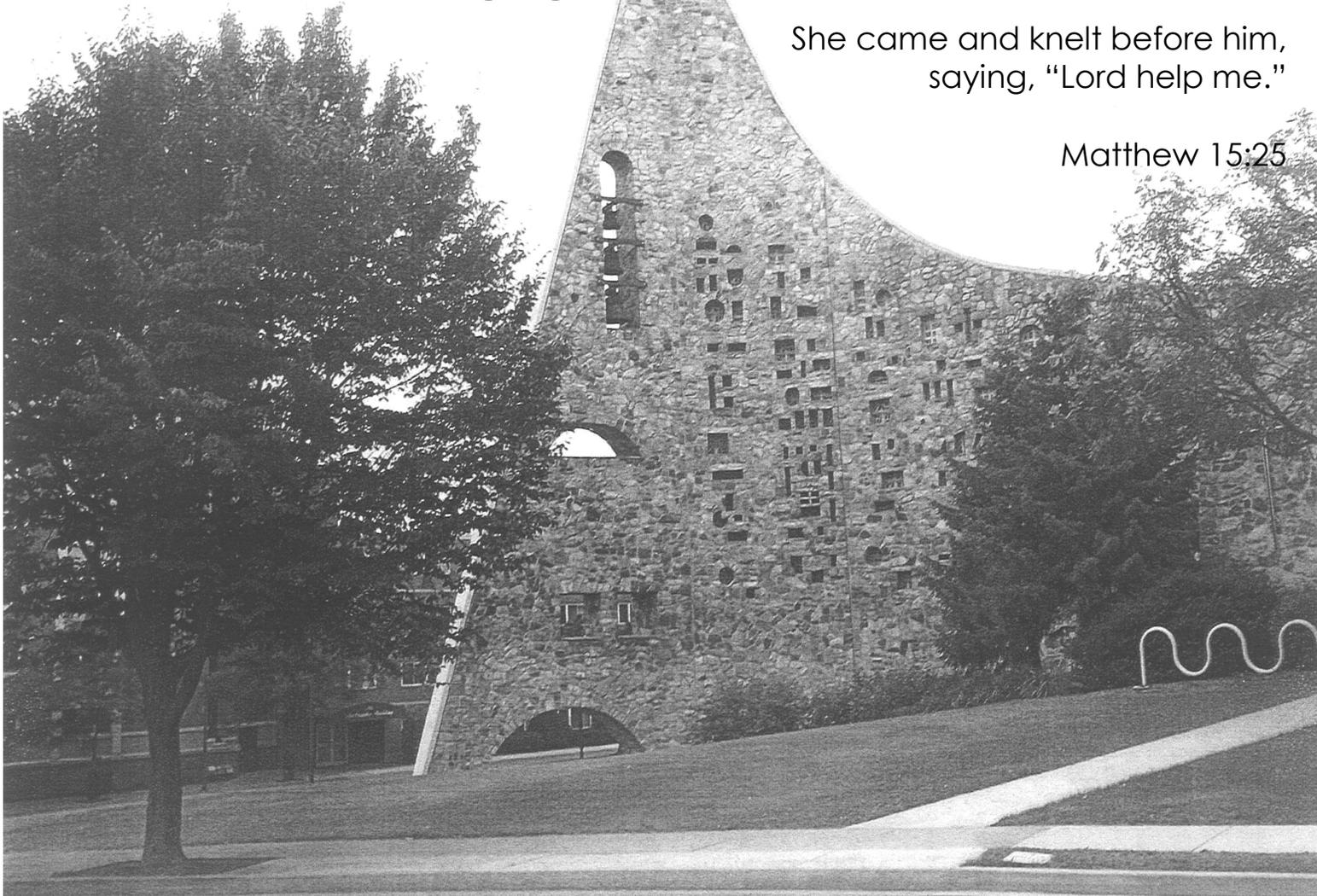


Welcome to **GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

A congregation of the ELCA

She came and knelt before him,
saying, "Lord help me."

Matthew 15:25



SUNDAY, Aug. 16, 2020
11th Sunday after Pentecost

205 S. Garner St., State College, PA 16801

phone: 814-238-2478

email: churchoffice@glcpa.org

web address: www.glcpa.org

10:30 a.m. radio worship service
WRSC 1390 AM and 93.3 FM

A Video Edition will be available at
Grace's website and Facebook page as well.



