

17th Sunday after Pentecost

September 19, 2021

Virtual Bulletin with Holy Communion, Feast & Celebration

Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church

Rev. Zachary W. Johnson, Pastor

Donna Menzies, Assistant to the Pastor, Visitation & Spiritual Care

Douglas Shabe, Director of Music

Grace Lee, Organist

Michelle Tune, Soprano

Anita Mork, Assistant Minister

Kristin Johnson, Lector

Order of the Liturgy

Prelude

Grace Lee

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God our comforter:

like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in ✝ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

Amen.



Hill Ave Grace
Lutheran Church

OPENING HYMN

All Are Welcome

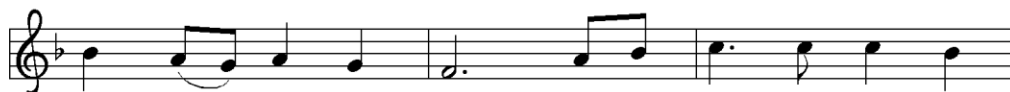
ELW 641



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
 strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
 laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 claim the faith of Je - sus:
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
 end to fear and dan - ger:
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen

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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

Assistant: In peace, in peace,

Refrain

Assistant: *Congregation:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have

mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

Assistant: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all . . . (to Refrain)*Assistant:* For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word . . . (to Refrain)

Assistant:

Help, save and de - fend us, O

Congregation:

God. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain

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

freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and

glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of

God; to make all things new.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 11:18-20

¹⁸It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew;
then you showed me their evil deeds.

¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb
led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me
that they devised schemes, saying,
“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
so that his name will no longer be remembered!”

²⁰But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously,
who try the heart and the mind,
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM - Psalm 54 *The congregation responds with the bold verses.*

¹Save me, O God, | by your name; in your might, de- | fend my cause.

²**Hear my | prayer, O God; give ear to the words | of my mouth.**

³For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have | sought my life,
those who have no re- | gard for God.

⁴**Behold, God | is my helper; it is the Lord who sus- | tains my life.**

⁵Render evil to those who | spy on me; in your faithful- | ness, destroy them.

⁶**I will offer you a | freewill sacrifice
and praise your name, O LORD, for | it is good.**

⁷For you have rescued me from | every trouble, and my eye looks down | on my enemies.

SECOND READING: James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.^{4:}

¹Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ^{8a}Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

The word of the Lord. **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

GOSPEL: Mark 9:30-37

³⁰[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.”

³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷“Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

The Gospel of our Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Pastor Zach Johnson

HYMN OF THE DAY

Children of the Heavenly Father
Tryggare kan ingen vara

ELW 781

Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,
 1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;
 2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour-ish.
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;
 4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;

stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.
 nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
 From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
 un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
 his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958
 Music: TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA, Swedish folk tune
 Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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 INTERCESSION

Each petition ends with "Lord, in your mercy." The assembly responds with "Hear our prayer."

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly share a virtual sign of peace.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING PRAYER

All speak the prayer together.

God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical notation consists of four staves. The first staff is for the Presider, and the second is for the Congregation. The third and fourth staves are for the Presider and Congregation respectively, continuing the text.

Presider: The Lord be with you. *Congregation:* And al-so with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts. *Congregation:* We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is

right to give God thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is our duty and delight...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Congregation:

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!

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are indeed holy....Remembering his command to love one another, his life and death, his resurrection and his ascension, we pray for his coming again, even as we cry:

Presider: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Congregation:

A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus.
 A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit that all of your promises may come to us and your whole creation...

Presider: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit. Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Congregation:

A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it.
 A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it.

LORD'S PRAYER

Make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as our Father even as we pray...

LAMB OF GOD**Scott Swink, Guitar**

Congregation: *Congregation or Assistant:*



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
Congregation or Assistant:



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.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

All are invited into a time of reflection before they receive communion. During this time, you may prepare your hearts to receive the sacrament. Once ready, you may commune yourself and those around you with the bread and wine/grape juice. A representative from each household may say the following—bread: ***“The body of Christ given for you.”*** Wine/grape juice: ***“The blood of Christ shed for you.”***

