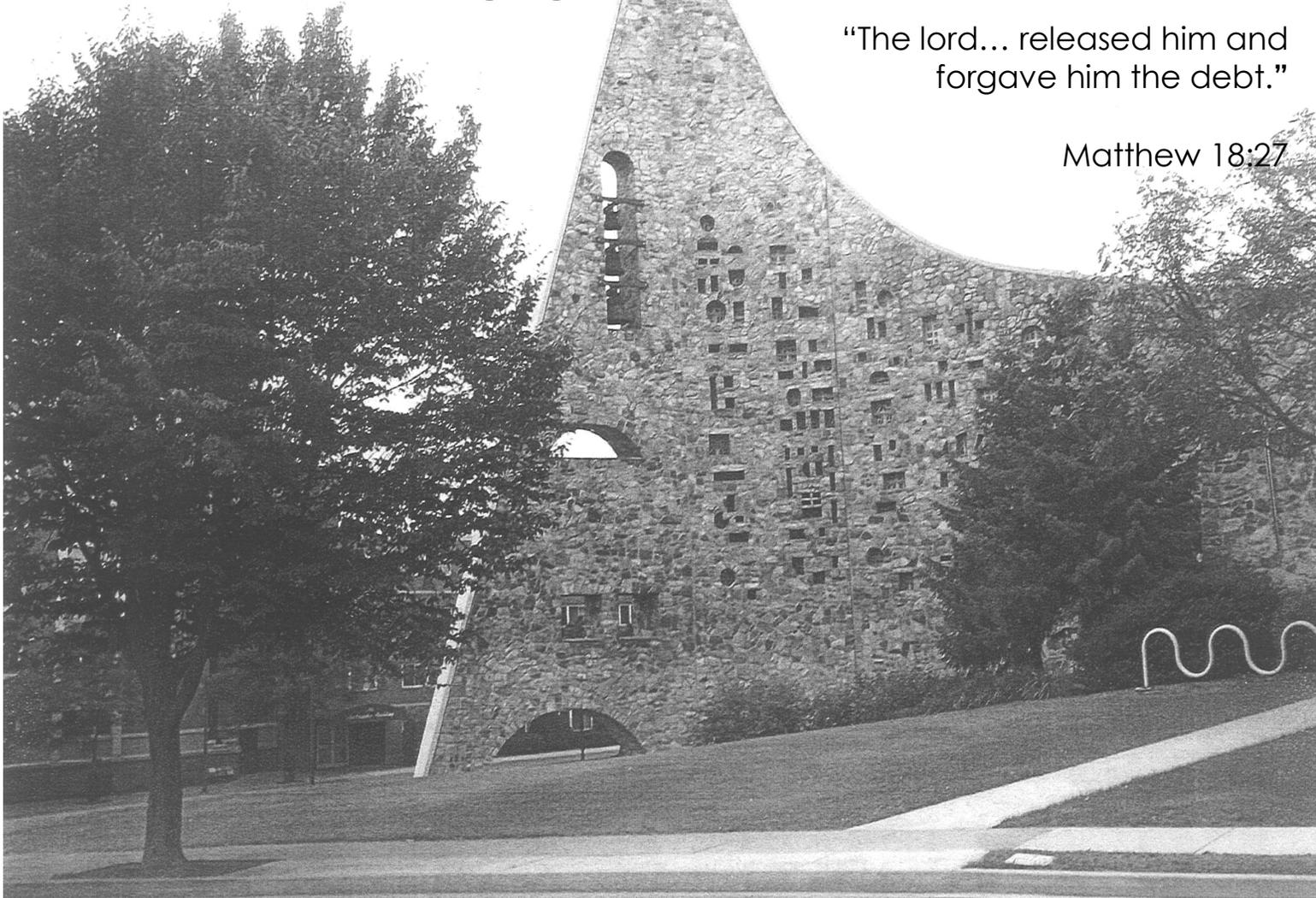


Welcome to **GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

A congregation of the ELCA

“The lord... released him and
forgave him the debt.”