Our Mission Statement: *"Grace Lutheran Church is energized by the Holy Spirit and nurtured through God's Word and Sacrament to **gather, feed, and send** people in the name of Jesus Christ."*

ABOUT TODAY'S THEME....In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

ABOUT THE LESSONS.... **The First Lesson:** 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. **The Second Lesson:** 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. **The Gospel Lesson:** Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.

Forgot your checks? Not carrying cash? No worries! You can still make an offering. Go to www.glcpa.org and click the word "**GIVE**" on the far right to make an online credit card donation. Thank you!

MILESTONE MINISTRY AT GRACE
At Grace we celebrate milestones. Milestones are designed to connect significant occasions in people's lives with their ongoing journey of faith. A Milestone Moment brings family, friends, and congregations together to mark a special time in their lives and acknowledge and affirm God's presence in their midst. It is a tool to connect home and church in the child and family's faith life. In addition to naming (the occasion), blessing (the person) and gifting (the gift), we send along an "At Home" sheet to reinforce the milestone with caring conversation.

↑ = Please stand as you are able
↓ = Please be seated

Follow Grace on Social Media

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/glcstatecollege

Twitter:
[@GraceLCPA](https://twitter.com/GraceLCPA)

**Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church
State College, Pennsylvania**

PRELUDE *Prelude and Fugue in A Minor*.....Johann Sebastian Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Congregation: 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 we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Kneel/Sit

P: Most merciful God,

C: 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, your only Son our Lord. Amen.

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 your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

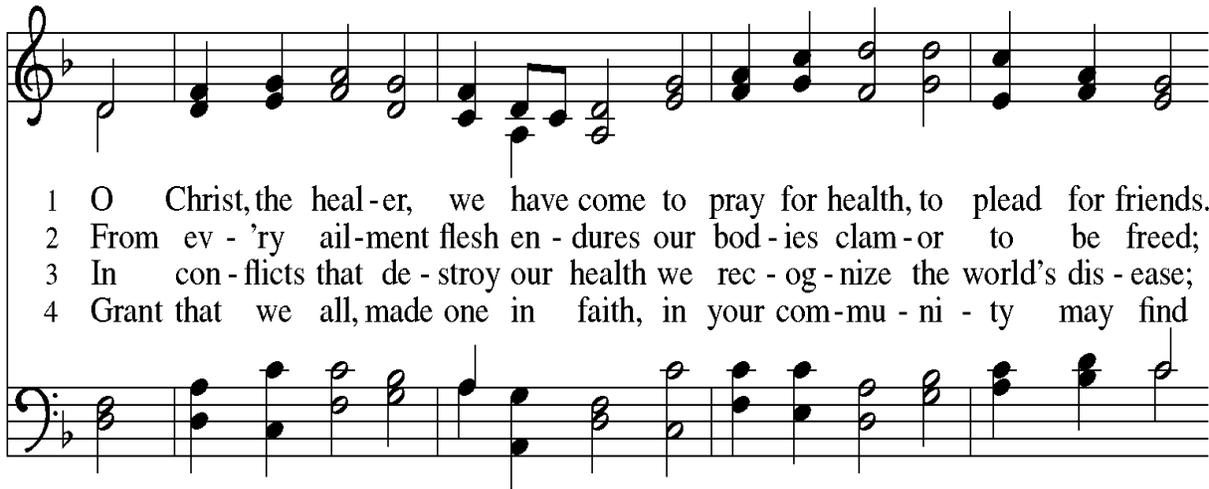
C: Amen.

