

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 10, 2023

Virtual Bulletin with Holy Communion, Setting X

Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church

Rev. Garry Mohr, Guest Pastor

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

Douglas Shabe, Director of Music

Hannah Lee, Organist

Kate Radford, Soloist

Anita Mork, Assistant Minister

Lija Kalejs, Lector

Order of the Liturgy

Prelude

"His Eye Is on the Sparrow"

arr. Cindy Berry

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**



Hill Ave Grace
Lutheran Church

OPENING HYMN

Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand

ELW 441

1 Oh, hap - py day when we shall stand a - mid the
 2 Oh, bless - ed day when Christ shall come and show him -
 3 Oh, what a might - y rush - ing flood of joy and
 4 O Lord, your grace is ev - 'ry - thing; your love has

heav'n - ly throng; and sing with hosts from ev - 'ry land the
 self as Lord, and thou - sands meet in their new home which
 love and peace will roll down o - ver us with good and
 made us free to stand a - mong the saints and sing the

new ce - les - tial song, the new ce - les - tial song.
 Je - sus has pre - pared, which Je - sus has pre - pared.
 bless - ed - ness and grace, and bless - ed - ness and grace.
 glo - ry that we see, the glo - ry that we see.

Text: Wilhelm A. Wexels, 1797–1866; tr. composite

Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561

Text st. 1 © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress; text sts. 2–4 © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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

1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.

We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
 Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
 Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
 Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
 Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
 on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
 Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
 Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
 For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" ¹¹Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

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

PSALM: Psalm 119:33-40 *The congregation responds with the bold verses.*

³³Teach me, O LORD, the way ¹ of your statutes, and I shall keep it ¹ to the end.

³⁴**Give me understanding, and I shall ¹ keep your teaching; I shall keep it with ¹ all my heart.**

³⁵Lead me in the path of ¹ your commandments, for that is ¹ my desire.

³⁶**Incline my heart to ¹ your decrees and not to ¹ unjust gain.**

³⁷Turn my eyes from be- ¹ holding falsehood; give me life ¹ in your way.

³⁸**Fulfill your promise ¹ to your servant, which is for ¹ those who fear you.**

³⁹Turn away the reproach ¹ that I dread, because your judg- ¹ ments are good.

⁴⁰**Behold, I long for ¹ your commandments; by your righteousness en- ¹ liven me.**

SECOND READING: Romans 13:8-14

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: Matthew 18:15-20

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let

such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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

SERMON

Guest Pastor Garry Mohr

HYMN OF THE DAY

Dearest Jesus, at Your Word

ELW 520

1 Dear - est Je - sus, at your word we have come a -
 2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est
 3 Ra - diance of God's glo - ry bright, Light of Light from
 4 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, praise to you and

gain to hear you; let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
 dark - ness shroud - ed till your Spir - it breaks the night,
 God pro - ceed - ing, Je - sus, send your bless - ed light;
 ad - o - ra - tion! Grant us what we need the most:

and in glow - ing faith be near you as the prom - is -
 fill - ing us with light un - cloud - ed. All good thoughts and
 help our hear - ing, speak - ing, heed - ing, that our prayers and
 all your gos - pel's con - so - la - tion while we here on

es here giv - en draw us whol - ly up to heav - en.
 all good liv - ing come but by your gra - cious giv - ing.
 songs may please you, as with grate - ful hearts we praise you.
 earth a - wait you, till in heav'n with praise we greet you.

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 "Merciful God". The assembly responds with "**receive our prayer.**"

SHARING OF THE PEACE - *The presiding and the assembly share a virtual sign of peace.*
The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

OFFERING PRAYER - *All speak the prayer together.*

God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

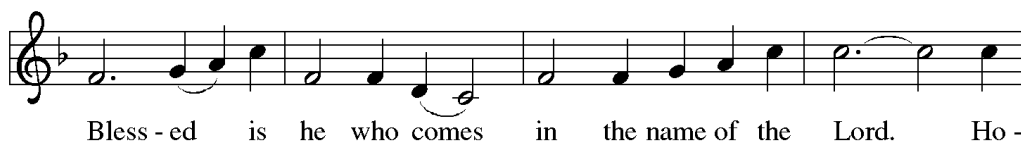
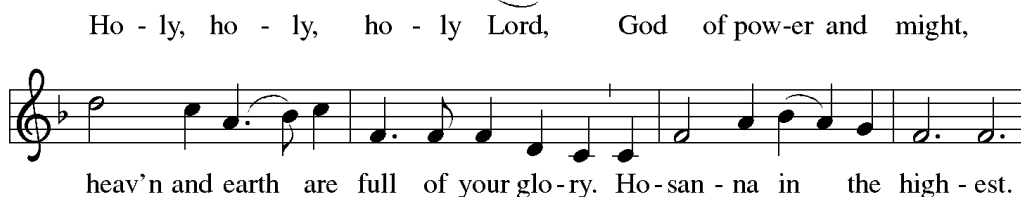
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

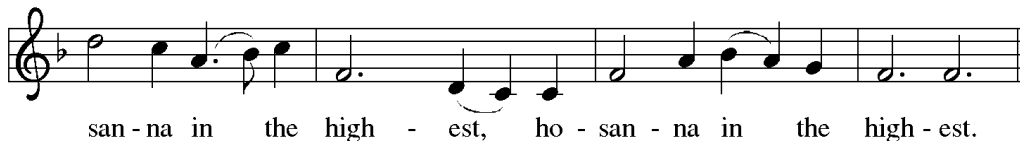
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right...we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY





THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future. **We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now. **We thank you, O God.**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us...

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.