Matthew 18:27



SUNDAY, Sept. 13, 2020
15th Sunday after Pentecost

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

phone: 814-238-2478

email: churchoffice@glcpa.org

web address: www.glcpa.org

8:30 a.m. drive-in worship service tune in on 102.3 FM

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 today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

ABOUT THE LESSONS.... **The First Lesson:** After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives. **The Second Lesson:** This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us. **The Gospel Lesson:** When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

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

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Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church State College, Pennsylvania

PRELUDE

(8:30) *Day by Day (Blott en Dag)*.....Oscar Ahnfelt; arr. Lloyd Larson
(10:30) *O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing (Azmon)*..C.G. Glaser; arr. J. D. Payne

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.

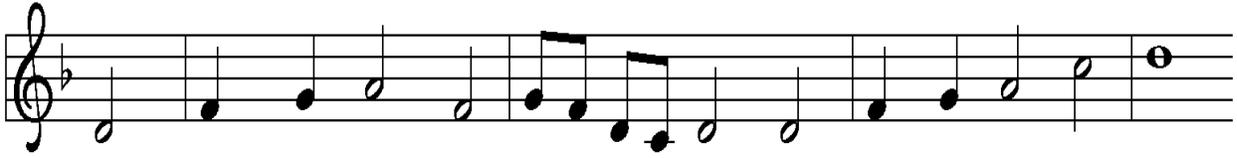
C: Amen.

GATHER

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

GATHERING HYMN *Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive*.....ELW # 605

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive



1 “For - give our sins as we for - give,” you taught us, Lord, to pray;
2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
how tri - fling oth - ers' debts to us; how great our debt to you!
then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–1987, alt.
Music: DETROIT, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844
Text © Oxford University Press 1969.

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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: O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FEED

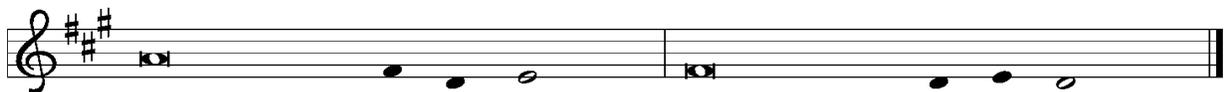
*God speaks to us in scripture reading,
and feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST LESSON.....Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

PSALM 103 Please sing responsively by selected verses



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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P: LORD, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love;

C: **you will not al- | ways accuse us,
nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.**

P: You have not dealt with us according | to our sins,
nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.

C: **For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for | those who fear you.**

P: As far as the east is | from the west,
so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.

C: **As a father has compassion | for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear | you, O LORD.**

SECOND LESSON.....Romans 14:1-12

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrel-
ing over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat
only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and
those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has
welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another?
It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld,
for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all
days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who
observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in
honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain,
abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live,
we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we
live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and

lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." ¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

(10:30) DISCUSSION OF THE LESSONS

HOLY GOSPEL.....Matthew 18:21-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 18th chapter.

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

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON.....Pastor Schul

HYMN OF THE DAY *Our Father, We Have Wandered*.....ELW # 606

Our Father, We Have Wandered

1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;
2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,
3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,

in fool-ish-ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.
be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.
com-pas-sion-ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,

But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,
In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,
grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.

as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.
in glad-ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

Text: Kevin Nichols, 1929–2006

Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750

Text from *Resource Collection of Hymns and Service Music for the Liturgy*, © 1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc.

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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.

(8:30) OFFERTORY MUSIC

I Surrender All with Depth of Mercy.....Janet Vogt

*During the offertory, take a moment to thank God for all that
God has provided to you. Ask God to reveal how God is
calling you to share your time, treasures, and talents.*

(8:30 & 10:30) OFFERING 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.

(10:30) REFER TO PAGE 14

P: The Lord be with you. C: And al - so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(8:30)P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(8:30) C:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

(8:30)P: God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way. In times of bitterness you did not abandon us, but guided us into the path of love and light. In every age you sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity. The cry of the poor has become your own cry; our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire. In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant to preach good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the outcast and despised, and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to the 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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we share in this meal we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

(8:30)C: **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

(8:30)P: Remembering therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

C: Amen.

(8:30)P: Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this meal with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

C: Amen.

(8:30)P: Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, rejoicing in the hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(8:30)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.**

(8:30) **C:**

(ELW p. 154)

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
 us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

(8:30) P: The body and blood of Christ, given and shed for you.

