

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Holy Communion The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost August 22, 2021

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

WELCOME TO GRACE LUTHER AN CHUR CH

We welcome you in the name of Jesus Christ as we gather to hear God's holy Word and celebrate the meal of Holy Communion. We are blessed by your presence, just as you are. As God welcomes all people through the saving grace of Jesus, so do we seek to welcome God's people of all races, social statuses, physical and mental abilities, sexual orientations, and gender identities to be together in Christ – to love, to grow, and to serve. Should you have no church home, you are invited to consider Grace. We encourage you to fill out the perforated page on the back of the bulletin and place it in the offering plate. Welcome!

Children's resources, including activity bags, worship bulletins and booster seats, are available in the narthex and from the ushers.

Nursery care is provided at the 8:30 worship service for children ages 4 and under. The nursery is located across from Fellowship Hall. From the atrium, go through the Lamb Door by the elevator, up half a flight of stairs and turn right. From the sanctuary, go through the door by the stone baptismal font, up the stairs and turn left. A silent paging system allows the nursery staff to contact parents when needed.

Assistance in Worship: For those who find it difficult to stand during any part of the service, please remain seated and contact an usher if you would like Holy Communion to be brought to you. Sound enhancement units are available in the back of the church. Large print bulletins are available from the ushers in the back of the church and at the Division Street door.

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices. Thank you.

In Holy Communion the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. All baptized Christians are invited to the table where Christ himself is host. If you desire to be baptized, or to learn more about Holy Baptism, please speak to one of the pastors.

Educational opportunities occur between worship services at 9:45. Topics and locations for classes are listed at the end of this bulletin under "This Week at Grace."

Grace Council Statement on Racism: The events that have unfolded in our nation in recent months have reawakened us to the deep divides that still exist within our country. Racism, manifested in individual acts and present throughout systems, continues to prevent us from being the beloved community that God intends. Our faith in the crucified and risen Christ compels us to speak. We speak against the sin of racism. We speak in solidarity with Black people and all people of color, each of whom is precious to God. We stand with and for Black people within our church and school and in the larger community.

We commit ourselves to following Jesus Christ into the world in the hope that, by the Spirit's power, God's Kingdom would come on earth as it is in heaven. We look with hope and anticipation to a season of growth and change as Grace becomes a more faithful witness to God's wide welcome in Christ. We see this as the of beginning, not the end, the conversation. We pray for the Holy Spirit to guide us, and for the courage to follow.

As We Gather

Today we reach the conclusion of Jesus' proclamation of himself as the Bread of Life. He ends with words that are hard to understand, telling us that those who eat his flesh and drink his blood abide in him and will live forever. Many who had followed him up to that point turned away from Jesus because of these words. What they did not understand is that Jesus would give his flesh and blood upon the cross for the sake of the world. His death and resurrection have become the lifeblood of creation, the feast of our redemption, in which we partake again today. Jesus' words are difficult, but they are gracious. This Bread is all we need. Let us, with Joshua, put away all other idols and false hopes. Let our household worship this God alone.

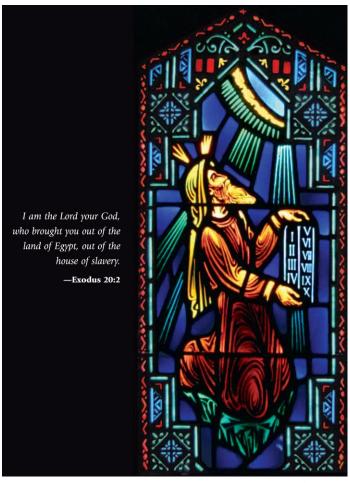


Photo by Al Swanson

+ GATHERING +

PRELUDE: La Captive, Op. 40, No. 1

Amy Marcy Cheney Beach

We stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- **P** In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.
- Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:

 Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- @ Amen.
- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

- P Most merciful God,
- We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.
- 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.

ENTRANCE HYMN: As We Gather at Your Table



APOSTOLIC GREETING

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- **Q** And also with you.

6

HYMN OF PRAISE: Salvation Belongs to Our God

Women sing parts marked II. Men sing parts marked III.





☑ Sal- va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for- ev- er and ev - er.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

G Amen.

We sit.

(11:00) RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

+ WORD +

FIRST READING: Joshua 24:1–2a, 14–18

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. ²And Joshua said to all the people, ¹⁴"Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

¹⁶Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; ¹⁷for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹⁸and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

²³Joshua said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel." ²⁴The people said to Joshua, "The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey."

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

ANTIPHON: The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous.

