

Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost

November 9, 2025 10:30 AM



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church



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Sandi Tallant – Organist Todd Childers – Administrative Assistant

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 9am to 1pm

Tuesday and Thursday 12pm to 4pm

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP at Grace Church this morning as we gather to worship the Father, + Son and Holy Spirit in truth. As you entered the sanctuary today, you received this bulletin containing the order for worship and announcements. Please also notice the Prayer List where you will find a listing of all the known prayer concerns. You are invited to use this as a guide for your personal prayers throughout the coming week. If you need information about our congregation or if you'd like to update your information, make sure to fill out the yellow Worship Today Form and place it in the offering plate at the time of the offering. If you have a prayer concern, indicate that on your Worship Today Form at the bottom or on the reverse side. If you are seeking a Church Home or would like more information about Grace, please contact Pastor Doug (980) 234-8848.

***Stand** *Hymnals in Pew Rack: LBW = Green WOV = Blue TCH = Burgundy*

PRELUDE *Please observe silence for meditation and prayer.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

P: Trusting in God's steadfast love, grace and forgiveness in Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection and confession of our sins before God and one another.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy upon us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The minister stands and addresses the congregation.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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 our sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of light and life, through your most Holy Spirit, illumine our lives with your grace so that we may be ready for the coming of your Son. Grant that we may bear the light of your love to the world in need, that all may know of your justice and mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

The congregation may be seated.

FIRST READING PSALMS 121 & 122

1 I lift up my eyes to the hills.

From where does my help come?

**2 My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.**

3 He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.

**4 Behold, he who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

5 The Lord is your keeper;
the Lord is your shade on your right hand.

**6 The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

7 The Lord will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.

**8 The Lord will keep your going out and
your coming in from this time forth and
forevermore.**

1 I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord!”

**2 Our feet have been standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem!**

3 Jerusalem—built as a city
that is bound firmly together,

**4 to which the tribes go up, the tribes of
the Lord,**

**as was decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the Lord.**

5 There thrones for judgment were set,
the thrones of the house of David.

6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!

“May they be secure who love you!

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 2: 1-10

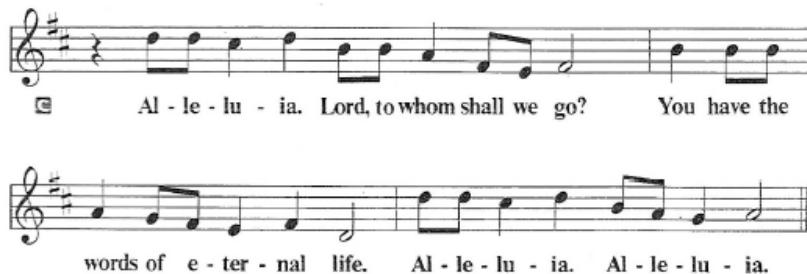
You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus,² and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.³ Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.⁴ No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him.⁵ An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules.⁶ It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops.⁷ Think over what I say, for

the Lord will give you understanding in everything. ⁸ Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, ⁹ for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! ¹⁰ Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

L: The Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God

The congregation is invited to stand.

*** GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** “Alleluia, Lord to Whom Shall We Go”



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

***GOSPEL: Luke 7: 1-10**

P: The holy gospel according to St. Luke. C: Glory to you, O Lord.

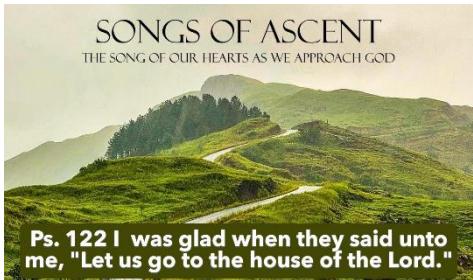
After Jesus had finished all his sayings in the hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum. ² A centurion there had a slave whom he valued highly and who was ill and close to death. ³ When he heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders to him, asking him to come and heal his slave. ⁴ When they came to Jesus, they appealed to him earnestly, saying, “He is worthy to have you do this for him, ⁵ for he loves our people, and it is he who built our synagogue for us.” ⁶ And Jesus went with them, but when he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to say to him, “Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; ⁷ therefore I did not presume to come to you. But only speak the word, and let my servant be healed. ⁸ For I also am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me, and I say to one, ‘Go,’ and he goes, and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes, and to my slave, ‘Do this,’ and the slave does it.” ⁹ When Jesus heard this he was amazed at him, and, turning to the crowd following him, he said, “I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith.” ¹⁰ When those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave in good health.