You may now consume the communion wafer. During the communion music reflect upon how Christ has come to you in Holy Communion and the many ways Christ comes to you in the ordinary course of each day. Please take the wafer baggie home; it can be recycled.

(8:30) COMMUNION MUSIC

Given For You.....Richard Blake

(8:30) P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

(8:30) POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

C:

(ELW # 207)

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927
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(8:30) PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen

(10:30) 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 correcting 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.

(8:30 & 10:30)

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.

SENDING HYMN *Go, My Children, with My Blessing.....*ELW # 543

Go, My Children, with My Blessing



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.
Music: AR HYDY NOS, Welsh traditional
Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

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P: Go in peace; serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

(8:30) *I Will Call Upon the Lord*.....Michael O’Shields; arr. John F. Wilson

(10:30) *Allegro*.....George Handel



Today’s bulletin is sponsored Mark Eckley
Dedicated in honor of his granddaughters Savannah & Brooklyn

Today’s radio broadcast on WRSC—1390 AM & 93.3 FM is sponsored
by Gloria Nieweg & Hilda Sparrow
Dedicated in memory of Lu Magnusson

The Rev. Scott E. Schul, Senior Pastor.....pastorschul@glcpa.org
The Rev. Carolyn K. Hetrick, Associate Pastor....pastorhetrick@glcpa.org
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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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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 Sept. 13, 2020

All Military & Nat'l Guard and all serving in war-torn countries
 Theresa Alves, friend of Brenda Kim
 Deb Baysinger's cousin
 Sylvia Belanger, mother of Joe Belanger
 Debbie Bolthouse
 Mary & 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
 The family of Helen Evans, upon her death
 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
 Wanetta Lohr
 Phil & Shirley Lucas
 Tom Lucas
 Paul Mackes
 Carol Major, friend of Brenda Palmgren
 Danielle McHenry
 Kim Marsh
 Bob Miller, father of Julie Miller
 Amy Nevling
 Dottie Niklos, mother of Bob Igoe

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 Deysler
 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
 Greg Weimer
 Ash Woskob
 Janet Zerbe

Members in the hospital
 Dennis McClure



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.

Ask God this week to give you courage to honestly assess your sins, and strength to trust in God's desire, willingness, and power to forgive those sins so that you can live in freedom, security, joy and peace.

September Worship Opportunities at Grace

Grace Lutheran now offers "Drive-In Worship" each Sunday morning at 8:30 am. This service is in addition to our live radio broadcast, which continues each Sunday morning at 10:30 am on WRSC 1390 AM and 93.3 FM, as well as our pre-recorded video worship services.



Sept. 13, 2020 WORSHIP ON THE MOUNTAIN At Tussey in Boalsburg

- **Activities** for children, youth, and adults of all ages beginning at 1p.m. See page 24 for more information.
- **Outdoor Worship Service** Following the activities, worship will begin at 3:00 p.m. We will all gather in our cars for "drive-in" style worship as the pastors and Psalm 151 provide worship from the ski lodge balcony. **Unfortunately, due to pandemic risks, there will not be a congregational picnic.**



Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, Sept. 20 at 1 pm

Grace Lutheran's annual Congregational Meeting will be held on **Sunday, September 20 at 1 pm**. Because of the pandemic, no lunch will be provided. We will conduct the meeting from the **Miller Center**. Accordingly, please enter through the Miller Center doors. In recognition of the need for physical distancing, and to ensure that there is enough space for everyone who wants to attend, we will offer overflow seating in the **Stinson Library** and **Fireside Room**. Members in those locations will be able to watch the presentation via monitors, ask questions, and are eligible to vote. In addition, upon request we will make the **Zoom link** securely available to folks at home so that you can see the presentation and, via the chat function, ask questions. So long as you are participating with us in "real time" we will consider you present and hence permitted to vote. We believe this is a reasonable accommodation to our present circumstances and hope it encourages increased participation in the meeting. The **purpose** of the meeting is to discuss and vote on the proposed budget for 2020-2021, and to begin the voting process to **elect** three new council members.

