GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH (Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod) LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

September 24, 2017

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PRAYER UPON ENTERING CHURCH

Almighty God, Merciful Father, Your thoughts and Your ways are not my thoughts and ways. Though I do not deserve Your mercy and grace You nevertheless have had mercy on me and by Your grace have given me forgiveness of my sins and the hope of everlasting life. You do not give me what I deserve, instead You lavish me with Your grace. By the power of the Holy Spirit lead and guide me in the ways You would have me go for the purposes You have planned. In Jesus' name. Amen

WELCOME

Welcome to Grace! It is good for you to be here this morning to begin Your week strengthened by God's Word. From the Old Testament reading for today we hear these words, "Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near." As we gather for this Service we are reminded of our Lord's promise that where two or three are gathered in His name, there He is in their midst. Through Word and Sacrament He is with us giving us His gifts as he has promised. If you have any questions about Grace Congregation please speak with our Pastor.

We ask that everyone here this morning fill out an attendance registration card found at each pew and return it to an Usher as the Offering is collected. Children are welcome in our Service and will be invited to come forward for a Children's Message. Parents may accompany them. Restrooms are located on the lower level of this building or across the bridge on this floor level before entering the fellowship hall. A nursery for infants and toddlers is located downstairs for anyone who has need.

HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion will be celebrated in the 8:15 Service today. In this sacrament we receive Christ's very body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. Those who are not members of Grace are asked to speak with our Pastor before partaking of this sacrament so that the unity of faith might be established. Thank you for honoring this request.

AS WE GATHER

Our reward for being called to work in God's kingdom does not change based on how long we have been in our Lord's service, nor does it mean that we will be blessed with a certain level of earthly prosperity. It does not work that way. After all, we are saved by grace through faith, not by works, our works anyway. Isaiah's call for the wicked and unrighteous to return to the Lord shows God's immense compassion for all people, no matter when they return to Him. God's ways are not our ways, yet we continue to work in His kingdom as His unworthy disciples, made worthy only by the work of Jesus for us. We work until that day He calls us to Himself when we die. St. Paul struggled with a desire to depart and be with Christ and a desire to go on living and laboring for the Lord. Death and life contend, but Paul knows life will win. He knows Jesus will return, raise the dead, and dwell forever with those who die believing in Him and His work for them.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are given today to the glory of God and the beautification of His House by the Fastenau Family in memory of Dennis Fastenau and in thanksgiving for blessings the family has received.

THOSE WHO SERVE

Pastor:		Rev. James C. Walter
Director of Parish Music	c :	Charles Russell
Piano Accompanist:		Carly Golladay
Secretary:		Pat Funk
Early Childhood Center Director:		Colleen Moorman
Acolyte:	(8:15)	Johnna Litwa
Cantor:	(8:15)	Chuck Fandrei
Communion Assistant:	(8:15)	Gary Proud
Ushers:	(8:15)	John Ketcher, Jim Marvin
		Claude Riggin
Greeters:	(8:15)	Florence Marvin
Altar Guild:	(8:15)	Angie Proud, Debbie Craig, Mildred Wilkins
Acolyte:	(10:45)	Elias Found
Cantor:	(10:45)	Ron Krueger
Ushers:	(10:45)	Charlie Buchanan, Bryan Gipson
		David Roberts
Greeters:	(10:45)	Abby, Charlie and Annalia Buchanan
Altar Guild:	(10:45)	Becky and Ken Ross
Coffee Hosts:]	Paulette Goldsby and Doris and Carroll Holzhauer
Altar Guild:	(Wed. evening	Suzanne Raddle, Wilma Richter
Nursery Attendant:		Mary Ann Dyer

THE APPOINTED READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, October 1st, The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost, are: The Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32, The Epistle Reading: Philippians 2:1-4, 14-18, and The Holy Gospel: Matthew 21:23-27.

Grace Lutheran Church P. O. Box 250769, Little Rock, AR 72225

www.gracelutheranlr.org
Telephone Number: 501-663-3631

THE ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE for THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Prelude

Salvation unto Us Has Come ~ Helmut Walcha

Lighting of the Chancel Candles

Ringing of the Church Bell

Opening Hymn: Salvation unto Us Has Come

LSB 555 sts. 1-5

Confession and Absolution

Stand

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

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen

Exhortation

Psalm 124:8: Psalm 130:3-4: Luke 18:13

- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C who made heaven and earth.
- P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- **©** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, [and] call upon Him in prayer and praise, [and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar,] let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession of Sins

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen

Absolution John 20:19–23

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Psalm 27:1–9 (antiphon: v. 4a)

C Amen

Service of the Word

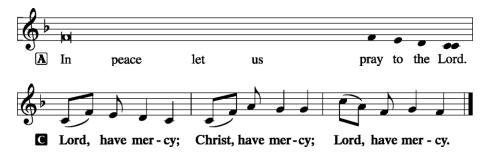
Psalm

P One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:

- that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life.
- P The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
- The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
- When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh,
- my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.
- P Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;
- though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.

