

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2023  
MORNING PRAYER  
8:00AM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

P God loves you all the time.

C **All the time God loves you.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

P God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

*Silence for reflection and self examination.*

P Gracious God,

C **have mercy on 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.**

P The almighty and merciful ✠ Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness,  
and remission of all our sins.

C **Amen**



- 1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to me,  
 2 He came from his blest throne, sal - va - tion to be - stow;  
 3 Some - times they strew his way and his sweet prais - es sing;  
 4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?



love to the love - less shown, that they might love - ly be.  
 but men made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would know.  
 re - sound-ing all the day ho - san - nas to their King.  
 He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their sight.



Oh, who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail  
 But, oh, my friend, my friend in - deed, who at my need his  
 Then "Cru - ci - ly!" is all their breath, and for his death they  
 Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these them - selves dis - please, and



flesh and die? My Lord should take frail flesh and die?  
 life did spend; who at my need his life did spend!  
 thirst and cry, and for his death they thirst and cry.  
 'gainst him rise; them - selves dis - please, and 'gainst him rise.

5 They rise, and needs will have  
 my dear Lord made away;  
 a murderer they save,  
 the prince of life they slay.  
 Yet cheerful he to suff'ring goes,  
 that he his foes from thence might free.

6 In life, no house, no home  
 my Lord on earth might have;  
 in death, no friendly tomb  
 but what a stranger gave.  
 What may I say? Heav'n was his home;  
 but mine the tomb wherein he lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing—  
 no story so divine!  
 Never was love, dear King,  
 never was grief like thine.  
 This is my friend, in whose sweet praise  
 I all my days could gladly spend!

## OPENING DIALOG

- P You are the treasured people of the LORD,  
C **a people holy to the LORD our God.**  
P Keep the words of the LORD in your heart; teach them to your children.  
C **Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away,  
when you lie down and when you rise.**  
P One does not live by bread alone,  
C **but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.**

*Please be seated.*

## READINGS

### Philippians 3:4b-14

[Paul writes:] <sup>4b</sup>If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

<sup>7</sup>Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup>More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup>Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

## Matthew 21:33-46

[Jesus said to the people:] <sup>33</sup>“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. <sup>34</sup>When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. <sup>35</sup>But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. <sup>36</sup>Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. <sup>37</sup>Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ <sup>38</sup>But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ <sup>39</sup>So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. <sup>40</sup>Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” <sup>41</sup>They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

<sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;  
this was the Lord’s doing,  
and it is amazing in our eyes’?

<sup>43</sup>Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. <sup>44</sup>The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

<sup>45</sup>When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. <sup>46</sup>They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

P The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

## GOSPEL CANTICLE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

A musical score for a Gospel Canticle response, consisting of four staves of music in a single system. The music is written in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with various note values including quarter, eighth, and half notes, as well as rests. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we  
bow be - fore you. All on earth your scep - ter claim,  
all in heav'n a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your  
vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.

## THE PRAYERS

P Show us your mercy, O Lord,

C **and grant us your salvation.**

P Clothe your ministers with righteousness.

C **Let your people sing with joy.**

P Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

C **for only in you can we live in safety.**

P Lord, keep this nation under your care,

C **and guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

P Let your way be known upon earth;

C **your saving health among all nations.**

P Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten,

C **nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

P Create in us clean hearts, O God,

C **and sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

P Lord, we pray for those who are hurting in mind, body, or spirit,

C **Give them the healing, wholeness, and comfort of your presence.**

P We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected us through the night from all danger and harm. We ask you to preserve and keep us, this day also, from all sin and evil, that in all our thoughts, words, and deeds we may serve and please you. Into your hands we commend our bodies and souls and all that is ours. Let your holy angels have charge of us, that the wicked one have no power over us.

C **Amen**

P The Lord be with you

C **And also with you**

P Lift up your heart

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

## HOLY COMMUNION

P 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.

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in  
his grace.

C **Amen.**

P O God, for our redemption you gave your only Son to suffer death on the  
cross, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power  
of death. Make us die every day to sin so that we may rise to live with  
Christ forever; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one  
God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

P Almighty God bless us, + and direct our days and our deeds in peace.

C **Amen.**

## BLESSING

P The God of glory,† Jesus Christ, name above all names,  
and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN

### *My Lord of Light*

ELW 832

1 My Lord of light who made the worlds, in wis - dom you have spo - ken;  
2 My Lord of love who knew no sin, a sin - ner's death en - dur - ing:  
3 My Lord of life who came in fire when Christ was high as - cend - ed:  
4 My Lord of lords, one Trin - i - ty, to your pure name be giv - en

but those who heard your wise com-mands your ho - ly law have bro - ken.  
for us you wore a crown of thorns, a crown of life se - cur - ing.  
your burn - ing love is now re - leased, our days of fear are end - ed.  
all glo - ry now and ev - er - more, all praise in earth and heav-en.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'My Lord of Light'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble and bass staff. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the remaining lines. The lyrics are written below the notes. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4.

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

## GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, HOCKESSIN DE

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