GATHER

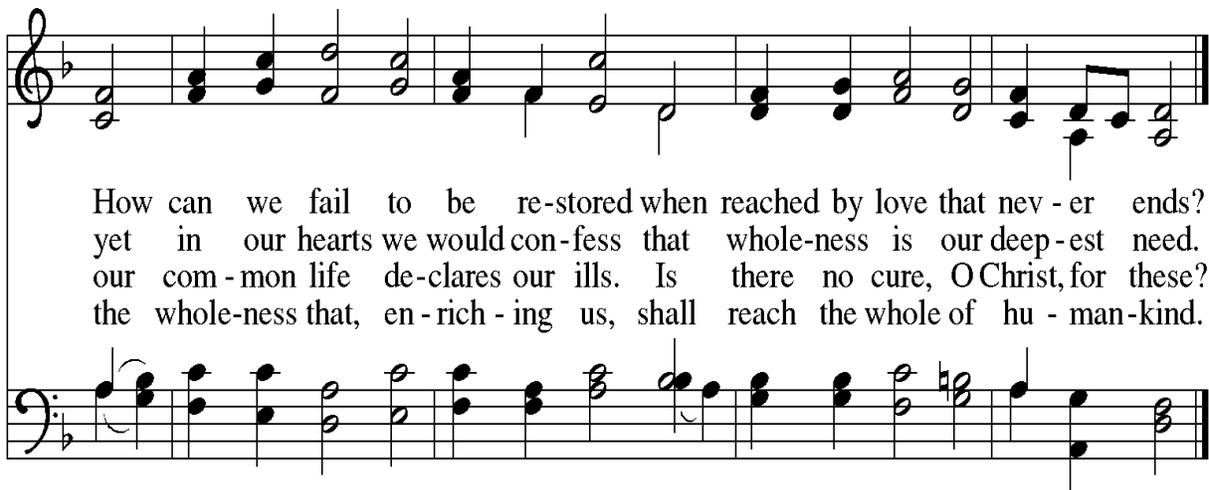
The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

GATHERING HYMN *O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come*.....ELW # 610

O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come



1 O Christ, the heal-er, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends.
2 From ev - 'ry ail-ment flesh en - dures our bod - ies clam - or to be freed;
3 In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we rec - og - nize the world's dis - ease;
4 Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your com - mu - ni - ty may find



How can we fail to be re - stored when reached by love that nev - er ends?
yet in our hearts we would con - fess that whole - ness is our deep - est need.
our com - mon life de - clares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?
the whole - ness that, en - rich - ing us, shall reach the whole of hu - man - kind.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: DISTRESS, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

(ELW p. 149)

Refrain
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray

C: 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.

FEED

*God speaks to us in scripture reading,
and feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST LESSON..... Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

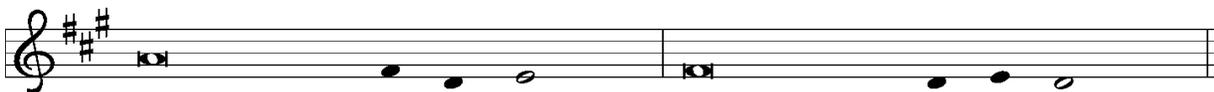
¹Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶And 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—

⁷these 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.

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

PSALM 67 Please sing responsively by selected verses



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

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

C: **Let your way be known | upon earth,
your saving health a- | mong all nations.**

P: Let the peoples praise | you, O God;
let all the | peoples praise you.

C: **Let the nations be glad and | sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the
na- | tions on earth.**

P: The earth has brought | forth its increase;
God, our own | God, has blessed us.

C: **May God | give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth | stand in awe.**

SECOND LESSON.....Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

[Paul writes:] ¹I 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.

²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has im-

prisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

DISCUSSION OF THE LESSONS

HOLY GOSPEL.....Matthew 15:21-28

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 15th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