LAMB OF GOD



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

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.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION - *All speak the prayer together.*

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

ELW 435

1 Lo! he comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
 2 Now re - demp - tion, long - ex - pect - ed,
 3 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore thee,

once for our sal - va - tion slain;
 comes in sol - emn splen - dor near;
 high on thine e - ter - nal throne;

thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 all the saints this world re - ject - ed
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,

join to sing the glad re - frain:
 thrill the trum - pet sound to hear:
 claim the king - dom as thine own.

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

lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 lu - ia! See the day of God ap - pear!
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
 Music: HELMSLEY, Thomas Olivers, 1725–1799

DISMISSAL

Go in peace; Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Everlasting God”

arr. Carol Tornquist

This week's altar flowers are given by Mike & Candy Farrell, Giving Glory and Thanksgiving to God as we celebrate our 55th wedding anniversary on September 14. Thanks be to God for many Blessings throughout those years. Amen.

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Calendar This Week		
Every Sunday	10:00 AM	Virtual & In-Person Worship
Sun 9/10/23	After service	God's Work Our Hands day event at Trinity Lutheran Church
Tues 9/12/23	7:00 PM	Virtual Council Meeting
Thurs 9/14/23	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
Sat 9/16/23	9:30 AM	Food Shelf Open
Sun 9/17/23	10:00 AM	Rally Day!!

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

It is with deep sadness that we share with our church family that our spiritual shepherd, Rev. Zachary Johnson has joined the Church Triumphant. As we are all shocked and grieving, please pray for God's peace and help for Kristin, Katherine, Rosalie, their family, HAGL and all their friends during this very difficult time. From Kristin Johnson:

"It is with a very heavy heart that I share that Pastor Zach passed away unexpectedly on Friday, September 1st.

Our hearts are heavy with grief, but also gratitude as I am grateful for the ways we have been loved and supported since his sudden death and also throughout the past few years.

More details will eventually be shared regarding memorial service plans, but in the meantime, we appreciate your prayers as we grieve with you."

God's Work Our Hands day is Sunday, September 10th. Trinity Lutheran Church will host the community service project after their regular worship service if you'd like to attend and help make the care kits for the PCC students.

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 \$35 for a single. Add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Narthex, or contact the office have your name added!

Rally Day is scheduled for Sunday, September 17th, which is when the choir resumes and we'll have our annual BBQ here after service. We hope to have a luau and also raise money for the ELCA relief after the Maui wildfires. Come enjoy some Hawaiian music, wear your flip flops and Hawaiian shirts, and join in the festivities after our regular worship service. Contact David if you'd like to help plan! We hope to see you there to spread the Aloha!

The Hill Avenue Grace Food Shelf needs volunteers! We're looking for new, friendly faces to help distribute food on Saturday mornings from 9:30 – 11:30 AM. You can help out as often or as little as you want. If you're open to hearing more, please contact Angela Jorgensen at foodshelf@hillavenuegrace.org.

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

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

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)

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Dial by your location

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+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439

Passcode: 4584517

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We are back to joining at the altar for communion. We will be going up the center aisle and returning down the side aisles. If you are not comfortable with that, pick up a communion set at the table in the narthex 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.

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!

SOLHEIM SAVE THE DATES

SENIOR COMMUNITY This fall and holiday season, join us for all of our events!



Saturday, September 23
from 5:00 - 9:00 PM
At Solheim Senior Community

The Eagle Rock Oktoberfest at Solheim is an event that everyone looks forward to each year! With live Bavarian music, authentic German food, beer and more, you're sure to have a great time... all while supporting a great cause!

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit:
www.solheimsenior.org/oktoberfest



Saturday, October 28
from 6:00 - 10:00 PM
At La Canada Flintridge Country Club

Join us as we celebrate our 100th Anniversary! This not-to-be-missed event will feature a Masquerade Ball theme with dinner, dancing, libations, live entertainment, and a live auction. Join us as we celebrate 100 years of serving seniors!

For more information or to become a sponsor, visit our event website:
www.solheimsenior.org/100



Saturday, December 9
from 1:00 - 5:00 PM
At Solheim Senior Community

Looking for unique and meaningful gifts for your loved ones this holiday season? Come check out our "Spirit of Giving" Christmas Boutique! Our Christmas Boutique features local vendors who sell handmade arts, crafts and treats to benefit a good cause. Come get in the holiday spirit and take part in the holiday festivities at Solheim!

solheimsenior.org/christmasboutique

Also save this date! November 16 at 2PM, *Across the Decades Fashion Show: Fashion, Song and Dance from 1920s through today!*

Do You Want to Support Solheim's Events?

There are a number of ways you can help:

BECOME A SPONSOR

All of our events require the support from individuals and local businesses who are willing to partner with Solheim by making a financial donation. Various sponsorship levels are available. Sponsorship not only allows our events to be a great success, but can be a great marketing opportunity for you as well!

SELL TICKETS

If you have friends, family, church members or anyone else who would be interested in joining us at our events, you can help us sell tickets!

BECOME A VOLUNTEER

Volunteering at our events can be fun and rewarding! We can always use volunteers to help run our events smoothly. A variety of volunteering opportunities are available at any or all of our events!

CONTRIBUTE PRIZES, AUCTION ITEMS OR CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE GIFTS

Donate contest give-a-ways for our Oktoberfest, an auction gift for our 100th Anniversary Masquerade Ball Celebration, or contribute items to sell at our Christmas Boutique.

For more information about sponsoring an event, volunteering, selling tickets or donating items for our contests, auction or Christmas Boutique, please contact Tina Antypas at 323-257-7518 or email TAntypas@SolheimSenior.org.

If you cannot join us at any of our events, please consider making a donation in honor of our 100th Anniversary. Give online at: www.SolheimSenior.org/100