L: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to You O Christ!

The congregation may be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON



Psalms- The Prayerbook and Songbook of God's People.

"The Psalms of Ascent or Pilgrimage Psalms – Prayers / Songs for Our Journey of Faith"

***HYMN OF THE DAY "I Was There to Hear Your Burning Cry"**

WOV 770

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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**

Response at the end of each petition. P: Lord in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: And also with you.

Worshipers may greet one another with "the Peace of Christ."

The assembly may be seated.

- * **OFFERING** In response to God's blessings, we offer our tithes to the Lord
HOLY COMMUNION – MEAL OF GRACE
- * **OFFERTORY** Let the Vineyards

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the
hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and
give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

- * **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P: Merciful Father, C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of Him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

- *DIALOGUE AND PREFACE**

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might;
Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san - na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

*** WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

*** LORD'S PRAYER**

*** INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: The Gifts of God for the People of God. C: **Thanks be to God!**

The assembly may be seated.

All are invited to receive Holy Communion.

COMMUNION SONG Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

The congregation is invited to stand.

*** COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER**

P: Generous God, we give you thanks that again this day you have opened wide your hand and satisfied us with the Bread of life, the body and blood of Christ. Sharing your compassionate heart, may we be blessed to bless all who hunger and thirst; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. Amen.

***SENDING HYMN “Lead On, O King Eternal!”**

LBW 495

***DISMISSAL**

P: Sending: As we go in peace, may we journey together with Jesus and may His love, joy, strength, and peace bless us and those we meet along the way. C: **Thanks be to God**



In the Grace Church Family:

Jeffry Bivens, Rick & Cindy Bivens, Glenda Childers, Pat Dietz, Lisa Childers Fox, Allen and Kay Hatchett, Larry Heavner, Lorene Heavner, Larry & Brenda Jarrett, Martha Johnson, Faye Lane, Harvey Leatherman, Phil &

Malinda Leatherman, Tim Leatherman, Betty Matheson, Joe Momier, Jane Moss, Christine Norman, Michael Norman, Tricia and Dan Panek, Mike, Debi & Stephen Pisko, Jennifer Bivens Skott, Helen Smith, Ethan Starnes, Sandi Tallant, Libby Travis, Shirley Warlick, Ken & Tirzah Welch, Scott & Carolyn Whisnant, and Nancy Willis.

Nursing Home: Juanita Haas (Trinity Village), Ted Whisnant (Trinity Village)

Friends and Relatives in our Prayers: Pray for Peace in Israel and the World, New Covenant Lutheran Mission Church, Ashlee Bumgardner, Clinton Childers, Evelyn Childers, William Lynch, Randy & Rita Neill, Ray Porter, Anita Sabino, and Scott Speagle. Prayers for world peace and for our church, the United States of America, and especially the families of those who have given their lives in the service of our country and those who continue to protect our freedoms and for all members of our Armed Forces

COMING UP AT GRACE THIS WEEK

Today: Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost

9:30am – Sunday School 10:30am - Worship Celebration

Wednesday

6:30pm – Vespers with Bible Study – Reflection on the Psalms

HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY TO:

November 7 – Stephanie Ratts

November 9 – Wayne Powell

November 23 – Alan Shull

November 9 – Betty Matheson

November 9 – Steven Mullins

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 16 –Deadline for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

November 23 Deadline to order Christmas Poinsettias.

November 26 Community Thanksgiving Service at Plateau, Dinner at 6:00 pm; Worship at 7:00 pm. Grace will be providing desserts.