- ☐ The eyes of the Lord are up- | on the righteous,* and his ears are open | to their cry.
- The face of the Lord is against those | who do evil,*
 to root out the remembrance of them | from the earth.
- The righteous cry, and | the Lord hears them* and delivers them from | all their troubles.
- The Lord is near to the | brokenhearted* and will save those whose spir- | its are crushed.
- L Many are the troubles | of the righteous,* but the Lord will deliver him out | of them all.
- G He will keep safe | all his bones;* not one of them | shall be broken.
- Evil shall | slay the wicked,* and those who hate the righteous | will be punished.
- The Lord ransoms the life | of his servants,* and none will be punished who | trust in him.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 6:10–20

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

- **L** The Word of the Lord.
- **G** Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL VERSE: John 6:68



HOLY GOSPEL: John 6:56-69

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said,] "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." ⁵⁹He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" ⁶¹But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

- **P** The Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON: Flesh and Blood

Pastor David R. Lyle John 6:56–69

HYMN OF THE DAY: O Jesus, I Have Promised



APOSTLES' CREED

- P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:
- **G** I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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

Each petition concludes:

- **A** Lord, in your mercy,
- **G** hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

- 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.

+ MEAL +

PEACE OF CHRIST

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- **G** And also with you.

We greet one another in the name of the Lord.

when we pray.

Giving is one of the ways we participate in all that God is doing through Grace.

Visit GraceRiverForest.org to give online.

At the conclusion of the Voluntary we stand and sing the Offertory Hymn.



ev - 'ry af - flic - tion, hear us

Text: Jeremy Young, b. 1948, refrain; With One Voice, stanzas, based on Ps. 34 Music: STONERIDGE, Jeremy Young Text and music @ 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

will save in

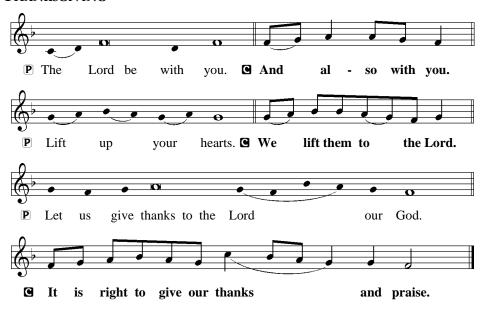
OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray. Merciful Father,

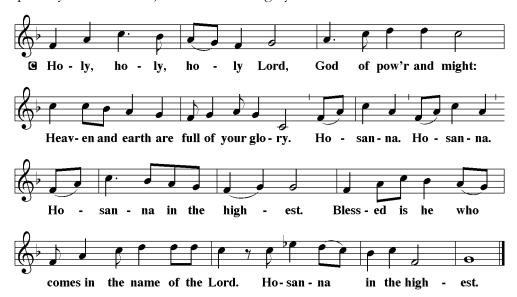
God

we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. 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 the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



P Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you

for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

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.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

- Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
- 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,

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

- P The gifts of God for the people of God.
- Thanks be to God.
- **P** Come, for all is now ready.

We sit.

AGNUS DEI



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.



COMMUNION

Our Lord Jesus Christ welcomes you to this meal of the baptized. The crucified and risen Christ is present in the Lord's Supper, giving us his true body and blood as food and drink.

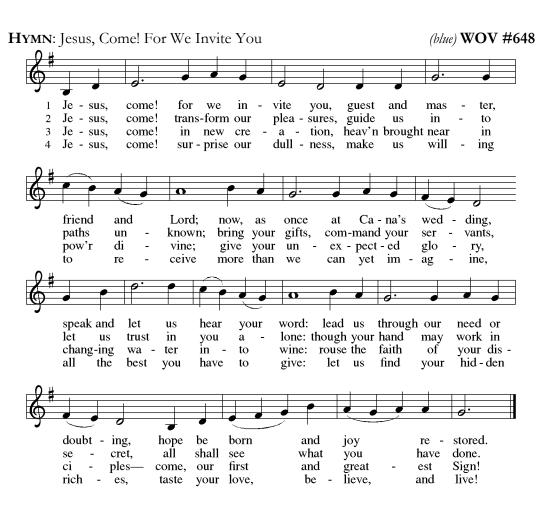
Please remove your mask as you approach the head of the aisle, where we receive the consecrated wafer and then drink from one of the individual cups.

Non-alcoholic wine is in the center of the tray.

Those with a gluten allergy may pick up a gluten-free host from the table at the head of the aisle.

MUSIC FOR THE COMMUNION

VOLUNTARY: Pastorale, Op. 151 Amy Beach



Text: Christopher Idle, b. 1938
Music: UNION SEMINARY, Harold Friedell, 1905−1958
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Music © 1957, 1985 H. W. Gray, admin. CPP/Belwin.



