new members of Grace.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you that you have made us your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished us in the community of faith. Uphold us and all your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

Amen.

Profession of Faith

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? If so say "I renounce them"

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? If so say "I renounce them"

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? If so say "I renounce them"

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

Affirmation

You have made profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

If so, say, "I do, and I ask God to help and guide me."

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ? If so, say, "We do, and we ask God to help and guide us."

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

Stir up in Emily and Paula the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

Emily and Paula we rejoice with you in the life of our shared baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

Let us rejoice with these sisters in Christ.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to the world.**

Prayers of the Church

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence.

... Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Peace

MEAL

Offering

Now Thank We All Our God

Georg F. Kaufmann

Offering Prayer

God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. **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:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Great Thanksgiving



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, 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.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
you break the chains of ha - tred and
you are the way of jus - tice and
you are the way of mer - cy and

Congregation:



world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
fear:
peace:
love.

Final Stanza



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you

Congregation:



take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Prayer After Communion

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

Sending Hymn Thy Holy Wings

#613

Dismissal

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

I Come with Joy

Curt Oliver

FREE taxi ride to church.

To schedule a pickup/return
time for the 10AM worship,
please call

Town & Country Taxi Service
(715-563-7272)

Monday - Friday
9AM-3PM
and ask for Pete

Made possible through the
generosity of our
Grace Lutheran Church family



GRACE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

202 West Grand Ave
Eau Claire, WI 54703



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Minister: Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones
Assisting Minister: Paul Lokken
Reader: Lars Espeland

Organist: Elaine Mann
Choir Director: Ryan Rogers
Pacibells Director: Karen Lionberger



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY (13th)

Rally Day
Coffee Hour – 9:30am
Worship – 10am

MONDAY

Elizabeth Circle – 10am
Scouts – 6pm

TUESDAY

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

WEDNESDAY

Crafters – 9am
Text Study – 12noon
AA meeting – 7pm
Choir Rehearsal – 7pm

THURSDAY

Pacibells Rehearsal – 6pm

SUNDAY (20th)

Yom Kippur

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, Randall Park Neighborhood Association

Rally Day Pot–Luck

Come One, Come All. Please plan to attend the Rally Day Pot–Luck in the Parlors after the service on September 13 (this Sunday). It will be a true pot–luck — bring whatever you want! This is the kick–off for our school year’s events and special services. AND, we will welcome Emily & Paula Kassera as a member of our congregation during the service that day. The Life and Growth Committee will provide a cake in their honor for dessert along with any other treats a few of you may wish to bring. The Bouncing Castle will be up for the kids to enjoy. Of course, there will be Bingo for anyone wishing to play. The warming oven will be working for those of you who bring baked hot dishes that need to be kept warm. Again — Come One, Come All!

Elizabeth Circle

Elizabeth Circle will meet at 10 AM on Monday, September 14, 2026, in the Lounge at Grace. It is a morning filled with fun, fellowship, food and Bible Study. All women are invited. No prep required, as we read, study and discuss together.

Stewardship Sunday

Wise men came from the **East** following a **star** and singing **praises** to the newborn King. Their gifts were given from the **heart**. Our stewardship gifts should reflect the **heart** too. **Praises** are sung by the congregation and the choir; crafters **sew threads** to make beautiful gifts for our bazaar such as **wreaths** and sweet treats to **eat**. **Dare** to share your gifts with all!

Emergency Preparedness Education Event

After the worship service on September 27 we will have an emergency preparedness lecture given by John Moen. Topics will include how to develop a preparedness procedure not only for fire or similar disasters but what to do in the event of a flood, burst pipes, or how to get yourself or someone else to the emergency room. There will be a question and answer portion after the main talk. Everyone is invited.

Romans Text Study

Pastor Phil is presenting an 8 week study on Romans. This 8 week study begins Wednesday September 23rd. Wednesday October 14th there will NOT be a study. The study will be in the chapel, from 5:45 to 6:45. Study materials will be provided. There will be a soup dinner after. Each week's study will be repeated on Zoom on the corresponding Wednesday at 7:00. Please let the church office know if you will be participating. A "head count" is needed for materials.

