

18th Sunday after Pentecost

October 1, 2023

Virtual Bulletin with Holy Communion, Setting X

Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church

Rev. Garry Mohr, Interim 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

Katherine Johnson, Lector

Order of the Liturgy

Prelude

"Trust and Obey"

arr. Victor Labenske

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**LBW 527**

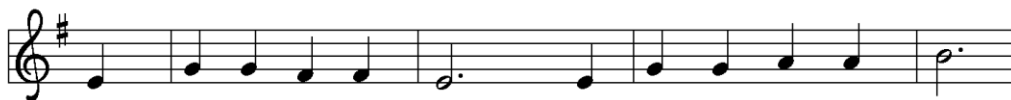
1. All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
O burning sun with golden beam
And silver moon with softer gleam:
Oh, praise Him! Oh, praise Him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4. Dear mother earth, who day by day
Unfolds rich blessings on our way,
Oh, praise him! Alleluia!
The fruits and flow'rs that verdant grow,
Let them his praise abundant show.
Oh, praise Him! Oh, praise Him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

7. Let all things their Creator bless
And worship God in humbleness.
Oh, praise him! Alleluia!
Oh, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One,
Oh, praise Him! Oh, praise Him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? ³As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

²⁵Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. ²⁷Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin.

³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

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

PSALM: Psalm 25:1-9 *The congregation responds with the bold verses.*

¹To ¹you, O LORD, I lift ¹up my soul.

²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be ¹put to shame,
 nor let my enemies triumph ¹over me.**

³Let none who look to you be ¹put to shame;
 rather let those be put to shame ¹who are treacherous.

⁴**Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.**

⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me,

for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

⁶**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.**

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

⁸**You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

⁹You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-13

¹If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went.

³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

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

SERMON

Pastor Garry Mohr

HYMN OF THE DAY**ELW 517****Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word**

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word". It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are printed below the notes.

1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are
 3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and

by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son
 Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we
 u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife



and bring to naught all he has done.
 may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
 and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

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.

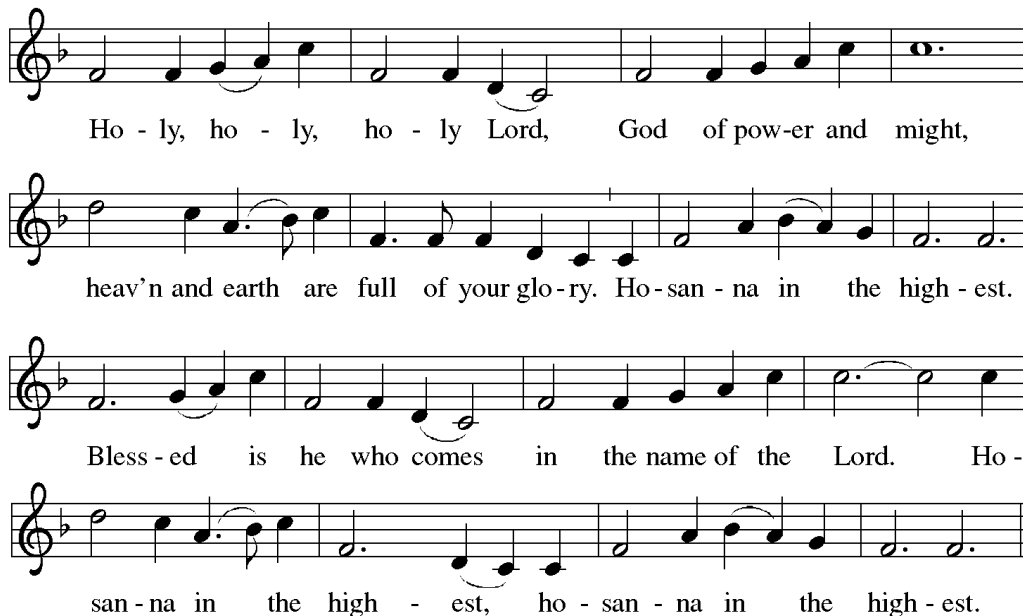
GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

All Things Bright and Beautiful

WOV 767

Refrain



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea - tures great and small,



all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.



1 Each lit - tle flow'r that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
 2 The pur - ple-head - ed moun - tains, the riv - er run - ning by,
 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
 4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

Refrain



God made their glow - ing col - ors, God made their ti - ny wings.
 the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky.
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - 'ry one.
 how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818–1895, alt.
 Music: ROYAL OAK, English tune, 17th cent., adapt. Martin Shaw, 1875–1958

DISMISSAL

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

Postlude

"I Surrender All"

arr. Phillip Keveren

*This week's altar flowers are given by Karen and Dick Rouse
 with thanks to God for 65 years of marriage.*

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Calendar This Week		
Every Sunday	10:00 AM	Virtual & In-Person Worship
Sun 10/1/23	11:15 AM	Animal Blessing in the quad
Thurs 10/5/23	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
Sat 10/7/23	9:30 AM	Food Shelf Open
Sat 10/7/23	10:30 AM	Memorial Service for Pastor Zach

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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. The service will be available via Zoom and FB Live using our regular Worship link.

One tangible way we can help the Johnson family 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.

We officially welcome Pastor Garry as our Interim Pastor! Council will begin the long process to call a new pastor. We have spots available on council, so if you'd like to join, please see Tina or any council member and let them know!

From the Mills Family: **Many thanks to all who helped with the Mills Memorial on September 30th! It was greatly appreciated!**

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 in the quad.



The Annual LWR Quilt Drive is happening on October 17th here at HAGL! Start preparing those quilts to donate to our world neighbors or put a check in the offering plate with 'Quilts' on the memo line for us to send along to LWR! Your love brings physical comfort and essential needs to those who need it most. Quilts measuring 60 x 80 should be brought to the office by Oct 15th.

Rally Day will be held on Reformation Sunday, October 29th! We will enjoy brats and sauerkraut in honor of Marty & Kate. Look for the sign-up sheet or contact the office to RSVP so we know how much food to provide.

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)

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+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

