

18th Sunday after Pentecost

September 26, 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

Bob Menzies, Organist

Michelle Tune, Soprano

Anita Mork, Assistant Minister

Irene Amon, Lector

Order of the Liturgy

Prelude

"Brother James' Air"

Dale Wood

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

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

ELW 836

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
 2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922
 Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

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

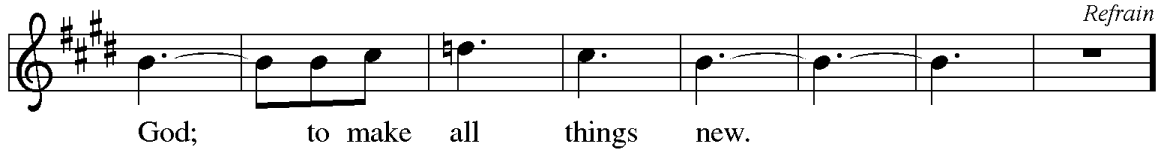
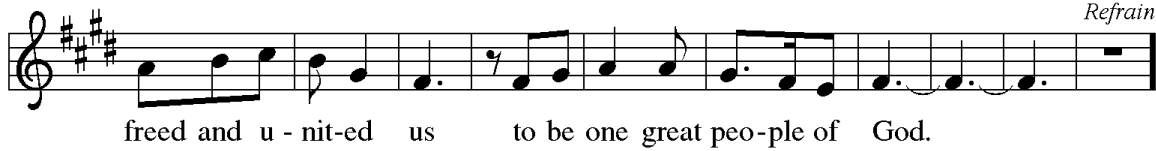
Refrain

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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

⁴The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, “If only we had meat to eat! ⁵We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; ⁶but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.”

¹⁰Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹So Moses said to the LORD, “Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors?’ ¹³Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, ‘Give us meat to eat!’ ¹⁴I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. ¹⁵If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery.”

¹⁶So the LORD said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and

have them take their place there with you.”

²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” ²⁹But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD’s people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!”

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

PSALM - Psalm 19:7-14 *The congregation responds with the bold verses.*

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and re- | vives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to | the simple.

⁸**The statutes of the LORD are just and re- | jice the heart;**
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light | to the eyes.

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and en- | dures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous | altogether.

¹⁰**More to be desired are they than gold, more than | much fine gold,**
sweeter far than honey, than honey | in the comb.

¹¹By them also is your ser- | vant enlightened, and in keeping them there is | great reward.

¹²**Who can detect one’s | own offenses? Cleanse me from my | secret faults.**

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion | over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a | great offense.

¹⁴**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable | in your sight,**
O LORD, my strength and | my redeemer.

SECOND READING: James 5:13-20

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven.

¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back

by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

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 9:38-50

³⁸John said to [Jesus,] “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” ³⁹But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me.

⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴²“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹“For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

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

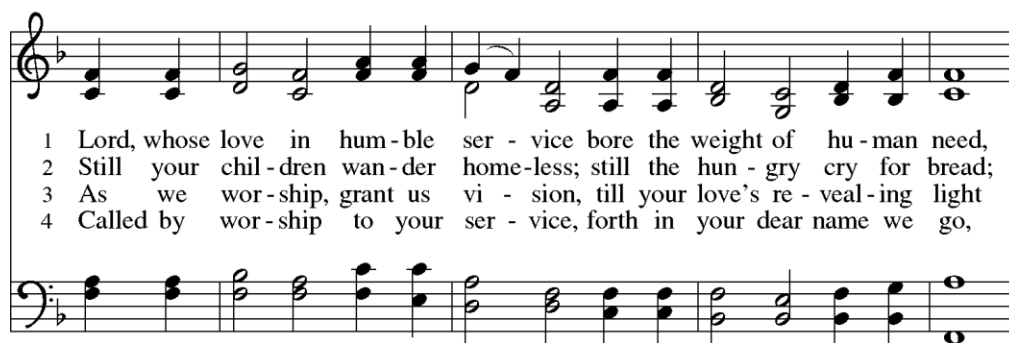
SERMON

Pastor Zach Johnson

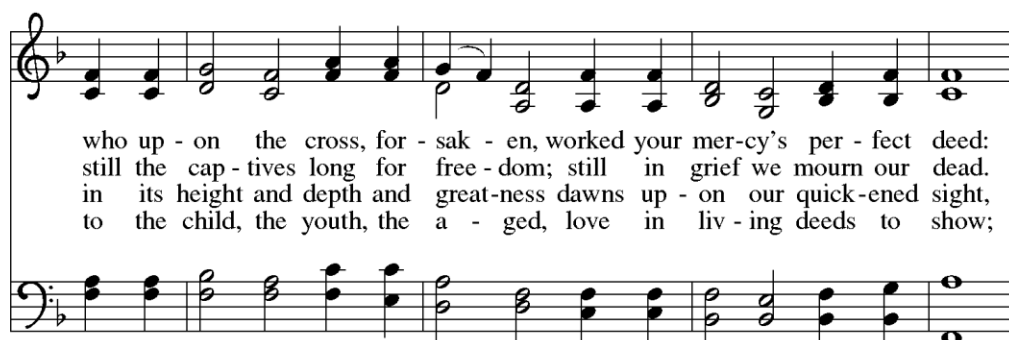
HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

