

# 15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 1, 2024

Virtual Bulletin with Holy Communion, Pentecost Peace

Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church

Rev. Garry Mohr, Interim Pastor

Bishop Bos, Guest Preacher

Douglas Shabe, Director of Music

Hannah Lee, Organist

David Russell, Assistant Minister

Anita Mork, Lector

Natalie Russell & Sue Rose, Sunday School

## Order of the Liturgy

Prelude

*"Purify My Heart"*

arr. Jess Nelson

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son  $\text{†}$ , and of the Holy Spirit: **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 Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the  $\text{†}$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



Hill Ave Grace  
Lutheran Church

## OPENING HYMN

## For the Beauty of the Earth

ELW 879



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,  
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,  
 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,  
 5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:  
 hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:  
 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:  
 friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:  
 for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:



*Refrain*  
 Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.



Text: Folliot S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt.  
 Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

## 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.**

GATHERING SONG—  
SACRED SPACE

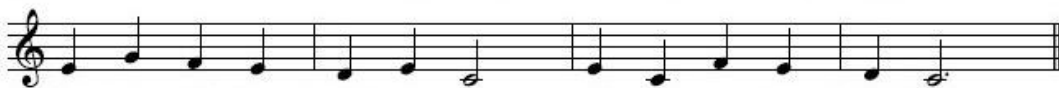
Ga - thered in this sa - cred space, with us is the



11 Hel - per, sent to seal your gift of grace in our hearts for e - ver.



15 Train our ears to hear her sigh with our soul's deep long - ing;



for true fel - low - ship we cry, ev' - ry - one be - long - ing.

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE – TAPESTRY OF PEACE

8 Let us join our di-verse voi-ces in your praise;

13 may our sto-ries sing your glo-ry all our days. Weave a

18 ta-pes-try of peace in our mul-ti-co-lored strands; let all fear and hat-red

22 cease as we lift our hearts and hands. Your trans-cen-dent name con -

26 fes-sing, may our hi-er-ar-chies fall; let us share cre-a-tion's

bles-sings so your love is known and shown to all.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

<sup>1</sup>So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. <sup>2</sup>You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

<sup>6</sup>You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" <sup>7</sup>For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? <sup>8</sup>And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

<sup>9</sup>But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

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

**PSALM: Psalm 15** *The congregation responds with the bold verses.*

<sup>1</sup>LORD, who may dwell in your | tabernacle? Who may abide upon your | holy hill?

<sup>2</sup>**Those who lead a blameless life and do | what is right,  
who speak the truth | from their heart;**

<sup>3</sup>they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil | to their friends;  
they do not cast discredit up- | on a neighbor.

<sup>4</sup>**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who | fear the LORD.  
They have sworn upon their health and do not take | back their word.**

<sup>5</sup>They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- | gainst the  
innocent. Those who do these things shall never be | overthrown.

**SECOND READING: James 1:17-27**

<sup>17</sup>Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. <sup>18</sup>In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

<sup>19</sup>You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup>for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. <sup>21</sup>Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

<sup>22</sup>But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. <sup>23</sup>For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; <sup>24</sup>for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like.

<sup>25</sup>But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

<sup>26</sup>If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup>Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

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

**GOSPEL  
ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e-ter-nal life. Al - le - lu - ia!

**GOSPEL: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23**

<sup>1</sup>Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], <sup>2</sup>they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. <sup>3</sup>(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; <sup>4</sup>and they do not eat anything

from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.)<sup>5</sup> So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?”<sup>6</sup> He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me;

<sup>7</sup>in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

<sup>8</sup>You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

<sup>14</sup>Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: <sup>15</sup>there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.

<sup>21</sup>“For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. <sup>23</sup>All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

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

## SERMON

Bishop Bos

## HYMN OF THE DAY

## Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

ELW 712

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

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

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

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

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984  
 Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985  
 Text © 1961 Oxford University Press.  
 Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress.

## APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, our Lord,  
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,  
 suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;  
 he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,  
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
 the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
 the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Each petition ends with "Lord, in your mercy." The assembly responds with "hear our prayer."*

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

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY

*"The Swan (Le Cygne)"*

Camille Saint-Saëns  
 \*Ed Donohue, Clarinet

**OFFERING PRAYER** - *All speak the prayer together.*

**Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated unto you; and then use us, we pray you, as you will, and always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

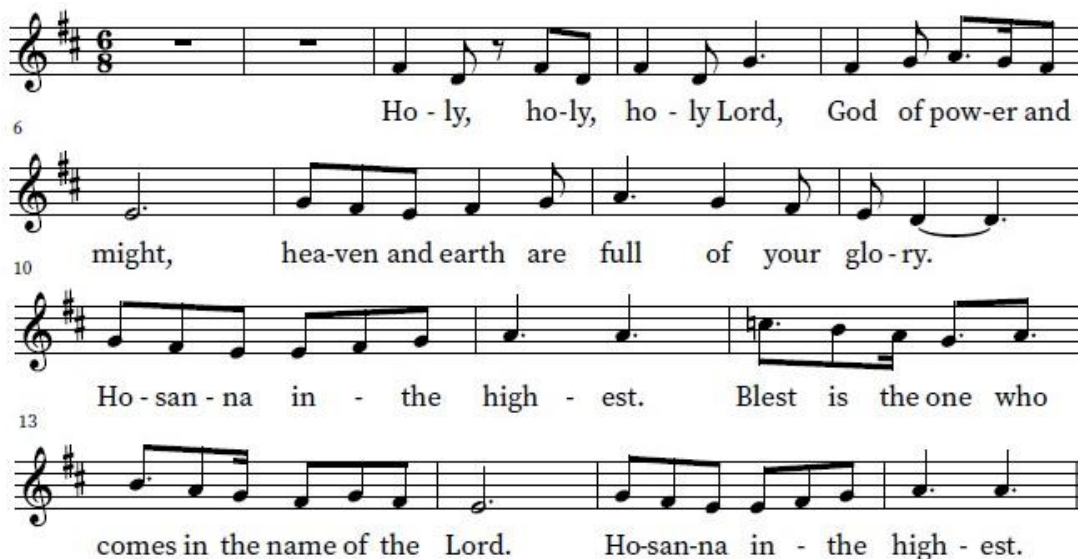


Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

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



6 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
10 might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
13 Ho - san - na in - the high - est. Blest is the one who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in - the high - est.

## HOLY COMMUNION

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### 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,

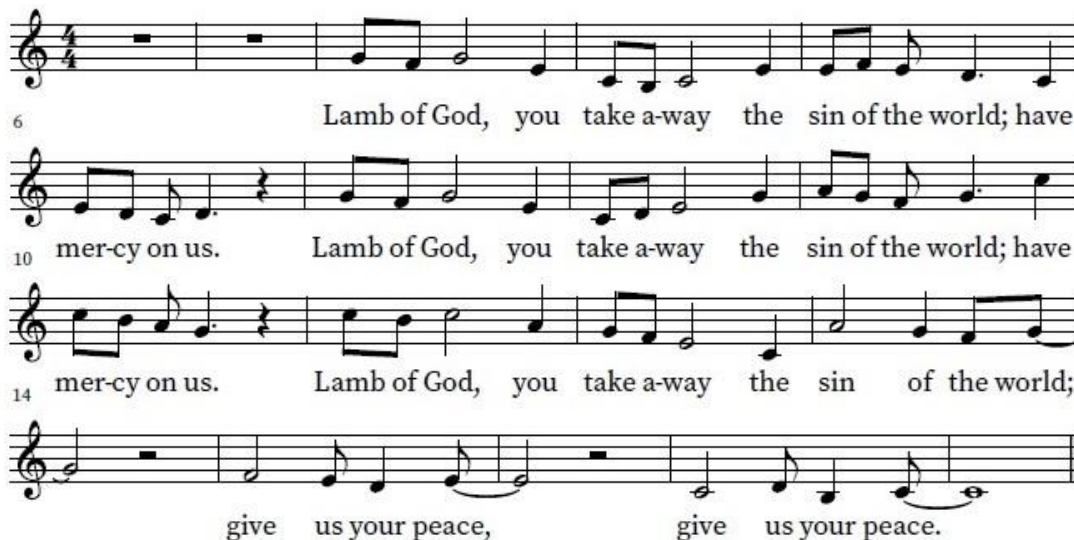
as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptations but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