SING OR RING?

Join a Grace choir!



- **Adult Choir**

Rehearsals begin on Wednesday, Sept 9, 7-8:30pm and Sundays from 9-9:30am to prepare for anthems.

- **Pacibells Handbell Choir**

Rehearsals begin on Thursday, Sept 10, 6pm, in the choir room and ring for worship on 3rd Sunday of every month.

Choir & Pacibells Welcomes New Members

Our rehearsals begin on Sept 10, 6pm, in the choir room, we ring for worship on 3rd Sunday of every month. If you have an interest in ringing, please contact Karen Lionberger at: bellhog76@gmail.com

Noisy Offering

A Season for Change

Save your coins and let them FALL in the Noisy Offering on September 13th. The children of Grace will gather loose change from our pockets and purses during our worship service. (Even though it doesn't make as much noise when dropped into the collection cans, paper money is also greatly appreciated!),

Our special offering will be for World Central Kitchen. WCK is first to the front lines, providing meals in response to humanitarian, climate and community crises. With over 600 million meals served globally, WCK continues to bring relief one plate at a time.



5th Annual
**FALL ARTS
CELEBRATION**

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
1314 E LEXINGTON BLVD

ELCA CHURCH CHOIRS, MASS CHOIR,
HANDBELL CHOIR, SPECIAL MUSIC,
FINE ARTS EXHIBITION, TREATS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026

**ART EXHIBIT 12-4PM
CONCERT 2-3PM**

Hosted by Immanuel Lutheran Church



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.



L.E. Phillips Senior Center SENIOR RESOURCE FAIR

Tuesday, September 15, 2026 • 8 am-2 pm

Join us for an amazing showcase of area businesses that cater to the aging population at the Fourth Annual L.E. Phillips Senior Center Senior Resource Fair!

- 70+ vendor booths
- Tours of the Senior Center
- Craft & bake sales
- Gift basket raffle
- Over \$1,000 in door prizes
- Lunch available for purchase
- Open to all ages
- FREE Admission



L.E. Phillips Senior Center
1616 Bellinger Street
Eau Claire, WI 54703
Call: 715-839-4909
Visit: lep-sc.org

Additional parking and a shuttle will be available at the Stella Blues Parking Lot on Madison Street.

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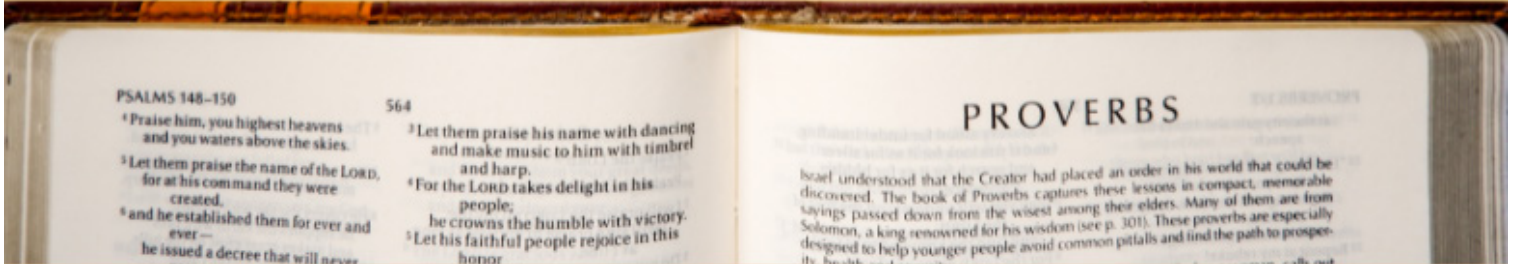
Share your voice

and serve our community by volunteering as a reader during worship!

Reading scripture during our services is a wonderful, low-pressure way to actively participate in worship.

Call or email the office to be added to the list of readers.

info@grace-church.org 715-832-9713



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