November 29 Hanging of the Greens 10:00 am

November 30 First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 10, 17 Midweek Advent Services 6:30 pm

December 13 Wreaths Across America at 11:00 am at Union Church

December 24 (Wed.) **Christmas Eve** – Candlelight & Holy Communion 7:00 pm



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS:

Order forms for Christmas poinsettias and a special offering envelope are available today. Please place your order form along with payment inside the special envelope and give it to the ushers. Use the special envelope for the date that you place your poinsettia order and designate how much of your offering is for poinsettias, the general fund, the building fund, etc. If you are not ordering poinsettias please just use your regular offering envelopes. The cost for each plant is \$12.00 and the deadline for ordering is Sunday, November 23.



VETERANS DAY

Today we will be remembering our veterans and the sacrifices they have made in the service of a free people. Please remember this week to salute our veterans and thank them for their service!



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Please join us on Saturday, December 13th at 11:00am to honor our veterans in the Grace Cemetery where their bodies have been laid to rest. No matter where they served or how, Wreaths Across America strives to ensure that no one is forgotten. The cost is \$20.00 per wreath. The deadline to order wreaths is Sunday, November 9th. Please ask one of the ushers for an order form.



THE HANGING OF THE GREENS is scheduled for Saturday, November 29th at 10:00 am. Please join us to decorate Grace Church for the celebration of the coming of our Lord.

Ministers of Grace – All the People of Grace

Pastor – Reverend Doug Hefner Board President – Tim Eckard

Lector – Stormy Shull Youth Leader – Stormy Shull

Altar Preparation – Cindy Bivens

Communion Assistants – Cindy Bivens & Shelly Scronce

Ushers – James Hall & Jack Wilfong

Offering Counters – Todd Childers & Sheila Drum

Literary Types in the Book of Psalms

Though the Psalms form one cohesive body of worship and wisdom literature, they can be grouped into distinct categories based on function, theme, and tone. Multiple psalms may overlap in their emphases, but general classifications offer a helpful lens for study and devotion.

1. Hymns or Songs of Praise (Psalms 8, 19:1-6, 33, 66:1-12, 67, 95, 100, 103, 104, 111, 113, 114, 117, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150) These psalms emphasize adoration and exaltation of the Creator. Their primary focus is on God's character, His wondrous deeds, and His sovereignty over creation. Common elements include calls to worship, declarations of God's greatness, and invitations for all the earth to praise Him. Example: Psalm 8 which begins, "O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!". These psalms often open and close with "Hallelujah" or similar phrases calling the congregation to worship. Some Hymns focus on Zion and are called Songs of Zion (46, 48, 76, 84, 87, 122). Others are referred to as Covenant Songs (50, 78, 81, 89, 132).

2. Laments (Community: Psalms 12, 44, 58, 60, 74, 79, 80, 83, 85, 89*, 90, 94, 123, 126, 129; Individual: Psalms 3, 4, 5, 7, 9-10, 13, 14, 17, 22, 25, 26, 27*, 28, 31, 36*, 39, 40:12-17, 41, 42-43, 52*, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 59, 61, 64, 70, 71, 77, 86, 89*, 120, 139, 141, 142)

Lament psalms express distress, grief, or an urgent plea for God's intervention. They reveal authentic human emotion in times of trouble, redirecting the worshiper back to reliance on God's faithfulness. Example: Psalm 13, where the psalmist asks, "How long, O LORD? Will You forget me forever?". Laments shift from suffering and questioning to confidence in God's deliverance, underscoring trust even in sorrow.

3. Thanksgiving Psalms (Community Thanksgiving Psalms - 65*, 67*, 75, 107, 124, 136; Individual Thanksgiving Hymns - 18, 21, 30, 32*, 34, 40:1-11, 66:13-20, 92, 108*, 116, 118, 138; Specialized Thanksgiving Psalms - Salvation History - 8*, 105-106, 135, 136, and Songs of Trust - 11, 16, 23, 27*, 62, 63, 91, 121, 125, 131)

These psalms convey gratitude for God's deliverance, blessings, and answered prayers. They declare the psalmist's devotion in response to divine intervention and invite the community to join in giving thanks. Example Psalm 107 *Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!* Thanksgiving psalms commemorate specific acts of salvation or provision while glorifying God's ongoing faithfulness.