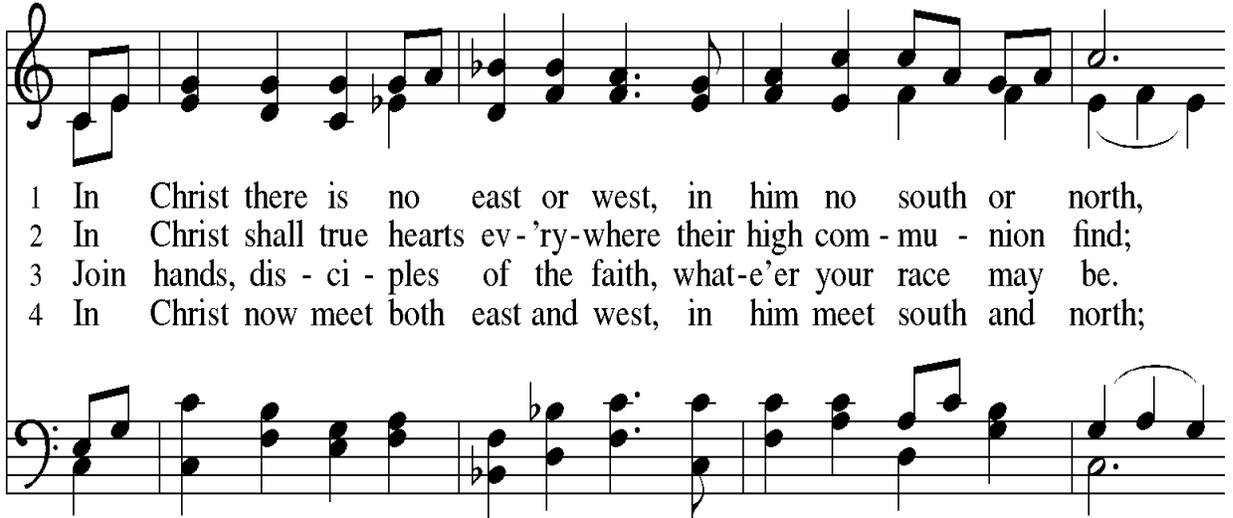
P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

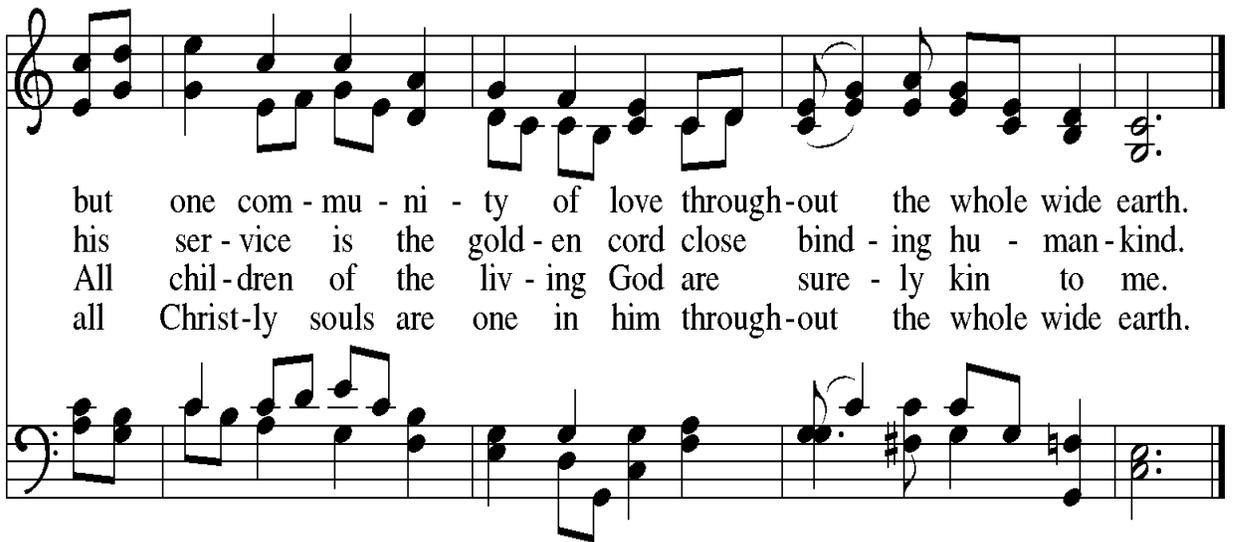
SERMON.....Pastor Schul

HYMN OF THE DAY *In Christ There Is No East*ELW # 650

In Christ There Is No East or West



1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev-'ry-where their high com - mu - nion find;
3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.
4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;



but one com - mu - ni - ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.
his ser - vice is the gold - en cord close bind - ing hu - man - kind.
All chil - dren of the liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.
all Christ - ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

Text: John Oxenham, 1852-1941, alt.

Music: MCKEE, African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866-1949

APOSTLES' CREED

**C: 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 THE CHURCH

Response after each petition:

P: Lord, in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer.

