

Grace Lutheran Church

12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 16, 2026

“Then Jesus answered her,
‘Woman, great is your faith! Let
it be done for you as you wish.’”

~ Matthew 9:12



Service of Holy Communion

12th Sunday after Pentecost

() the assembly may stand*
Congregation speaks responses in bold

PRESERVICE

WELCOME

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** *(Presiding Minister)*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

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

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

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.**

***GATHERING HYMN ELW 434 "Jesus Shall Reign"**

***GREETING** *(Presiding Minister)*

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 ELW PG. 138 (*Presiding Minister*)

***PRAYER OF THE DAY** (*Presiding Minister*)

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.

A reading from Isaiah.

¹ Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come
and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it
and hold fast my covenant—

⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar,
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

⁸ Thus says the Lord God,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel:
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 67

The psalm for the day is spoken responsively.

¹ May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

² **Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.**

³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁴ **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations on earth.**

⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁶ **The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.**

⁷ May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

SECOND READING: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.

A reading from Romans.

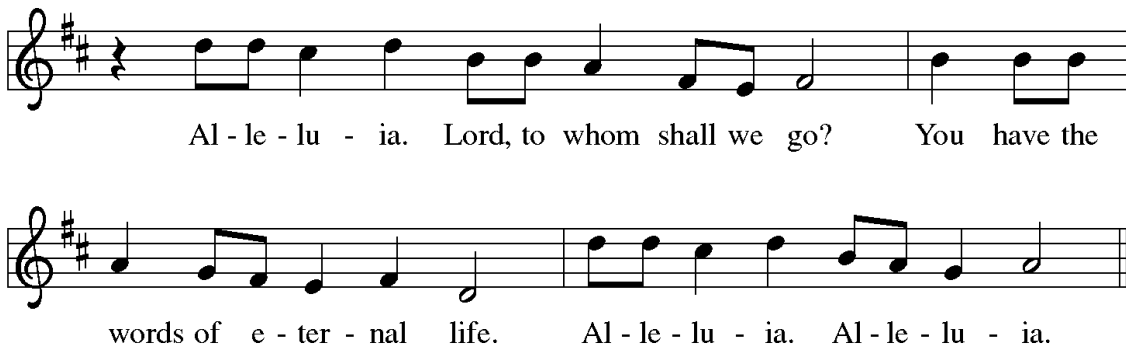
[Paul writes:] ¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a} God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. ²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

FAMILY MESSAGE Anne Corti Director of Youth & Family Ministries

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW PG. 142**



***GOSPEL: Matthew 15:21-28**

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 15th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶ He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷ She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Jennifer S. Michael

***HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 612 "Healer of Our Every Ill"**

CREED (*Assisting Minister*)

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith...

**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 (*Assisting Minister*)

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

For believers around the world who stream to your holy mountain, that all be united in faith and harmony in the body of Christ. Let your church on earth be a witness to the beloved community of your heavenly kingdom.

In your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

For your wondrous creation, that it thrives and flourishes as you intend. Raise up wise stewards to defend the natural world against carelessness and destruction. Safeguard endangered species and their habitats.

In your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

For the nations of the world and all in authority, that they heed the cry of the outcast and ensure care for the most vulnerable. Give wisdom to leaders of countries, congregations, and communities, that they lead and serve justly.

In your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

For all who are lonely, grieving, or struggling with chronic pain, that they find comfort, community, and hope. Send relief to all who struggle with illness of any kind especially...Kipp and his family, Kathy. We also pray for those we name aloud now or those we name silently in our hearts.

A brief moment of private petitions is observed.

In your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

For the saints before us whose work is done, that their faithful example continues to direct your church. May their witness remind us that your gifts and calling are irrevocable, whether in life or death.

In your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE (*Presiding Minister*)

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING ANTHEM "Put Your Hand in the Hand" STS Trio
by Gene MacLellan

***OFFERING PRAYER** (*Assisting Minister*)

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

***DIALOGUE** (*Presiding Minister*)

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.

***PREFACE** (*Presiding Minister*)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY ELW PG. 144 "Holy, Holy, Holy"**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE *(Presiding Minister-spoken)*

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

***LORD'S PRAYER** *(Assisting Minister)*

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

**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.**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION** *(Presiding Minister)*

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

At Grace Lutheran, believing in Jesus Christ, we invite ALL to the sacrament of Holy Communion. Receive the host and then take one of the small cups. Wine is the outer rings and grape juice is the inner ring. Gluten-free wafers are available. Once communion is received, follow direction of the ushers to return to your pew leaving cups in bowls provided.

The assembly is seated

LAMB OF GOD ELW PG. 146

COMMUNION HYMN ELW 802 "Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus"

See insert for music

arr. Jim Sawyers

***POST COMMUNION BLESSING** *(Presiding Minister)*

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** *(Assisting Minister)*

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***BENEDICTION** *(Presiding Minister)*

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 ELW 864**

"Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven"

***DISMISSAL** *(Assisting Minister)*

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Prayer List – Week of August 16, 2026

We pray for those in need of Christ's healing touch

NEW TO OUR PRAYER LIST

08/16 – Kathy Jenkins, Kipp VanPay and his family

08/09 - Rich Leum, Johnny Leum, The Family of Tommy Threm, Joe Watson
Doug Gould, Dylan Laliberte (Gould), Linda Freshcorn (Freshcorn),
Lisa Hamilton