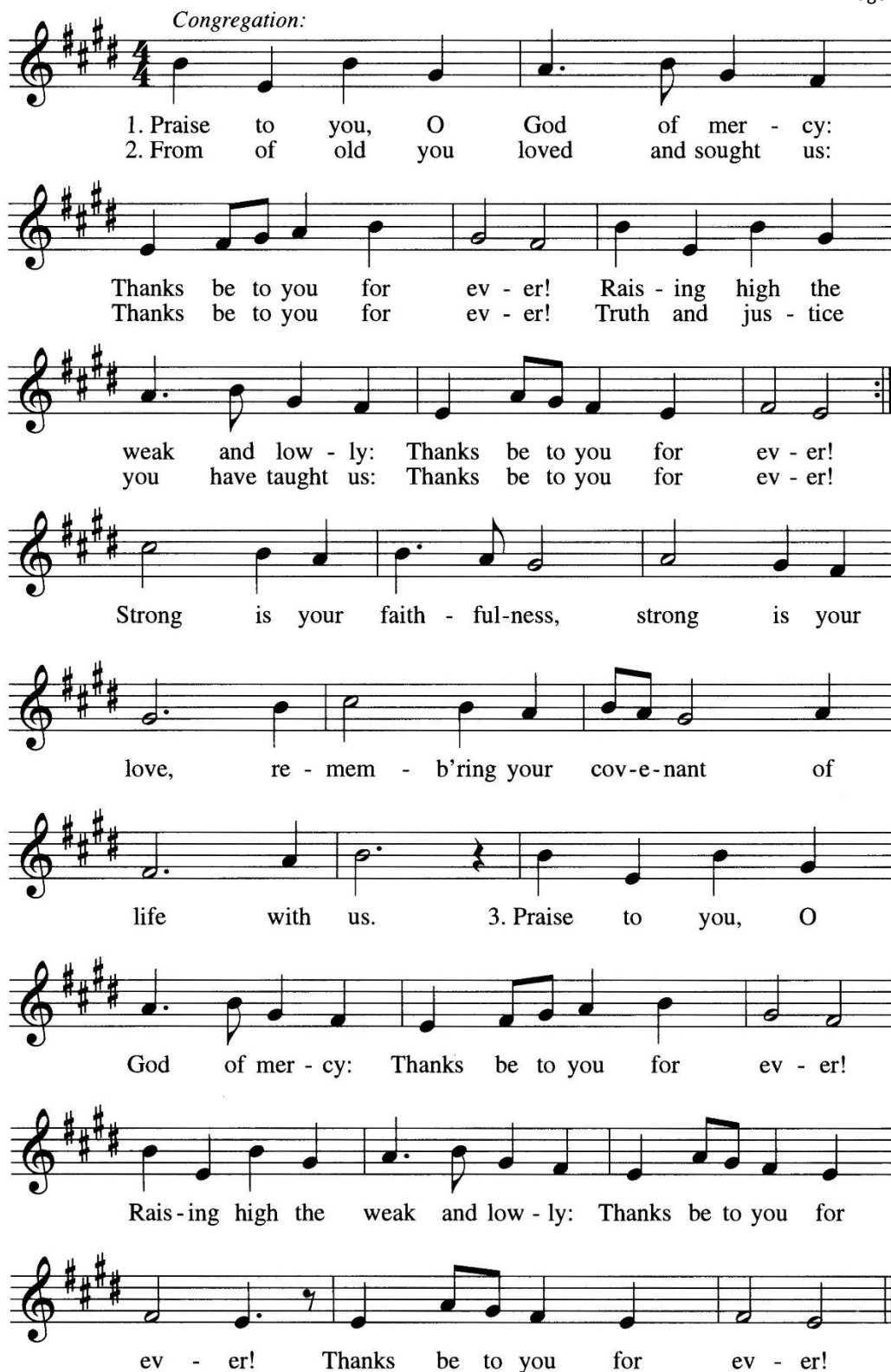
POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep in his grace, now and forever.

Amen.

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

Congregation:



1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:
2. From of old you loved and sought us:

Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice

weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for ev - er!
you have taught us: Thanks be to you for ev - er!

Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your

love, re - mem - b'ring your cov-e-nant of

life with us. 3. Praise to you, O

God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for ev - er!

Rais-ing high the weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for

ev - er! Thanks be to you for ev - er!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All speak the prayer together.

Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

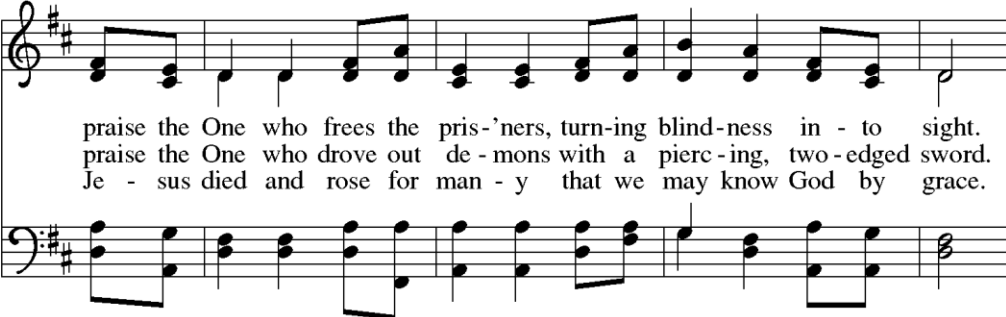
BENEDICTION

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, †
one God, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN**Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness****ELW 843**

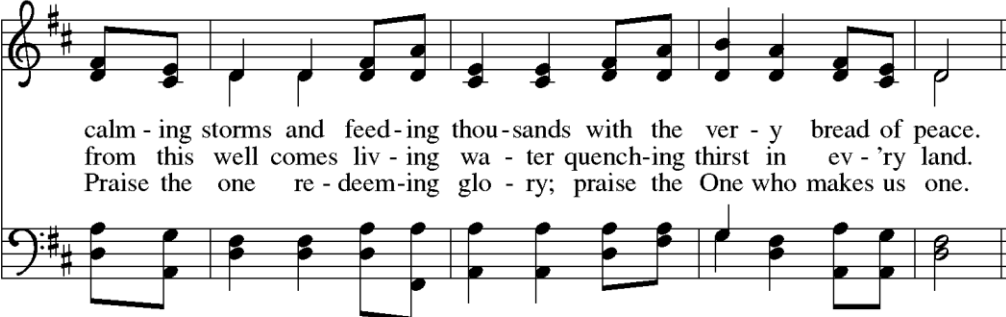

1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music, Part II*, 1813

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Grace Lee

Today's altar flowers are provided by the flower fund, to the Glory of God.

+++++

| Calendar This Week | | |
|--------------------|----------|-------------------------------|
| Today | 10:00 AM | Virtual & In-Person Worship |
| Tues 9/21/21 | 7:00 PM | Virtual HAGL Support Group |
| Wed 9/22/21 | 10:00 AM | Bible Study at HAGL |
| Wed 9/22/21 | 7:00 PM | Virtual Bible Study |
| Sat 9/25/21 | 9:30 AM | Food Shelf Open |
| Sat 9/25/21 | 10:30 AM | Trudy Linnan Memorial Service |
| Sun 9/26/21 | 10:00 AM | Virtual & In-Person Worship |
| Sun 9/26/21 | 1:00 PM | GWOH & Rally Day at HAGL! |

Join us this Sunday at 10 am for our Virtual Worship via Zoom!

Check in a few minutes early and hear prelude by Grace! You may also join us on Facebook Live. We look forward to seeing your faces and worshipping together!

Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church Worship

Time: Sundays at 10:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95007590439?pwd=M2NmMUZCZzhMOUY0SG8xeHpzcU5RUT09>

Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439

Passcode: worship

One tap mobile

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+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439

Passcode: 4584517

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Announcements from Sunday, September 12th:

Starting **Wednesday Sept 15th** we will have a **weekly Bible study group**, using the upcoming lectionary texts and diving in a little deeper to understand the background of the texts, what was happening at that time and the context. Please join us for a session! You have 2 options to participate:

- Wednesday mornings at 10 am, in person here at HAGL in the Christ Chapel, keeping in mind mask and gathering protocols.
- Wednesday evenings at 7 pm on Zoom.

Our former member **Trudy Linnan** passed away at age 93, her memorial service will be held here at Hill Ave Grace on **September 25th at 10:30 am**. Their family's pastor will be presiding. Everyone is invited to attend her memorial service and the luncheon that will follow at The Rose Room at Brookside. Please RSVP to Donna Menzies for the luncheon, 626-824-9872. We hold her family in our prayers as they prepare to give her into God's grace for all eternity.