- P One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:
- that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.
- P For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;
- he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.
- And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;
- **C** I will sing and make melody to the LORD.
- P Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;
- **C** be gracious to me and answer me!
- P You have said, "Seek my face."
- My heart says to you,
 "Your face, LORD, do I seek."
- P Hide not your face from me.
 Turn not your servant away in anger,
- O you who have been my help. Cast me not off; forsake me not, O God of my salvation!
- Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen
- P One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:
- that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life.

Kyrie Mark 10:47



A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



A Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.



Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- Let us pray.

 Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:6-9

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Gradual *Ps. 34:9, 19, alt.*



Fear the LORD, | you his saints,*
for those who fear him lack | nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the | righteous,*
but the LORD delivers him out | of them all.

Epistle

Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

Eph. 2:8



By grace you have been | saved through faith. *
And this is not your own doing; it is the | gift of God.



Holy Gospel Matthew 20:1–16

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twentieth chapter.
- **G** Glory to You, O Lord.

The Reading of the Holy Gospel.

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed (8:15)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

> And in one Lord Jesus Christ. the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made: who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man: and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life + of the world to come. Amen

Apostles' Creed (10:45)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen

Sit

Children's Message

Sermon Hymn: Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling

LSB 827

Sermon Matthew 20:1–16

"It is Only Fair...Or is It?"

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Each petition ends with the following:

- **P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude with the following:

- P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- **C** Amen

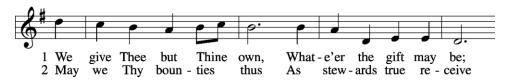
Sit

Offering

Stand

Offertory: We Give Thee But Thine Own

LSB 781





6 And we believe Thy Word,
Though dim our faith may be:
Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord,
We do it unto Thee.

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10:45 service continues on page 16

Service of the Sacrament (8:15)

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136

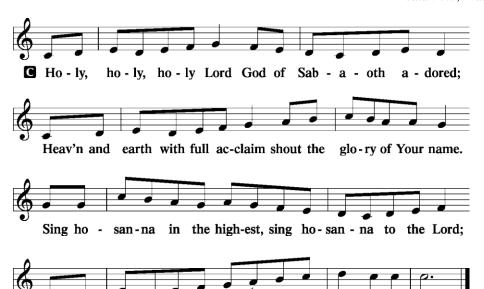
- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.

Tru - lv

- **C** We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **G** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3: Matthew 21:9



in the name of the Lord!

blest is He who comes

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer Matthew 6:9–13

C 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

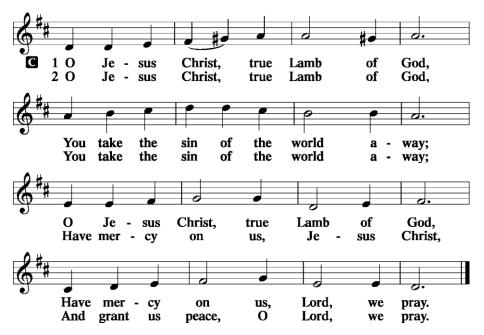
The Words of Our Lord

- Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini John 20:19

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

Agnus Dei John 1:29



Sit

Distribution

Communion Instructions: The Pastor invites the communicants, those who are able, to kneel and then distributes the host which may be received into the hand or the mouth. The Elder distributes the individual cups. The communicants are asked to hold their cups until the Pastor says, "Take and drink."

Hymn: Jesus Christ, Our Blessed SaviorLSB 627Hymn: What Wondrous Love Is ThisLSB 543Hymn: For Me to Live Is JesusLSB 742

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29–32



Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

Benedicamus Psalm 103:1

- **P** Let us bless the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift His countenance upon you and H give you peace.

C Amen

Closing Hymn: Salvation unto Us Has Come

LSB 555 sts. 6-10

Postlude

Salvation unto Us Has Come, BWV 638 ~ J.S. Bach

+ + +

Service Concludes (10:45)

Lord's Prayer Matthew 6:9–13

- **P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- C 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

Collect

- P Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that, by patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- **C** Amen

Benediction

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.

 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

 The Lord lift His countenance upon you and H give you peace.
- G Amen

Closing Hymn: Salvation unto Us Has Come

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Acknowledgments

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THIS WEEK AT GRACE

SUNDAY: 8:15 a.m. – Divine Service with Holy Communion

Coffee and Fellowship in the Parlor

9:45 a.m. – Sunday School downstairs in Parker Hall

9:45 a.m. – Junior and Senior High classes downstairs in the church 9:45 a.m. – Pastor Walter's Bible Class upstairs in Parker Hall

10:45 a.m. – Divine Service

MON - FRI: 7:30 a.m. – Early Childhood Development Center (ECDC)

TUESDAY: 5:30 p.m. – Handbell Choir

6:30 p.m. - Adult Choir

6:30 p.m. – Board of Elders

WEDNESDAY: 6:30 a.m. – Men's Bible Study (St. Vincent's)

11:00 a.m. – 8th Grade Confirmation

7:00 p.m. – Mid-Week Service

THURSDAY: 5:15 p.m. – 7th Grade Confirmation

6:00 p.m. – Board of Evangelism

TODAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL "Elijah and the Prophets of Baal" serves as the lesson focus. Just as the true God revealed Himself on the altar of Mount Carmel, so on the cross-shaped altar of Mount Calvary Jesus revealed, once and for all, that He alone is the real God who loves us enough to die for us. Parents could ask, "How did God demonstrate His power on Mount Carmel? How does God reveal Himself to us?"

