

17th Sunday after Pentecost

September 24, 2023

Virtual Bulletin with Holy Communion, Setting X

Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church

Rev. Garry Mohr, Pastor

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

Douglas Shabe, Director of Music

Hannah Lee, Organist

Kate Radford, Soloist

Steve Rose, Assistant Minister

Bob Menzies, Lector

Order of the Liturgy

Prelude *"The Lord Is My Shepherd"* arr. Joseph M. Martin

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

Take My Life, That I May Be

ELW 685

1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;

take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
 take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.
 Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

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

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Jonah 3:10--4:11

¹⁰When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

^{4:1}But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night.

¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

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

PSALM: Psalm 145:1-8 *The congregation responds with the bold verses.*

¹I will exalt you, my ¹ God and king, and bless your name forev- ¹ er and ever.

²**Every day ¹ will I bless you and praise your name forev- ¹ er and ever.**

³Great is the LORD and greatly ¹ to be praised! There is no end ¹ to your greatness.

⁴**One generation shall praise your works ¹ to another and shall de- ¹ clare your power.**

⁵I will speak of the glorious splendor ¹ of your majesty and all your ¹ marvelous works.

⁶**They shall tell of the might of your ¹ wondrous acts, and I will re- ¹ count your greatness.**

⁷They shall publish the remembrance of ¹ your great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully ¹ of your righteousness.

⁸**The LORD is gracious and full ¹ of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in ¹ steadfast love.**

SECOND READING: Philippians 1:21-30

²¹For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—³⁰since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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 20:1-16

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹"The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual

daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' ⁹When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

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

SERMON

Pastor Garry Mohr

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 779

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
 Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.

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

"Seek Ye the Lord"

- Bob Burroughs

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.

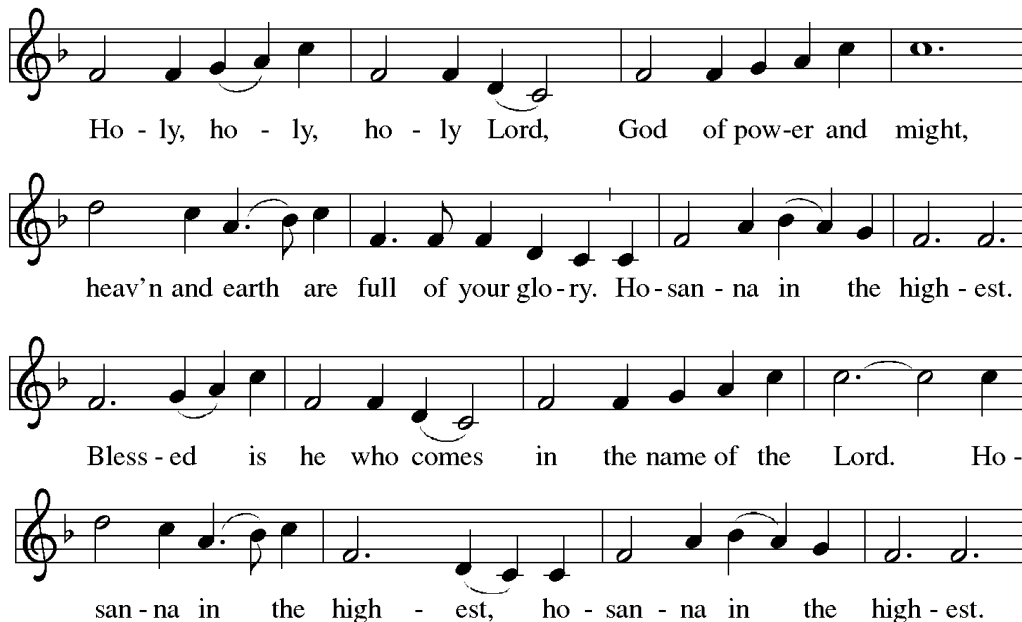
GREAT THANKSGIVING

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


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

On Our Way Rejoicing

ELW 537



1 On our way re - joic - ing glad - ly let us go.
2 Un - to God the Fa - ther joy - ful songs we sing;

Christ our Lord has con - quered; van - quished is the foe.
un - to God the Sav - ior thank - ful hearts we bring;

Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;
un - to God the Spir - it bow we and a - dore,

who, if we be faith - ful, can our hope de - stroy?
on our way re - joic - ing now and ev - er - more.

Refrain
On our way re - joic - ing; as we for - ward move,
hear - ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

DISMISSAL

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

Postlude

"I Give You My Heart"

arr. Carol Tornquist

*This week's altar flowers are given by Karen DeGilio to the Glory of God
and for my wonderful loving family.*

+++++

| Calendar This Week | | |
|--------------------|----------|--------------------------------|
| Every Sunday | 10:00 AM | Virtual & In-Person Worship |
| Thurs 9/28/23 | 7:00 PM | Choir Practice |
| Sat 9/30/23 | 9:30 AM | Food Shelf Open |
| Sat 9/30/23 | 11:00 AM | Memorial Service for Hal Mills |
| Sun 10/1/23 | 11:15 AM | Animal Blessing in the quad |

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> and check back regularly as updates are made by the family based on their needs.

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.

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.

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.

October 1st is Blessing of the Animals Day. Feel free to bring your trained furry friends to worship service. Right after service we will have a Blessing of the Animals.



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)

+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

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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