Sunday **November 7th** we will be having a **Hymn Festival** here at HAGL. 'Psalms for all seasons', featuring various psalm settings with music to those psalms composed by our very own Paul Heatley. This event will be open to the community. We will be inviting neighboring churches to participate. We will have a community choir to sing a few anthems for this hymn festival directed by Doug Shabe. If you are of the artistic variety, we are calling for art works of your favorite psalm which will then be on display on Sunday November 7th during the hymn festival.

We have a couple of different catastrophes going on in our country right now...the horrible wildfires in Northern CA & around southern CA, and the aftermath of Hurricane Ida. If you would like to donate to **Lutheran Disaster Response** to help the recovery efforts with the wildfires or Hurricane Ida, you can write a check and put it in the offering with a note on the memo line 'Lutheran Disaster Response', or go online to the ELCA website, www.elca.org/ldr and look for the button to make an online donation. Just a reminder that 100% of your donation goes to the disaster response, no administrative fees are deducted. We thank you for your willingness to help as we rebuild from these disasters.

Other announcements:

Pastor Zach now has **office hours** every **Friday from 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM**. Come by any Friday and see him in person, or contact him anytime via email or phone:

pastor@hillavenuegrace.org - 319.429.4750

Please no calls after 9pm except for emergencies.

Check out this quarter's edition of **Christ in Our Home!** Take home a pocket- or full-size edition of this daily devotional today, they can be found in the narthex.

Dedicate Altar Flowers. There are still a few slots available for the upcoming months to sponsor the Altar Flowers. Cost is \$70 for the twin arrangements or sign up for just a single. Add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Narthex today!



As we have resumed Sunday services in the sanctuary, we ask that you follow these guidelines to ensure safety for everyone.

1. We ask that everyone wear a mask while in the sanctuary, including during worshipping and singing.
2. We will enter the church through the glass doors on Hill Avenue.
3. Pews will be marked off to allow for distancing.
4. There will be a 1-way flow in the church: we enter through the center doors of the narthex and exit the church down the side aisles. If you need to leave during the service, exit down the side aisles and return down the center aisle.
5. Upon entering the narthex, you will receive hand sanitizer and a smile from the volunteer at the door.
6. You may leave your offering in the plate inside the narthex.
7. Pick up a communion set at the table and then proceed into the sanctuary. There will be 3 options for communion: bread and wine, bread and juice, and gluten-free bread and wine. Only take one set for yourself. Wait for communion instructions before opening the packet.
8. Please bring a copy of the bulletin with you to church. You may also use your phone or tablet.

If you have any questions, please see one of our happy volunteers on the front patio, in the narthex, or in the sanctuary. As we transition from virtual to in person worship, we appreciate your help in continuing to wear masks for the time being, with the health and safety of all in mind. As Pastor Zach said, this isn't forever!

The service will still be available on Zoom and Facebook Live for those who prefer to remain at home. If you have questions, please let our church office know. We look forward to actually seeing you at church this Sunday!

Join Us for God's Work, Our Hands and Rally Day

Hard to believe that autumn is already here! And yet here we are, at the start of September, and that means one thing: it's time for Hill Avenue to celebrate Rally Day and God's Work, Our Hands.

Typically, Rally Day marks the start of a new Sunday School season while God's Work, Our Hands Sunday is a day where we perform acts of service within the community. This year, the Youth and Congregational Life Committee and the Community Ministries Committee are doing something a little different: we're combining these into a new event. On **Sunday, September 26th at 1:00 PM**, we'll host a joint event so our congregation can gather and perform works of service together in community and fellowship. What a great way to kick off the year!



That's not the only change 2021 brings. We'll also be partnering with Trinity Lutheran Church here in Pasadena and Christ the Shepard Church in Altadena. This way, we can pool our resources to ensure we have more workers and more hands collaborating to accomplish even more. Plus, this is a great opportunity to build relationships across congregations within our community.

During this year's GWOH and Rally Day we will be making blankets and packing blessing bags which will be distributed to the unhoused community. It's a great way to show love to our neighbors and a great way to build relationships with one another and with people from other congregations. We will not be serving a meal at this event, as we are being cautious with the Covid Delta variant, and we don't want a situation where we have to remove our masks to eat. **Our GWOH/Rally Day Event will begin at 1 pm in the gym**, which will give you about 2 hours after worship service to go out and get some food, maybe change clothes, and return at 1 pm to participate in our God's Work Our Hands service event. We look forward to seeing you then!!

Sincerely,

The Community Ministries and Youth and Congregational Life Committees