### LAMB OF GOD



6 Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
10 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
14 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;  
give us your peace, give us your peace.

## 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.”**

## COMMUNION HYMN

### 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.**

### SENDING SONG - BE THE GOOD NEWS

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. It consists of 28 measures. The lyrics are: In our lea-ving, peace re-cei-ving, keep us in joy di - vine; in our pray-ing, work-ing, play-ing let hea-ven's good-ness shine. Now send us out in your Spi-rit to be the good news where we are. Let's not weigh what we have to off-er; each kind act we do can go far. We yearn for a world with-out vio-lence, we long for a life free from pain. O Christ be the light in our dark-ness and we'll see that faith, hope, love still re - main.

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

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**BLESSING**

May the Lord bless you, may the Lord keep you, the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and grant you his peace. In the name of the Father, the  $\dagger$  Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN****Sent Forth by God's Blessing****ELW 547**

1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,  
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,

the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.  
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—

The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed  
our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,

the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.  
em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.

The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls  
With your feast you feed us, with your light now

reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.  
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.

Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us  
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing

to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.  
give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.  
Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune  
Text © 1964 World Library Publications, 3708 River Rd., Franklin Park, IL 60131-2158. All rights reserved.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

*“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”*

arr. Mark Hayes

*Altar flowers are dedicated to the Glory of God.*

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Calendar This Week		
Every Sunday	10:00 AM	Virtual & In-Person Worship Service
Wed 9/4/24	10:00 AM	Bible Study in the Chapel
Sat 9/7/24	9:30 AM	Food Shelf Open

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**We thank Bishop Bos** for being with us today to preach and mark the anniversary of Pastor Zach's passing.

**We are sad to share that Margaret Rothwell joined the Church Triumphant** on Monday, August 26th. She passed away peacefully surrounded by family and friends. Pr Garry is working with the family for a service at Cabot & Cabot on Monday, September 9 at 10 am.

**Rally Day is scheduled for Sunday, September 15th.** Details to be provided soon! We hope everyone will plan on attending and participating in this annual event!

**“Dress for Success” Event Upcoming on September 20<sup>th</sup>!** Accessories Needed!! A small article or item of clothing carried or worn to compliment a garment or outfit...an item which can be added to something else in order to make it more useful, versatile, or attractive...Wanted: Costume Jewelry, Working Watches, Wallets, Purses, Totes, Make-up Samples, Charming Additions to any Wardrobe. Contact Linda Koci or the office to arrange drop-off.

**Curious about Faith? Join the Alpha Course - Starting Sept 24 at 7 PM**

Alpha is a series of conversations that explore life, spirituality and faith in a fun, non-judgmental and open environment. It’s perfect for skeptics, curious, anyone with major doubts or hurts or those who just want to talk about the real issues of life with new friends.



You can expect to meet and make new friends over the course of eight weeks; we will meet every Tuesday, eat dinner and watch a short film together before discussing about what we just watched. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. It’s a fun evening where there is no pressure to come back each week; just see if Alpha is for you.

Alpha Launch- Trivia night. Meet new people, eat some nice food, play trivia and see if Alpha is for you. **Address - 464 E Walnut Street, Pasadena, 91101**

**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 Tobe Poehlmann at [foodshelf@hillavenuegrace.org](mailto: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**

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**+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!