PASTOR WALTER'S CLASS meets Sunday morning upstairs in the Family Life Center and this week will complete the study of the Book of Acts.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES for children ages 3 years through 6th grade meet in the lower level of the Family Life Center and **JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES** meet in classrooms downstairs in the church.

THE GIDEONS INTERNATIONAL - Mr. B. J. Sams, a representative of The Gideons, will give a presentation following each Service. He will share information about the work of The Gideons in sharing God's Word as they deliver Bibles around the world. A door offering will be taken after each service.

BOARD OF ELDERS will meet on Tuesday, **September 26, at 6:30 p.m.** in the Parlor. Gary Proud is the director. **BOARD OF EVANGELISM** will meet on Thursday, September 28, at 6:00 p.m. Shaun Baker is the director.

7th GRADE CONFIRMATION will begin this Thursday, September 28th, at 5:15 p.m. **8th GRADE CONFIRMATION** will begin this Wednesday, September 27th, at 11:00 a.m.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Allen Deislinger continues his recovering in rehab.

Florence Marvin recovering following an outpatient procedure.

Katie Litwa continues receiving cancer treatments.

Emma Louise Lile is in hospice care at Briarwood Nursing Center.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY AND GOD'S BLESSINGS TO:

Sept. 25 – Laura and Brad Schnackenberg

Sept. 27 – Lyndsey and John Allen

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND GOD'S BLESSINGS TO:

Sept. 15 – Laura Hettman

Sept. 24 – Tim Allaben

Sept. 25 – August Stein

Sept. 26 – Madison Derden

Sept. 27 – Terry Hill

Sept. 28 – Daniel Loyd, Jadelyn Ralston

Sept. 29 – Kaylee Hammond, Robert Middaugh

Sept. 30 – Kiera Klein

LAST WEEK'S STEWARDSHIP – **Attendance:** Sunday 9/17: <u>172</u>. (8:15 – 90 and 10:45 – 82). Mid-Week 9/13: <u>11</u>. **Offerings:** Sunday 9/17: \$8,088.33. Mid-week 9/13: \$395.00. Missions: \$50.00. Memorials: \$390.00. Scholarship Fund: \$40.00.

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP is a great opportunity for getting to know our visitors or someone you haven't met before, but **we need volunteers to serve refreshments**, especially in the **upcoming Sundays in October, November and December.** Check these dates on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board by the Parlor. Please sign up for the Sunday on which you wish to serve. Thank you for volunteering!!

FOOD PANTRY – We continue to receive requests for assistance from our Food Pantry. Thank you for your support. Following are items that need to be replenished in our pantry: Canned **chunky** soups (no creamed soups), canned meats such as tuna, chicken and vienna sausages, and canned fruits. Also needed are individual fruit and pudding cups and individual packages of peanut butter crackers. Thank you for your donations to fill these needs.

THE REFORMATION, a 250 page coffee table—style hardback book, provides a richly illustrated and engagingly written overview of this amazing time of change and renewal in the Christian Church. Concordia Publishing House is offering *The Reformation* for this special pre-order price of \$22.49 which is valid through October 16th. We have a sign-up poster on a table on the bridge for you to place your order. The last day to sign up is Sunday, October 15th. Please make your check payable to Grace Lutheran Church and turn it in to the church office. We will place our order with CPH on Monday morning, October 16th.

REFORMATION CHORAL CONCERT is a tribute marking the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation led by Martin Luther. The concert is Friday, October 13th, 7:15 p.m. at the University of Memphis Rose Theater, 470 University in Memphis, featuring a choir of over 75 voices and instrumentalists performing both Lutheran Hymns and Bach classics. The conductor is Jeremy T. Warner. The concert is free and open to the public. To reserve your seats go on line to <u>reformation.mid-southlcms.org</u>. For more information, see the poster on the bulletin board by the Parlor.

OKTOBERFEST - A traditional German festival featuring great music, food and festivities will be Saturday, October 14th, 10:00 a.m. to 2:p.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church and School in Memphis. Adult tickets are \$10.00 and include German meal and 2 craft beers/beverages. Tickets for ages 4-12 are \$5.00 and include meal and beverage, with free admission for under the age of 4. Purchase your tickets by going on line at reformation.mid-southlcms.org or tickets are available on the event date at the gate. A portion of the proceeds will support International Missions of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

MEMORIALS -

IN MEMORY OF KEVIN DERDEN

TO GRACE BUILDING FUND

By Robert and Christy Basco
Jim and Kathy Ellis, James and Joseph
Jim and Donna Foss
Tom and Linda Fox
Charles and Carol Peters
Mark and Sandy White

THE MOVIE - Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World is being presented by Grace Lutheran Church on Monday, October 30, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. at the UA Breckenridge Theater, 1200 Breckenridge Drive. Watch for more information about getting your tickets.