WE SHARE THE LORD'S PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

**P: 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.**

C: Amen.

A PRAYER WHILE WE ARE UNABLE TO CELEBRATE COMMUNION

**P: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, thanks be to you for all
your works and all your gifts. You called creation out of chaos, filled it
with life and light, brought forth grain and vine, and set us as stewards
over your good work.**

You called Israel to be your particular treasure, comforting and correct-
ing them in love. When exile took them from your temple, you did not
abandon them, but accompanied them, blessing them with your Word,
enlivening them with your Spirit, and consoling them with your promise
of return.

When the time had fully come, you sent your Son to be our Immanuel. In the night in which he was handed over, he gave us a Meal to remind and sustain us, to give voice to our praise of you and, by your Spirit, to bring us to your eternal life of joy, peace, and service.

Even while unable to share that Meal together, we receive that life by remembering our Lord Jesus Christ: the isolation of his death; his burial in a borrowed tomb; the wonder of his resurrection; and his promise to be with us always. We remember his birth far from home, his ministry without a place to lay his head; his welcoming of the lonely and excluded; his healing and feeding; his walking, unrecognized, with his dispirited disciples; and his ascension to be present wherever your right hand is active.

Especially in this time of separation, send your Holy Spirit to connect us while we are scattered, to enliven our imagination for service; to proclaim your Gospel in new ways; and to revel in your unexpected blessings. May that Spirit be our companion and advocate until the day we gather once more around your Table, and until the Day when you gather us into your heavenly feast.

We thank you with our lives, holy, mighty, and immortal God, praying in your Spirit, through your Son, with your Church, trusting in your love which no distance of time, space, or mortality can diminish.

C: Amen.

P: 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.

SEND

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give + you peace.

C: Amen.

HYMN *Jesus Shall Reign*.....ELW # 434

Jesus Shall Reign

1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
 2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners
 5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar

ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
 throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -
 love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
 leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -
 hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with

shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
 fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
 Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

P:: Go in peace; serve the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Old Hundredth (Fughetta)*.....Johann Christoph Bach



Today's bulletin is sponsored by the Don & Deana Coine
Dedicated in memory of Deana's parents Herman & Erma Schultz

Today's radio broadcast on WRSC—1390 AM & 93.3 FM is sponsored
By Nora Jane McDonald
dedicated ito the Glory of God

The Rev. Scott E. Schul, Senior Pastor.....pastorschul@glcpa.org
The Rev. Carolyn K. Hetrick, Associate Pastor.....pastorhetrick@glcpa.org
Cindy Fritz, Peter Horn, Faith Formation.....faithformation@glcpa.org
Laurel Sanders, Music & Arts Ministry Coordinator.....lsanders@glcpa.org
Nathan Glocke.....Adult Choir Director
Ryan Ditmer, Pat Lloyd, June Miller,
Adam Smith & Chris Wilhelm.....Pianists/Organists
Joan Kovalchik.....Flute
Anna Carol Buffington.....The Bells of Grace Director

The Rev. P. Stevens Lynn.....Pastor Emeritus

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ELW 650 In Christ There Is No East or West
ELW 434 Jesus Shall Reign

At Pastor Schul's invitation, Rev. Dr. Mark Oldenburg of United Lutheran Seminary wrote "A Prayer While we are Unable to Celebrate Communion" to remind us of the many ways Jesus Christ calls us, feeds us, and is present with us even when we are unable to receive Holy Communion. We are grateful to Rev. Dr. Oldenburg for his gracious permission to use this prayer as part of our liturgy and to reprint it in our bulletin.