We stand.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- **G** Amen.
- **A** Let us pray.

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

G Amen.

(8:30) RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

+ SENDING +

BENEDICTION

- P Almighty God: Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
- C Amen.





Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; para. F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984, alt. Music: RENDEZ À DIEU, attr. Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561 Text © Church Pension Fund, admin. Church Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: Mazurka, Op. 40, No. 3

Amy Beach

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Troy E. Medlin, presiding minister
The Rev. David R. Lyle, preaching minister
The Rev. Karl Reko, assisting minister
The Rev. Michael D. Costello, cantor
Jeremy Zimmer, assistant cantor
Jean Hatmaker, cellist
(8:30) Rich Schubkegel, lector
(11:00) Carrie Simpson, lector
(8:30) Donna Serpico, altar guild
(11:00) Scott and Linda Street, altar guild
(8:30) Justin Martin, videographer
(8:30) Anne Claud, sound board operator

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LET US PRAY...

Joan Koerber

Jerry Koenig

Karen Lemke

Carolyn Martin

Karen McMahon

Those who are sick and recovering from illness

Diane Amati Rosemary Cheatem Amy Juel
Annalise Balock Louis Elia Phyllis Kersten

Cathy Barker Carl Gruendler
Jill Baumgaertner David Gruendler
Ed Borg Don Heimburger
Ann Bresnen Patricia Herendeen

Larry Caponigri Bob Jandeska

Felipe Altamirano (friend of Cathy and Paul Schnittker)

Pat B. (friend of Pat Anderson)

Javed Bachew (relative of Susan Franzone)
Greg Ball (friend of Irmgard Swanson)
Vera Leora Barnett (friend of Paul Eichwedel)

Shari Barnich (friend of Randy Schnack)

Sophie Bartell (granddaughter of Marvin and Judy Bartell)

James Beglin (cousin of Cathy Schnittker)

Frances Benson (sister-in-law of Eunice Spurgat)

Karen Berglund (friend of Carol Stanger)
Florence Breed (cousin of Irmgard Swanson)

Susan Cahill (cousin of Randy Schnack)

Jamie Carpenter (cousin of Jay and Scott Christopher)

James Cordes (brother of Bruce Cordes)

Stella Dillberg (mother of Gretchen Weaver; grandmother of Grace

School student Julia Weaver)

Patti and Neal Enslin (friends of Marilyn Heppner) Seth Flanders (friend of Cathy and Paul Schnittker)

James Flutch (nephew of Valerie Spiller) Benjamin Galiher (nephew of Paul May)

Chandramma Gantepalli (mother of Hena Gantepalli)

Luke Gawencka (friend of Eunice Spurgat)

Mike Guss (friend of Lance and Stephanie Wilkening)

Jerry Haase (friend of Mary Margaret Bartley & Stewart Clarke)

Jill Hanssen (niece of Ann Mason)

Harry Heppner (brother of Ken Heppner)

Margaret Hofmaier (mother of Barbara Hofmaier)

Alice Hollis (friend of Marge Sanger)

John Hunt (friend of Ken and Marilyn Heppner)

Doug Kelner (friend of Irmgard and Al Swanson)

Don Kersten (brother of Phyllis Kersten)

Andrew Korcek (friend of Eunice Spurgat)
George Kozuchowski (friend of Timothy Douma)

Arnold Krubsack (brother of Irmgard Swanson)

Kathryn Krubsack (niece of Irmgard Swanson)

Maxx Kusper (friend of Deb Maxwell)

Beth Luebbe and family (sister of Jenny Luebbe) Joyce and John Lunde (friends of Susan Messerli)

Esther Martz (friend of Susie Calhoun)
Anne Matthys (mother of Susan Curran)

Leone, Gracie, and Brian Maxwell (cousins of Tom and Deb Maxwell)

Jennifer Murtoff

Cameron Valencia

Rich and Bonnie Stasack

Pat Scala

Iim Scherer

John Moehlenkamp (brother of Marilyn Moehlenkamp)

Carole Nelson (mother of Michael Nelson)
Julie Novak (daughter of Eunice Spurgat)

Elaine Pierce (friend of Al and Irmgard Swanson)

Jacob Pletan (great-nephew of Ruth Rehwaldt & Gick Schmidt)

Sarah Ponder (friend of Hans and Donna Dumpys)

James Powers (friend of Al Swanson)

Susan Prather (cousin of Adrienne and Ronald Rott)

Mark Redheffer (son of Virginia Walker)
Ronald Riley (friend of Al Swanson)

Florence Saeger (friend of Karl and Ruth Reko)