ONGOING MEMBER CONCERNS

Bert Crouthamel	Troy Brueggemeier
Fred Ullrich	Yvonne Daily
Carol Gutcher	Thelma Rodriguez
Rose Kuhns	Betty Freshcorn
Tim Smith	Dave Davies
Richard Andree	Mike Campbell
Brenda Gerding	Kathy Crouthamel
Jerralynne Duncan	Sandra Taylor
Dora Hepner	Kathy Jenkins
The Katt/Watson Family	Ralph Hepner
Christine Vickers	Bonnie Krafft

OTHER PRAYER CONCERNS

Anita Kennebeck (Erickson)	David Griffin (Threm)
Jeanette Wolfe (Lindgren)	Miles Brown (Vickers)
Ashley Wilson (Crosby)	Steve Mateus (Albisu)
Bob Pihl (Missbach)	Ed Hoornstra (Hoornstra)
Richard Taylor	Ann Maurer (Maurer)
Shane Rose (Armstrong)	Chris Adams (Castor)
Karen Brown & Family (Perrone)	Jahn VandePutte (Cheek)
Joseph Ciccarello (Colegrove)	Stephanie Williams (Hall)
Larry Krauss (Colegrove)	Scott Eidam
Leila Ritari	Ian (Hills)
Judy Zimmerman, (Milo)	James DeBoer (Davies)
Kathy Dowsett (Milo)	Brenda Giroux (Laettner)
Pr. Wayne Gollenberg (Milo)	Layla Lebovic (Heckley)
Jim Laughner (Davies)	Mary Funk
Fred Bondzeit (Davies)	Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

We welcome you to Grace Lutheran Church!



Grace is a place of faith, hope and healing for ALL.

*We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced,
LGBTQ+, rich, poor, black, brown or white.*

*We extend a special welcome to crying newborns, squirming children,
and frazzled moms and dads.*

*We welcome you if you can sing like Andrea Bocelli or like some of us,
who can't carry a note in a bucket.*

You're welcome here if you're "just browsing", just woke up or just got out of jail.

*We don't care if you're more Lutheran than Martin Luther,
or haven't been in church since little Joey's Baptism.*

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*We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet,  
and to teenagers who are growing up too fast.*

*We welcome starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians and junk-food eaters.*

*We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted.*

*We welcome you if you're having problems, down in the dumps  
or if you don't like "organized religion",  
we've been there too.*

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We offer a special welcome to those who are left-wing, right-wing, or middle of the road.

*If you are here only because you are visiting grandma
and she wanted you to go to church with her, we welcome you.*

We welcome those who are inked, pierced or both.

We welcome those in flip flops or three-piece suits.

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*We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now.*

*We welcome vacationers, snow-birds, year-rounders, seekers, doubters....and you!*

*We welcome you to Grace Lutheran Church,  
because we are a "house for all sinners and saints",*

*Gathered by the grace of God.*

***Grace is a place of faith, hope and healing for ALL.***

**WORSHIP LEADERS – August 16, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.**

|                      |                                   |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| PRESIDING MINISTER   | Rev. Jennifer S. Michael          |
| ASSISTING MINISTER   | Evan Bohlmann                     |
| COMMUNION ASSISTANTS | Linda Gravatt, Susan Andre        |
| READER               | Chad Bohlmann                     |
| HEAD USHER           | Fred Borchers                     |
| USHERS               | Bob Barry, Dave Davies, Juan Prat |
| GREETERS             | Kim Barry, David Vickers          |
| ALTAR GUILD          | Liz Planz, Jan Schultz            |
| REFRESHMENTS         | Tom & Judy Jackman, Juan Prat     |
| VIDEO/CAMERA         | Rob Barry                         |
| SOUND                | Steve Kohls                       |
| POWERPOINT           | Lori Ludick                       |

*Connecting People to People, People to Christ,  
and People to their role in the world*

**The People of Grace, Ministers**

**Rev. Pedro Suarez, Bishop of the Florida/Bahamas Synod**

|                                                 |                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Rev. Jennifer S. Michael, Pastor                | <a href="mailto:pastorjmmichael@gracelutherantampa.org">pastorjmmichael@gracelutherantampa.org</a> |
| Lisa Katt, Director of Music                    | <a href="mailto:lisak@gracelutherantampa.org">lisak@gracelutherantampa.org</a>                     |
| Jim Sawyers, Organist                           | <a href="mailto:jims@gracelutherantampa.org">jims@gracelutherantampa.org</a>                       |
| Anne Corti, Director of Youth & Family Ministry | <a href="mailto:annec@gracelutherantampa.org">annec@gracelutherantampa.org</a>                     |
| Nadine Anderson, Synod Parish Deacon            | <a href="mailto:nkatx@aol.com">nkatx@aol.com</a>                                                   |

**OFFICE STAFF:**

|                                        |                                                                                            |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Maggie Gould, Office Manager           | <a href="mailto:maggiiek@gracelutherantampa.org">maggiiek@gracelutherantampa.org</a>       |
| Meagan Orbin, Administrative Assistant | <a href="mailto:Officeadmin@gracelutherantampa.org">Officeadmin@gracelutherantampa.org</a> |
| Fred Borchers, Custodian               |                                                                                            |

**NURSERY:** Ruth Sawyers, Kahlie McCarty, Erin Dean

**STEPHEN MINISTRY LEADERS:** Mickey Castor, Ruth Anderson, Karen Jankowski,  
Janet Wise

*Stephen Ministry Congregation*



**Rev. Jennifer S. Michael, Pastor - 813-599-2390**

3714 W. Linebaugh Avenue, Tampa, Florida 33618

Mailing address: P.O. Box 274242 Tampa Florida 33688-4242

813-961-8747 – [www.gracetampa.org](http://www.gracetampa.org) / FB-Grace Lutheran Tampa

Church office hours 9 a.m.-noon, 1:00 p.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday