16th Sunday after Pentecost

September 17, 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
Kristi Lobitz, Organist
Kate Radford, Soloist
Angela Jorgensen, Assistant Minister
Angela Jorgensen, Lector

Order of the Liturgy

Prelude Kristi Lobitz

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \oplus 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 \oplus 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.**



Beautiful Savior

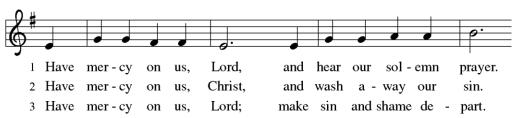


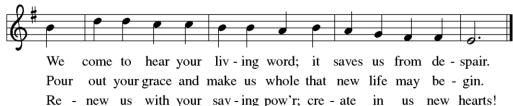
Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

GREETING

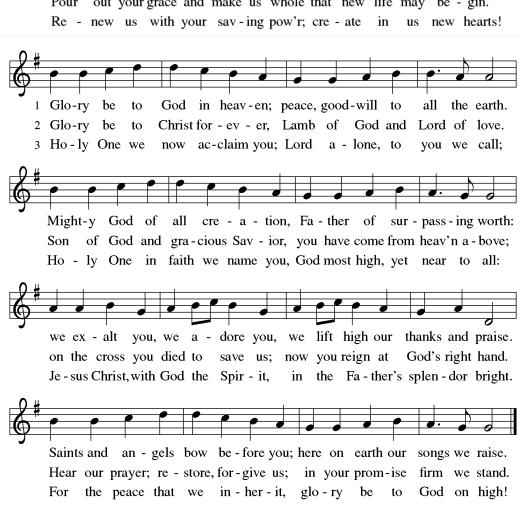
The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ; the love of God; and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE





CANTICLE OF PRAISE



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.

FIRST READING: Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵Realizing 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?" ¹⁶So 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 intended to do harm to me, God intended it for 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." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13 The congregation responds with the bold verses.

[¹Bless the LORD, ¹ O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's ¹ holy name.

²Bless the LORD, [|] O my soul, and forget not [|] all God's benefits—

³who forgives [|] all your sins and heals all [|] your diseases;

⁴who redeems your life | from the grave and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy;

⁵who satisfies your desires [|] with good things so that your youth is renewed [|] like an eagle's.

⁶O LORD, you provide | vindication and justice for all who | are oppressed.

⁷You made known your ^I ways to Moses and your works to the chil- ^I dren of Israel.]

⁸LORD, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,

slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love;

⁹you will not al- [|] ways accuse us, nor will you keep your an- [|] ger forever.

¹⁰You have not dealt with us according | to our sins,

nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.

 $^{\rm 11}{\rm For}$ as the heavens are high a- $^{\rm I}$ bove the earth,

so great is your steadfast love for I those who fear you.

¹²As far as the east is | from the west,

so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.

¹³As a father has compassion ^I for his children,

so you have compassion for those who fear I you, O LORD.

SECOND READING: Romans 14:1-12

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

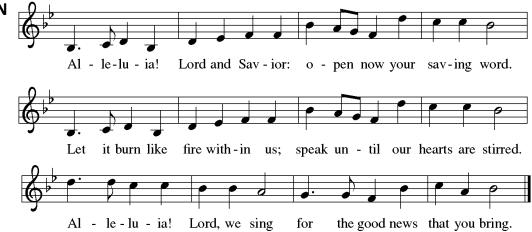
⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

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 of us will be accountable to God.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus 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. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But 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.' ²⁹Then 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. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then 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?' ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So 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 our Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Guest Pastor Garry Mohr

Be Thou My Vision





Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

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.



Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. George T. Rygh, 1860–1943, alt. Music: ES IST DAS HEIL, Etlich christlich Lieder, Wittenberg, 1524

People of God, do you promise to support Elroy Gracie Patlan and pray for him in his new life in Christ? **We do.**

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? I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? 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. Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

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

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

BAPTISM Elroy Gracie Patlan

Elroy Gracie Patlan, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Blessed be God, the source of all life, the word of salvation, the spirit of mercy. Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Elroy Gracie Patlan with 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.**

Elroy Gracie Patlan, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

HYMN

"All Who Believe and Are Baptized"

ELW 442 vs 2

GREAT THANKSGIVING

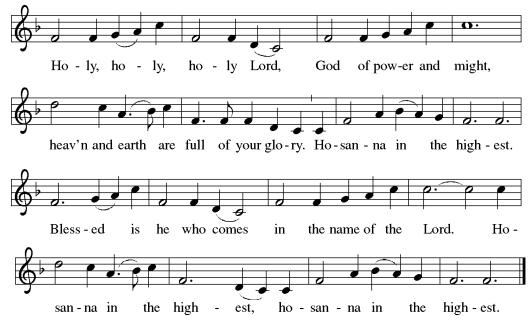
The Lord be with you. And also with you.

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 our duty and delight...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



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.

ELW 660

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 Lift High the Cross Refrain Lift the love of Christ pro - claim till high the cross, all the world dore his sa - cred name. Come, Chris - tians, fol low where our cap - tain trod, 2 All new - born ser vants of the Cru - ci fied lift 3 O ed the glo - rious Lord, once on tree, So tri umph ev - er shall song of be: our Refrain king Christ, God. vic rious, the Son of our to bear on their brows the seal of him who died. prom thou hast ised, draw all to thee. as us the Cru fied praise to vic - to ry!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace; Christ is with you. Thanks be to God.

Postlude Kristi Lobitz

This week's altar flowers are given Dave Cuatt & Kris Pilon, in celebration of the marriage of Brian & Christian Cuatt.

+++++

Calendar This Week		
Every Sunday	10:00 AM	Virtual & In-Person Worship
Thurs 9/14/23	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
Sat 9/16/23	9:30 AM	Food Shelf Open

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

It is with deep sadness that we share with our church family that our spiritual shepherd, Rev. Zachary Johnson joined the Church Triumphant unexpectedly on Friday, September 1st. 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: "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."

One way we can help the Johnson family now is by sending gift cards for food delivery, restaurants and groceries. Or sign-up to be part of the 'Meal Train for the Johnson family' at https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/gkod7o

A memorial service for Pastor Zach will be held at HAGL on Saturday, October 7th at 10:30 am, with a reception to follow. We will have Pastor Garry Mohr and Bishop Bos presiding. If you'd like to help with this reception, please reach out to the office or Tina Antypas.

A memorial service for Hal Mills will be held at HAGL on Saturday, September 30th at 11:00 am, with a reception to follow. If you'd like to help with this reception, please reach out to the office or Donna Menzies.

Rally Day will be re-scheduled for a later date, stay tuned for details!

Thank Offering Banks have been created by the women of grace. Thank Offering Sunday is the Sunday before Thanksgiving. The gifts will be distributed to a charity to be determined soon. Look for the banks in the narthex or ask Marsha Green for one! Fill up your bank and return when directed, so the funds can go to a worthy cause.

October 1st is Blessing of the Animals Day. Feel free to bring your furry friends to service and a

blessing will be done afterwards in the quad.

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 worshiping together!

Join Zoom Meeting

https://zoom.us/j/95007590439?pwd=M2NmMUZCZzhMOUY0SG8xeHpxcU5RUT09

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

+1 253 215 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

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-738331. All rights reserved.



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!

SELHEIM 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!

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