Esther Samuelson-Roberts (granddaughter of Harriet and

John Roberts)

Jennifer Sandahl (friend of Jennifer Murtoff)

Mary Lu Shipstad (friend of Marilyn Heppner)

Huxley Shoup and family (friends of Marilyn and Ken Heppner)

Nancy Stelling (friend of Pastor Phyllis Kersten) Lee Stephens (brother of Tony)

Jennifer Sylvester (daughter of Janet Sylvester)

Martin A. Thieme (brother of Susan Franzone)

Ilene Thompson (sister of Marilyn Heppner)
Jan Thomson (sister-in-law of Christine Phillips)

Mary Lou and Ron Wagoner (sister and brother-in-law of Stan Reddel)

Verna Walsh (aunt of Dan and Deanna Marotz)

Bob Weaver (husband of Gretchen)

Daniel Wenzel (friend of Pat Anderson)

Lygy White (friend of Mary Beth Leggs)

Lucy White (friend of Mary Beth Logas)

Deborah Wilson (niece of Carolyn Garber)

Randi Woodworth (sister of Tammy Bretscher)

Veronica Zurowski (mother of Tom)

Benevolence ministries

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois

In Thanksgiving for

The marriage of Erica Charles and Ricardo Garcia

The 57th wedding anniversary of **David and Sharon Kluge**

Those received into membership: Carolyn and Larry Garber; John Huber; Rita Johnson;

Sarah Korf and Peter Baughmann, Kaitlyn and Brandon Dill; Patrick, Dawn and Hailey Niedzielak;

Alex, Allison, and Avery Tan

Those serving in the armed services

Daniel Behrens (relative of Bob and Kathryn Jandeska)

Kevin Buss (nephew of Christa Krout)

Reid Beveridge (son-in-law of the Schnacks)

Kellyn Daly (niece of Heidi and Chad Bohlmann)

E. Michael Garcia Goetting (son of Mary Goetting)

Matthew Garmatz (grandson of Margaret Garmatz)

Those in the foreign service

Julie Kmet (friend of Ed and Susan Schumacher)

Those studying abroad

Colleen Lattyak (Germany) Drew Krueger (England)

Those who are homebound

Christopher Davis Joanne Nelson Gloria Hillert Barbara Rinnan Carolyn Martin Kathleen Wrobel

Those who need encouragement

Bruce Burnside (friend of Bob and Margaret Burke) in Oakhill Correctional Center Cheryl Luchetta (friend of Joan Koerber) in Logan Correctional Center

Bradley Larson (cousin of Rhea Sprecher) Sonny Putman (nephew of Susan Franzone) Rusty Robb (grandnephew of Margaret Kruse/Roberta Gillespie) Matthew Shinkwin (friend of Eunice Spurgat)

Christopher W. Sylvester (grandson of Janet Sylvester)

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

TODAY, AUGUST 22 Library Open
MONDAY, AUGUST 23 Dads of Grace (offsite)
TUESDAY, AUGUST 24 Board of Spiritual Life (Conference room)
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25 Property Committee Meeting (Conference room)7:00 p.m.
THURSDAY, AUGUST 26 Young Adult Theology on Tap (offsite)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28
Men of Grace (outside).......9:00 a.m.

Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church

We are glad that you are worshipping with us!

If you are visiting us for the first time or would like to learn more about Grace, please complete this form, detach, and place it in the offering plate.

NAME(S)
E-MAIL ADDRESS
MAILING ADDRESS
CITY/STATE/ZIP
PHONE NUMBER

Check all that apply:

- ☐ I am visiting Grace for the first time.
- ☐ I would like to know more about Grace Church.
- ☐ I am interested in a path toward membership.
- I would like to know more about Grace School.
- □ I would like to receive Grace's weekly e-mail,
 - Sunday Is Coming.
- □ I would like one of the pastors to contact me via (check one) □ Phone or □ E-mail.



7300 Division Street River Forest, Illinois 60305 Phone: (708) 366-6900 Fax: (708) 366-0966

www.graceriverforest.org gracechurch@graceriverforest.org

Bring in, build up, and send out disciples for Jesus Christ

David R. Lyle, Senior Pastor
Troy E. Medlin, Associate Pastor
F. Dean Lueking, Pastor Emeritus
Michael D. Costello, Cantor
Jeremy Zimmer, Assistant Cantor
William Koehne, Principal
Gerald Koenig, Principal Emeritus
Pat Gulik, Parish Nurse
Julie Modrich, Children's Ministry Coordinator
Gwen Gotsch, Communications Coordinator
Jim McClanahan, Director of Administration & Finance
Rich Brooks, Facilities Manager