4. Royal or Enthronement Psalms (2, 18, 20, 21, 29, 45, 47, 72, 93, 95*, 96, 97, 98, 99, 101, 110, 144) Royal psalms describe the king from Israel's perspective and often highlight God's covenant with David's line. They reflect earthly kingship while pointing to the ultimate reign of God. Some are also linked with coronation rites or national celebrations.

- Example: Psalm 2 urges nations to serve the LORD and recognize His Anointed One.
- Historically, these were likely used in royal processions or priestly blessings upon the king.

5. Wisdom Psalms (1, 19, 36, 37, 49, 73, 112, 127, 128, 133)

Wisdom psalms resemble other Hebrew wisdom literature (e.g., Proverbs). They contrast righteousness and wickedness, instructing readers to follow the law of the LORD for blessing and long life. Example: Psalm 1 opens with, "Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the way of sinners..."

- These psalms motivate moral living and obedient faith, portraying God's will as the pathway to true wisdom.

6. Messianic Psalms (2, 16, 22, 23, 24, 45, 68, 110)

Messianic psalms foreshadow a future anointed king and Savior - Jesus. These texts often depict suffering, victory, and eternal rulership, pointing to a fulfillment beyond an immediate historical context. Referenced frequently in the New Testament, they find ultimate fulfillment in Christ's redemptive work. Example: Psalm 22 quoted in the New Testament regarding the crucifixion ("My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?"). Psalm 110 features the divine declaration, "Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet", foreshadowing a greater King-Priest. Psalm 2: Speaks of the Lord's anointed king and the nations' rebellion. Psalm 24: Celebrates the coming of the King of Glory. Psalm 45: A royal wedding psalm that is interpreted as a depiction of the Messiah. Psalm 68: Contains imagery of victory and ascension, linked to Christ. Psalm 110: Declares the Messiah as a priest and king, often cited in the New Testament.

7. Imprecatory Psalms (5, 10, 11, 12, 28, 35, 55, 58, 69, 70, 79, 83, 109, 129, 137, 140)

Imprecatory psalms are pleas for divine justice against the wicked. They express a passionate desire for God to act righteously by confronting evil, reflecting the psalmist's conviction that God alone brings vengeance. Example: Psalm 69, containing direct appeals against those who oppose the psalmist's community and God's law. While the language can sound harsh, these psalms ultimately rest on God's perfect judgment rather than personal vindictiveness.

8. Penitential Psalms (32, 38, 39, 51, 130)

Penitential psalms articulate sorrow for sin and beg God for mercy. They underscore the themes of repentance, confession, and restoration in right relationship with the LORD.

- Example: Psalm 51 David's confession after his sin with Bathsheba ("Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your loving devotion..."). These psalms reveal a depth of contrition paired with an unwavering confidence that God forgives those who repent.

9. Songs of Ascent Psalms 120-134 bear the title "A Song of Ascents" in many Bible

translations. These were likely sung by worshipers journeying to Jerusalem for festivals, symbolically "ascending" to the holy city and, by extension, drawing near the LORD.

Example Psalm 121 "I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?"

They encourage communal unity and devotion, reflecting joyful anticipation of worship at the temple.

10. Temple Liturgies (15, 24, 68*, 82, 95*, 115, 134) Temple liturgies in the Psalms are integral to Jewish worship and reflect various aspects of religious life. Here are key examples:

Psalms Used in Temple Worship: Psalms 24: Celebrates the entrance of the King of Glory, often associated with the Ark of the Covenant. Psalms 47: A royal psalm that proclaims God's sovereignty and is suitable for liturgical use during festivals. Psalms 68: Describes God's triumph and is traditionally recited during the procession of the Ark. Psalms 81: Calls for a festival celebration, emphasizing communal worship and remembrance of God's deliverance. Psalms 113-118: Known as the Hallel, these psalms are recited during Jewish festivals, particularly Passover.