2019-2020 Annual Reports Available

Printed copies of Grace's 2019-2020 Annual Report are available for pickup outside the main entrance. Please refrain from entering the building for the benefit of Meals on Wheels. Printed copies will also be available to members upon request at drive-in worship services. If you instead wish to receive a copy of the report as an electronic PDF form, you may request one by emailing srider@glcpa.org.



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

Pastors' weekly podcasts – We invite you to listen to Grace's new pod-
 cast, "A Pocketful of Grace," where Pastor Schul and Pastor Hetrick dis-
 cuss and unpack the Sunday lessons. You can listen right away or down-
 load 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 September meeting of Garden of Readin' (women's book club) will be
 Tuesday, September 15 at 10:45 am remotely via Zoom. Please note the time
 change. The next book is *At Home: A Short History of Private Life* by Bill
 Bryson. The facilitator will be Susan Hirth. Contact Laura Pauley
 (llp1@psu.edu) or Lois Lynn (loissteve@comcast.net) for more information.

The Naomi Circle of Women of Grace invites you to join them in replenishing
 the Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits that were destroyed in the ex-
 plosion in Beirut. Please contact Carolyn Fishburn (cxf1@psu.edu or 238-
 3907) or see September Grace Notes for instructions.

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 offer-
 ings 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, Master-
 Card, 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](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 ser-
 vice of our neighbors. Thank you for your commitment to our ministries during
 this challenging time.

IHS NEEDS YOUR HELP

The Interfaith Human Services on-line auction, **Community Care Auction** by IHS will run from **September 14th at midnight to September 30th at 10 pm**. WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The Fundraising Committee at IHS has had to get creative to raise funds during this time when our programs are needed more than ever. If you could help by donating to the auction we would be truly grateful. Ideas include:

- Gift cards from local restaurants, bookstores, Penn State stores
- Putting together a basket of items such as baby gifts, doggie items, kitchen towels and utensils, religious items, tailgate items
- Quilts or other homemade items

Other ideas??? These items can be put together individually or maybe maybe you would want to make it a project for your book club or other groups.

Please do not hesitate to contact Sue Forster at fsue58521@gmail.com to donate or with any questions. Our goal is to have all items received by September 9th.

State College Virtual CROP Hunger Walk Oct. 11-17-2020

The 37th State College CROP Walk will be virtual for everyone's safety.

Our Virtual Walk kicks off on Sun., Oct. 11th.

Register at <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/statecollegepa/> or visit the S.C. CROP Hunger Walk Facebook page.

Donations of cash and checks may be dropped off at the State College Food Bank 1321 S. Atherton Street on Mondays, Wednesdays, or Fridays from 9:00 am to noon.

Donations may also be mailed to our Treasurer - Carla Rossi 262 Woodland Dr. State College, PA 16803 (***) Please consider converting any cash contributions to a check before dropping off collections. **Please do not mail cash, if mailing donations, please send only checks.**)

All donations need to be made by October 30, 2020

***Last year we raised almost \$20,000. In the 34 years of this walk we have raised over \$620,000! This is helping our friends and neighbors, as well as people we have not had the opportunity to yet meet. ***



Lutheran Disaster Response
 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 God's work. Our hands.

**The September Bucket Collection:
 Lutheran Disaster Response**

The natural disasters just keep on coming.

We have worked as a church so often to relieve the suffering others. Your gift, however small or large, matters because it demonstrates your response to God's love. It is our combined gift that makes a difference! Here is a partial list of the work of LDR: COVID-19, Hurricane Response, US Tornado, Flood, and Wildfire Response, South Sudan Relief, Middle East & Europe Refugee Crisis, and AMMPARO: Protecting Migrant Minors.

Give via Tithely, by check (205 S. Garner St 16801), or cash. Envelopes for cash donations will be available at worship services in September, including our Tussey Mountain worship service.

Masks Needed

Centre Volunteers in Medicine is in need of homemade masks. Solid and/or masculine are especially needed. If you can help, please contact Cheryl White at cwhite@cvim.net or 814-231-4043.

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 sal-lykb@verizon.net.



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.

Calling New Drivers

Getting your driver's license is a significant milestone worth recognition! Please come to receive a new keychain and a blessing at the Tussey Mountain worship service: Sunday, September 13, at 3 pm. The keychain is a daily reminder of the love and protection you receive from God and this community.