PRAYER CONCERNS for Aug. 16, 2020

All Military & Nat'l Guard and all serving in war-torn countries
 Theresa Alves, friend of Brenda Kim
 John Bankert, brother of Carl Bankert
 Deb Baysinger's cousin
 Sylvia Belanger, mother of Joe Belanger
 Debbie Bolthouse
 Phil Bucher
 Melanie Buffington
 Sandy Cassady
 Linda Cataldo, step-mother of Deb Stewart
 Denise Centini
 Nancy Chapa
 Scott Cocolin
 Carol Confer
 Cathy Cutter
 William Davies
 Marie Dallery mother of Sharon Shurgalla
 Damaris Dougherty, daughter of Bob Hampton
 Eti Dvir, mother-in-law of Rachel Wolkenhauer
 Patrick Dugan, grandson of Paul & Kathryn Mackes
 Barbara & John Elliott, relatives of Laurel Sanders
 Steve Ellis
 Craig Evanego

Patti Fisher
 Jane Gamble, sister-in-law of Holly Stoltzfus
 Vicki Garvin
 Michael Grego, friend of the Horn family
 Mary Ann Hanelly and family, friends of Betsy Will
 Shawn Hintosh
 Dick Houtz
 Bob Igoe
 Kate Kempf, daughter of Pete And Angie Kempf & granddaughter of Merle & Kathy McCalips
 Paul & Sandy Larson
 Paul Lloyd, son of Pat Lloyd
 Phil & Shirley Lucas
 Tom Lucas
 Paul Mackes
 Carol Major, friend of Brenda Palmgren
 Danielle McHenry
 Kim Marsh
 Bob Miller, father of Julie Miller
 Marjorie Morgan, daughter of Ruth Kistler
 Matt Mortimore
 Amy Nevling
 Dottie Niklos, mother of Bob Igoe
 Bob O'Donnell and family, upon the death of Bob's father Joseph O'Donnell

Allison Peretin, friend of Elaine Ebeling
 Zach Pfeil, brother of Megan Widener
 Margie Prothro, sister of Ed Jenkins
 Sophia Reutzel
 Dottie Roberts
 Margaret Schrock, mother of Kathy Weimer
 Nancy Schuchert, mother of Joe Schuchert
 Ken Shultz
 Nan Sichler Moerschbacher, friend of Margy Strong Deysher
 William D. Snape Sr., brother of Phyllis Favorite
 Emily & Charlotte Spearly
 Jack Sylves and family and grandparents Tom and Marj Eakin
 Tom & Claudette, friends of Helen and Dick Brenneman
 Karen Tupman, cousin of Phyllis Favorite
 Brenda & Ken Walsh
 Ash Woskob
 Janet Zerbe

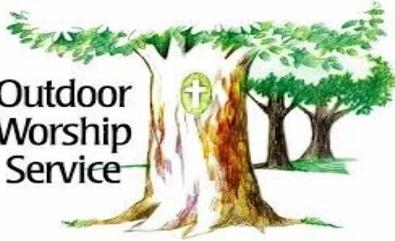
Members in the hospital



Prayer is a powerful gift and tool God gives to us. *Please pray for the request each day of the week during your daily prayer time. Just think how powerful it would be if all our members prayed for the same thing each day.*

Pray this week that God grant wisdom to universities, school districts, administrators, teachers, staff, parents, and students as they face challenging decisions concerning the upcoming school year.

Outdoor
Worship
Service



THROUGH AUGUST 26 Grace Lutheran is offering a series of regional in-person outdoor worship services called “Grace on the Go.” Each site can accommodate about 50 people while honoring distancing.

All “Grace on the Go” services begin at 6:00 pm, on Wednesdays. Please see the schedule below. We have identified several gathering locations, each of which can accommodate about 50 people while maintaining safe distances. Our half-hour worship service will be very informal and include Holy Communion, a children’s message, and music.

Please bring your own chair and a mask.

Worship sheets and communion will be provided. Hand sanitizer will be available if you do not have your own. We suggest you join the gathering closest to you, (as indicated in the schedule) but of course, all are open.

What about weather? We will make a decision at 5:00 pm to cancel if it has been raining all day and is too muddy, or if imminent weather would prevent gathering. That decision will be posted on our social media and website. You may also call Pastor Hetrick at 814-251-2540 if you are uncertain.

Remaining “Grace on the Go” dates and places:

Wed. August 19th @ 6 pm– Benner Township Municipal Park

(gather next to pavilion) 1224 Buffalo Run Road, Bellefonte—state route 550-next to the Benner Township building

Wed. August 26th @ 6 pm- Spring Creek Park (Centre Hall, Lemont, Boalsburg)

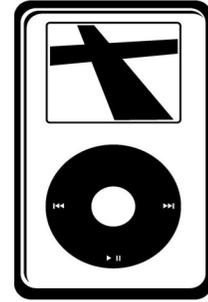
(use Houserville Rd. entrance.
Gather by covered bridge)

September Outdoor Worship at Grace Lutheran

Beginning on Sunday, September 6, Grace Lutheran will offer “Drive-In Worship” each Sunday morning at 8:30 am. Here is the plan: cars will enter our parking lot and be lined up, similar to a drive-in. The pastors and a pianist will be on the portico (near the Angel Windows). Their voices and the piano will be broadcast on a low level FM signal (approx. 200’ range) to the cars. Because everyone will stay in their cars, entry and exit is easy, you can sing, you can partake of Holy Communion, and you are assured of a comfy seat. This service will be in addition to our live radio broadcast, which will continue each Sunday morning at 10:30 am on WRSC 1390 AM and 93.3 FM, as well as our prerecorded video worship services. We hope this is meaningful for you.

Pastors' weekly podcasts – We invite you to listen to Grace's new podcast, "A Pocketful of Grace," where Pastor Schul and Pastor Hetrick discuss and unpack the Sunday lessons so that you can hold them in your heart and mind as your week unfolds. You can listen right away or download for later. Podcasts are available on our website or through Spotify, Tune In/Alexa, and iTunes. Wherever you go, make sure you take along a Pocketful of Grace.

*Pocketful
of Grace*



PODCAST

The August meeting of **Garden of Readin'** (women's book club) will be Tuesday, August 18 at 10:30 am remotely via Zoom. The next book is *For Everything a Season: Simple Musings on Living Well* by Philip Gulley. The facilitator will be Sharon Rivell. Contact Laura Pauley (llp1@psu.edu) or Lois Lynn (loissteve@comcast.net) for more information.

Connecting in Common Prayer

Through the first Sunday in September, ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and her Episcopal counterpart Presiding Bishop Michael Curry welcome congregations and individuals to regularly pray "A Prayer for the Power of the Spirit Among the People of God." This prayer – crafted by a team of Lutheran and Episcopal prayer leaders in light of the COVID-19 pandemic – will connect us in common prayer and revive us for common mission, wherever and however we may be gathered.

A Prayer for the Power of the Spirit among the People of God

God of all power and love, we give thanks for your unfailing presence and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss.

Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire.

Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world:

a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit.

Wherever and however we gather,

unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission,

that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Faith Formation Website - Our faith formation team has created a new and wonderful resource website for all in our congregation. This website (which supplements the church website) has activities, Bible studies, and linked websites for children, youth, families, and adults, including resources focused on Holy Week. We hope this can be a useful tool for continuing to teach and learn our faith within the home. The website address is www.glcfaithformation.org

Word in Season devotional booklets available – If you would like to receive a copy of the Word in Season devotional booklets for July/August/September, you can pick up a copy in a basket on the waiting area bench inside the main entrance at Grace. Alternatively, Sally Keiser-Bankert will be happy to mail you a copy upon request. Please contact her via email at sallykb@verizon.net.



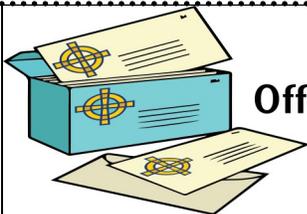
So many of you have contributed to the Food Bank via Grace.

It's what we do, isn't it? It's our response to Jesus' love.

...COVID-19 goes on...**food insecurity continues**
We'll continue to support the **State College Food Bank** through a monthly monetary donation.

Checks: 'Grace Lutheran Church' Donate via **Tithe.ly** at glcpa.org.
'food bank' in the memo line Click on the 'give'
205 S. Garner St. button at the
State College, PA 16801 top of the page.

Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?
Matt: 25:37



Offering

Support Grace's ministry

Grace's church building may be closed, but Christ's Church remains vibrantly open! Grace needs your continued financial support in order to fund all of our ministries. You may continue to mail your offerings to Grace. Tithe.ly also provides a secure way to provide your offering via any major credit card. Visit www.glcpa.org and click on the GIVE button at the top of the page. If you set up an account with Tithe.ly using your Visa, MasterCard, American Express, JCB, Discover, or Diners Club card, you can support our ministries even when you cannot be present. Finally, a form for Direct Debit giving (via your bank) is available on our website at <https://tinyurl.com/yx8andkj>; just mail it to Grace Lutheran Church at 205 South Garner Street, State College, 16801. That is the absolute best way to provide for the regular funding of all that we do here at Grace to the glory of God and the service of our neighbors. Thank you for your commitment to our ministries during this challenging time.



