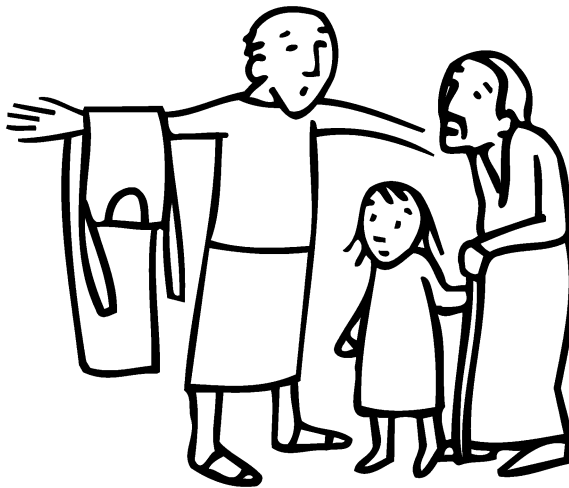


Grace Lutheran Church
20th Sunday after Pentecost

October 11, 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

20th Sunday *after* Pentecost

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

PRELUDE

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 SONG "Living Hope"**

by Brian Johnson and Phil Wickham

Verse 1

How great the chasm that lay between us.
How high the mountain I could not climb.
In desperation I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night.
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul.
The work is finished, the end is written.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Verse 2

Who could imagine so great a mercy?
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame.
The cross has spoken; I am forgiven.
The King of kings calls me His own.
Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Chorus 1

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free!
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me!
You have broken every chain.
There's salvation in Your name.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Verse 3

Then came the morning that sealed the promise,
Your buried body began to breathe.
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me.
Jesus, Yours is the victory!

Chorus 2

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free!

Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me!

You have broken every chain.

There's salvation in Your name.

Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Oh God, You are my living hope.

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***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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

ELW PG. 140-141

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

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and
poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet.
Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us
into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our
Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 25:1-9

A reading from Isaiah.

¹ O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you; I will praise your name,
for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and
sure. ² For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the
palace of foreigners is a city no more; it will never be rebuilt.

³ Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will
fear you. ⁴ For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the
needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from
the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,

⁵ the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat

with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. ⁶ On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. ⁷ And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the covering that is spread over all nations; ⁸ he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

⁹ It will be said on that day, "See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM ANTHEM: Psalm 23:

Surely Goodness, Surely Mercy by Shane Barnard United Adoration

SECOND READING: **Philippians 4:1-9**

A reading from Philippians.

¹ My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. ² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life. ⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

Elementary children are welcome to join our teachers in Hillmer Chapel for a short, fun-filled lesson on the Gospel text. The children will exit as a group after Family Message and return as a group during the Peace. Parents are always welcome to join.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW PG. 142**

***GOSPEL: Matthew 22:1-14**

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

Glorify to you, O Lord.

¹ Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests. ¹¹ "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Jennifer S. Michael

***SONG OF THE DAY "All Belong Here"**

By Hannah Rand and Lenora Rand

Verse 1

**When you're not sure who you really are
When all you feel is the shape of your scars
And you have more wounds than you can count
Open your eyes look all around
You aren't alone this is your home**

Chorus

**Come and remember who you are here
Do this to remember who I am
Come and remember you belong here
All belong here**

Verse 2

**When you don't know how to forgive
When locked doors seem like the only way to live
And you've got more questions than you can count
Open your eyes look all around
You aren't alone this is your home**

Chorus

**Come and remember who you are here
Do this to remember who I am
Come and remember you belong here
All belong here**

Bridge

**At this table come as you are
Broken and bleeding's ok
At this table eat and be filled
Come and drink in this grace**

Interlude

Ooo ooo ooo ooo ooo

Bridge

**At this table come as you are
Broken and bleeding's ok
At this table eat and be filled
Come and drink in this grace**

Chorus

**Come and remember who you are here
Do this to remember who I am
Come and remember you belong here
All belong here**

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CREED *(Assisting Minister)*

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

**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 *(Assisting Minister)*

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

Holy God, we remember your promise of unity on your holy mountain. Empower the World Council of Churches and all those working across religious difference, that the world may know your undivided love. Receive our prayer, O Lord. **Your mercy is great.**

We remember your promise of green pastures and quiet waters. Preserve all places of natural beauty and restore our relationship with the land. Receive our prayer, O Lord. **Your mercy is great.**

We remember your promise to not abandon us amid storm and disaster. Renew all communities facing disasters and give your courage to those leading relief efforts. Receive our prayer, O Lord. **Your mercy is great.**

We remember your promise to wipe away every tear. Heal and console all who are sick or suffering, especially ...Jonathan, Darlene, Patrick, Joyce & her Family. 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.