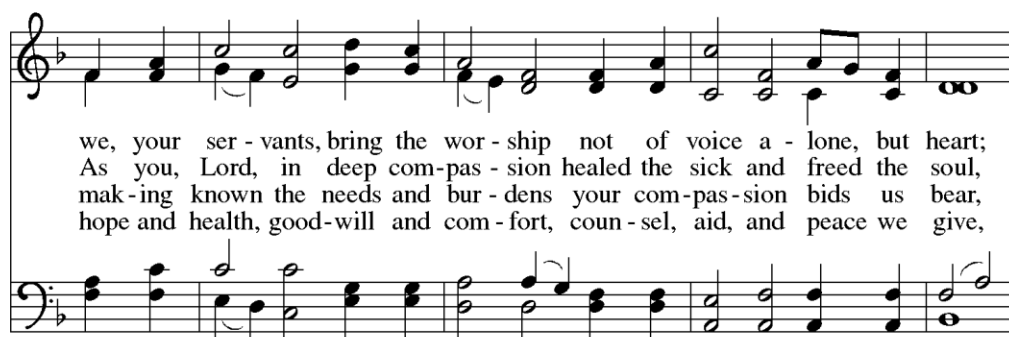
ELW 712



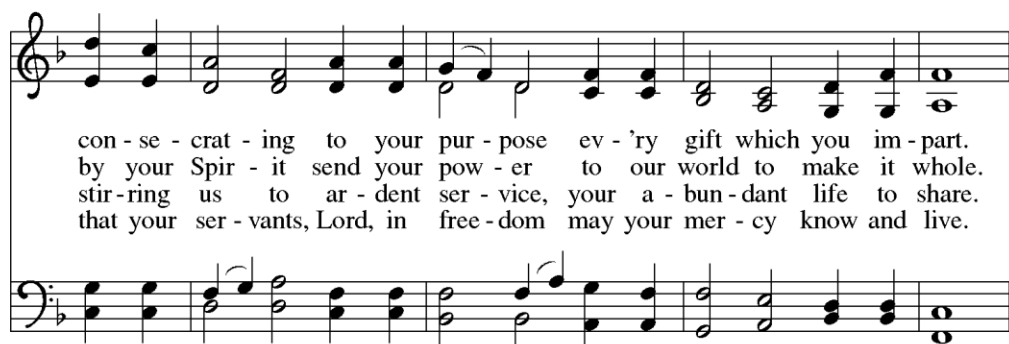
1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu - man need,
 2 Still your chil - dren wan - der home - less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;
 3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal - ing light
 4 Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer - cy's per - fect deed:
 still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
 in its height and depth and great - ness dawns up - on our quick - ened sight,
 to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;
 As you, Lord, in deep com - pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
 mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens your com - pas - sion bids us bear,
 hope and health, good - will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
 by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
 stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.
 that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985

Text © 1961 Oxford University Press.

Arr. © 1985 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 is written on a single treble clef staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). It is divided into four lines of music, each with lyrics underneath. The first line is split between 'Presider:' and 'Congregation:'. The second line is also split. The third and fourth lines are split between 'Presider:' and 'Congregation:'. The lyrics are: '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 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...

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.

SSSENDING HYMN

God's Work, Our Hands



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
 2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
 3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
 4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
 fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
 prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
 seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
 walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
 pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
 Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
 run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
 claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
 gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
 Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
 Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
 Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922-1987

Text © 2019 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Music © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain"

Nancy Raabe

Today's altar flowers are provided by Elsa Balding.

+++++

Calendar This Week		
Today	10:00 AM	Virtual & In-Person Worship
Today	1:00 PM	GWOH & Rally Day at HAGL!
Wed 9/29/21	10:00 AM	Bible Study at HAGL
Wed 9/29/21	7:00 PM	Virtual Bible Study
Sat 10/2/21	9:30 AM	Food Shelf Open
Sun 10/3/21	10:00 AM	Virtual & In-Person Worship

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

+16699006833,,95007590439#,,,,*4584517# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,95007590439#,,,,*4584517# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439

Passcode: 4584517

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Announcements from Sunday, September 19th:

We have started 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.

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