New Member Sunday *Sunday September 6*

During the disruption of the pandemic, has the Spirit been stirring in your heart? In the midst of all the challenges of our days, have you found a faith home at Grace? Is Jesus drawing you into a deeper relationship as part of Grace's family? If so, consider becoming a member.

We will be receiving new members on **Sunday, September 6**. The process for joining is simple: just contact Pastor Schul or Pastor Hetrick to set up an appointment to share more about your faith journey and learn about all that Grace has to offer. Contact the church office at 238-2478 or email either pastorschul@glcpa.org or pastorhetrick@glcpa.org.



Faith 5™



SHARE a "high" and a "low" – what's been the best part of your day, and what's been the hardest part of your day.



READ from God's Word. A Scripture verse or story will be provided and read by the glow of the fire.



TALK about the meaning of God's living Word and how it speaks to your life – maybe even your highs and lows – at this time.



PRAY with and for one another and the world, lifting one another in prayer and praising the God of life and love.



BLESS with simple words and a cross traced upon each others' foreheads, we remind one another that we belong to the living God.

AUGUST 16, 2020
ELEVENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



God's saving work is for all people.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Matthew 15:1-28	A woman's faith
Monday	Isaiah 56:1-8	God's saving power is everywhere
Tuesday	Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32	God saves Jews and Gentiles
Wednesday	Genesis 45:1-15	Joseph and his brothers
Thursday	Psalms 133	Living together in peace
Friday	Matthew 28:16-20	The Great Commission
Saturday	Psalms 67	Tell the nations to praise God
Sunday	Matthew 16:13-20	Peter's confession of Christ

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations. Psalm 67:12 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of the nations, we thank you for your mercy and grace that is meant not only for those we know and love but for all people through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Gracious God, we thank you for this food and for all those who have planted, harvested, transported, processed, and prepared it for us this day. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God's face shine upon you, be gracious to you, and bless you. (Psalm 67:1)



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AUGUST 16, 2020

HYMN OF THE WEEK
All Are Welcome



WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Think or tell about a time you went to or met someone from a foreign country.
- What do you learn by meeting people from different cultures?
- It is easy to overlook how God's grace and mercy is not just for ourselves but for all people. How can you extend kindness to someone of a culture that is foreign to you?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Matthew 15:21-26.

The Canaanite woman is central to this story for many reasons. She is a woman and she is a foreigner, both good reasons for Jesus not to talk to her and especially not to address her plea before addressing the needs of the Jewish people, "the lost sheep of the house of Israel" (v. 24). This woman is also a critical figure because her plea for help changes Jesus' response to her (v. 28). It is not easy to understand how this woman seems to teach and change Jesus, but she does. The result, however, is clear: Jesus' ministry, like that of the God of the Old Testament (see Psalm 67) is for all the nations, not just the sons and daughters of Abraham. This story lifts up the essential mission of Jesus and the church of all generations. It is the Great Commission of Matthew 28:16-20. Directed by Jesus, we are to make disciples of all nations, not just our ethnic group, not just "our people," and especially not just our nation. With whom might Jesus be calling you to share God's love and mercy?

Pray: Generous God, help us to see the breadth and depth of your love for all people in the world through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SERVICE

The words we say to others can sometimes be hurtful. In Matthew 15:11, Jesus is warning us to be careful of what you say, "It is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles". Is there someone you know who needs to hear kind, caring words, rather than hurtful ones? Take time to say loving and encouraging words to that person by writing a note, calling, or sending an email.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The theme this week is, "God's saving work is for all people." Psalm 67 is a song of praise to God and a reminder of God's continual blessings on us. Write the words from Psalm 67:3 on a piece of paper and place it near your bedside so that when you rise and when you lie down, you can recite: "Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you."



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org