Milestone Ministries

Milestone Ministry: 2nd & 6th Graders to receive Bibles

If you have a 2nd or a 6th grader, mark your calendar; Sunday, September 13th we will celebrate a Bible Milestone at both the 8:30 am (drive-in style) worship service in the Grace Lutheran parking lot and at the 3:00 pm at our Tussey Mountain worship service. Sixth-grade youth will use this Bible for Confirmation class. If you are need of a Bible, please come forward on that day to receive an appropriate age Bible. If you are unable to attend that day, contact Cindy Fritz and Peter Horn at faithformation@glcpa.org to make sure we set one aside for you.



Family Fun at the Mountain: Family Event Kick-Off

The fun at Tussey Mountain is on! Family Fun at the Mountain is a full family event. As to minimize contact tracing we ask, as much as possible, to remain in family units. Sunday, September 13th from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Tussey Mountain has prepared their outdoor activities for socially distanced fun. the Family Fun at the Mountain is a full family event so come and stay in your family unit, or something like that. At a cost, not to exceed \$40 per family or \$10 per person, you can enjoy the par-three golf course, mini-golf, batting cages, driving range, and skate park (bring your skateboard, skates or bike) as well as the go-karts. Following the family activities, worship will begin at 3:00 pm in the parking lot. Using the FM transmitter, we the service, including Psalm 151, will broadcast live from the ski lodge to your car, “drive-in movie style.” We can’t wait to see you for fun and fellowship on the Mountain!



Faith 5^{GM}



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.

SEPTEMBER 13, 2020
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



The people of God forgive.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 18:21-35	A parable about forgiveness
Monday	Genesis 50:15-21	Joseph forgives his brothers
Tuesday	Romans 14:1-12	Do not judge another
Wednesday	Exodus 14:19-31	Crossing the Red Sea
Thursday	Psalms 114	The Lord works wonders
Friday	John 8:1-11	Jesus intercedes for a woman
Saturday	Psalms 103:1-13	Thanksgiving for God's goodness
Sunday	Matthew 20:1-16	Parable of the vineyard workers

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits—who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases.
Psalm 103:2-3 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Gracious God, we praise you for your desire to forgive; help us to love and forgive as we are loved and forgiven through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest; let these gifts to us be blessed. Let there be a goodly share on every table, everywhere. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the forgiveness of God bless you with steadfast love and mercy. (Psalm 103:4)



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SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Healer of Our Every Ill



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:

- What does forgiveness mean to you? Give an example.
- Was there ever a time when you could not forgive someone? Explain.
- How is God's forgiveness a gift to you? to the church? to the world?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Matthew 18:21-35.

Jesus presents a very unreal story to make a very real point. In Jesus' day, each talent was worth more than 15 years of work. Therefore, one slave owed over 150,000 years of income while the other owed one hundred days of wages (a denarius was one day's wage). The differences are extreme to make the point that God's forgiveness of us is wildly out-of-this-world and wonderful. It leads the follower of Jesus Christ to sing or pray Psalm 103 that begins, "Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name" (v. 1). A concrete way to praise God is to "forgive your brother or sister from your heart" (Matthew 18:35) and do so again and again and again (v. 22). Or, as Jesus suggests, do you want to consider the consequences of not showing a little forgiveness to others? That lack of forgiveness Jesus says, would destroy your life (vv. 34-35). How can you praise God today by forgiving someone who has offended or hurt you? How does this parable help bring joy to your soul?

Pray: Merciful God, give me faith to remember how kind and generous you are to me and to praise you by being kind and forgiving to others through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SERVICE

Genesis 50:15-21 is the story of Joseph forgiving his brothers for throwing him in a pit and selling him into slavery. Forgiving someone who has hurt you is not easy. Think of someone who needs your forgiveness. Pray for that person. Reflect on God's love and mercy shown through people like Joseph and write a note of forgiveness to that person.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Forgiveness is the theme this week in Bible readings, caring conversations, devotions, and service. Breaking a plate, saying something mean, and telling a lie are things we may not mean to do, but they happen. Think of a time when you needed to be forgiven. God forgives us again and again. Think about what this means to you. Pray the Lord's Prayer, pause as you pray, "forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us", then finish the prayer.



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