Receive our prayer, O Lord. **Your mercy is great.**

We remember your promise to swallow up death forever. We give thanks for those who have gone before us. Receive our prayer, O Lord. **Your mercy is great.**

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

“House of the Lord” by Phil Wickham
United Adoration

***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*) *Sung responsively*

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*)

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.

*Believing in Jesus Christ, we invite ALL to the sacrament of Holy Communion.
Receive the host, then take one of the small cups. Wine is the outer rings
and grape juice is the inner rings. Gluten-free wafers are available. Follow
the directions of the ushers to return to your pew leaving cups in bowls
provided.*

The assembly is seated

LAMB OF GOD ELW PG. 146

COMMUNION SONG "No Longer Slaves" BY BETHEL MUSIC

Verse 1

**You unravel me with a melody.
You surround me with a song
Of deliverance from my enemies,
Till all my fears are gone.**

Chorus

**I'm no longer a slave to fear;
I am a child of God.
I'm no longer a slave to fear;
I am a child of God.**

Verse 2

**From my Mother's womb
You have chosen me;
Love has called my name.
I've been born again into Your family;
Your blood flows through my veins.**

Chorus

**I'm no longer a slave to fear;
I am a child of God.
I'm no longer a slave to fear;
I am a child of God.
(repeat)**

Bridge

**You split the sea so I could walk right through it.
My fears were drowned in perfect love.
You rescued me so I could stand and sing:
I am a child of God.
(repeat)
I am a child of God!**

Chorus

**I'm no longer a slave to fear;
I am a child of God.
I'm no longer a slave to fear;
I am a child of God.**

***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 SONG** "Praise" by Elevation Worship

Intro - CLAP ALONG!

**Let everything
That has breath
Praise the Lord,
Praise the Lord!**

Verse 1

**I'll praise in the valley,
Praise on the mountain.
I'll praise when I'm sure,
Praise when I'm doubting.
I'll praise when outnumbered,
Praise when surrounded,
'Cause praise is the water
My enemies drown in.
As long as I'm breathing,
I've got a reason to**

Chorus (half)

**Praise__ the Lord,
oh, my soul!
Praise__ the Lord,
oh, my soul!**

Verse 2

**I'll praise when I feel it
And I'll praise when I don't.
I'll praise 'cause I know
You're still in control.
'Cause my praise is a weapon,
It's more than a sound.
My praise is the shout
That brings Jericho down.
As long as I'm breathing,
I've got a reason to**

Chorus (full)

**Praise__ the Lord,
oh, my soul!
Praise__ the Lord,
oh, my soul!
I won't be quiet,
My God is alive.
How could I keep it inside?
Praise__ the Lord,
oh, my soul!**

Bridge

**I'll praise 'cause You're sovereign,
Praise 'cause You reign.
Praise 'cause You rose and defeated the grave.
I'll praise 'cause You're faithful,
Praise 'cause You're true.
Praise 'cause there's nobody greater than You.**

Chorus (extended)

**Praise__ the Lord,
oh, my soul!
Praise__ the Lord,
oh, my soul!
I won't be quiet,
My God is alive.
How could I keep it inside?
I won't be quiet,
My God is alive.
How could I keep it inside?
I won't be quiet,
My God is alive.
How could I keep it inside?
Praise__ the Lord,
oh, my soul!**

Ending

**Let everything
That has breath
Praise the Lord,
Praise the Lord!
(REPEAT)**

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

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP LEADERS – October 11, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.

PRESIDING MINISTER	Rev. Jennifer S. Michael
ASSISTING MINISTER	Nadine Anderson
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Roz Kulik, Carole Priede
READER	Bob Barry
HEAD USHER	Fred Borchers
USHERS	
DEPOSITOR	Alice Deal
ALTAR GUILD	Mary Threm, Barb Ewanowski
REFRESHMENTS	Tom & Judy Jackman, Charlotte Hunter
VIDEO/CAMERA	Rob Barry
SOUND	Barb Toepke
POWERPOINT	

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

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Stephen Ministry Congregation



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