

**GRACE LUTHERAN  
CHURCH AND SCHOOL  
SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**Celebrating 127 Years of  
Grace Lutheran School**

**The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

*September 18, 2022*

*10:00 a.m.*

# WELCOME TO GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

**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.

**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.

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

**Nursery care** is provided 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.

## ✠ 127 YEARS OF GRACE ✠

*For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever  
and his faithfulness to all generations.*

—Psalm 100:5, theme verse for the anniversary school year in 2020-21

**M**ore than 125 years ago, God entrusted a new school as a treasure to the people who would come to be known as Grace. Across the generations, the people of Grace Lutheran Church and School have been faithful stewards of this gift. Through the Great Depression, two World Wars, and the global COVID-19 pandemic, Grace School has provided the solid foundation upon which children can grow in faith, character, and academics. Today, Grace School continues to root itself deeply in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. In his name and by his grace, the school continues to thrive as a diverse, welcoming community reflecting the all-inclusiveness of the Kingdom of God.

As Grace's Senior Pastor, I am grateful for the faithful saints who have kept Grace vibrant and life-giving throughout the years. As a parent of three current Grace School students, I am simply thankful for the faculty and staff who give so much of themselves, day after day, for the sake of the Gospel. Every child who walks through our doors each morning is a gift from God. Here, they grow into the people God made them to be — disciples who will change and bless the world in ways we cannot yet imagine.

Truly, God has blessed us with a great treasure. May we, the people of Grace Lutheran Church and School, continue to be faithful stewards. We have a rich heritage and a bright future. Together, for the sake of Christ, let us always move “forward in faith.”

Pastor Dave Lyle  
*Senior Pastor*

## ✦ THE GIFT OF GRACE SCHOOL ✦

*The mission of Grace Lutheran Church and School is to bring in, build up, and send out disciples for Jesus Christ.*

Welcome to this celebration of Grace Lutheran School! I am especially pleased to welcome graduates of Grace. I hope you enjoy your time with us today as we worship together, share memories, give thanks, and have fun!

I am happy to report that enrollment for the 2022-23 academic year at Grace School is strong and growing again, with nearly 200 students enrolled in classes from preschool through eighth grade. The student body reflects the economic, racial, and geographic diversity of our region as families from all walks of life continue to seek out the kind of education Grace provides, one that embodies the mission of Grace Church and School to bring in, build up, and send out disciples for Jesus Christ.

Our students' academic performance is consistently well above national norms, as dedicated, experienced teachers creatively engage and educate students with diverse interests and talents. Our robust arts and athletic programs immerse students in music, visual arts, and sports as they explore their God-given talents. Excellence in music especially is part of a long tradition at Grace — as you will hear this morning in our worship service.

The gift of Grace Lutheran School is the result of individuals, families, and households who have — recently through the Forward in Faith campaign, and for over 125 years — prayerfully, and generously, seen to the future of the school through gifts of time, talent, and treasure. Please accept my gratitude for all the ways you lift up Grace School.

Let's rejoice together today, praising and thanking God for the many blessings bestowed on generations of faithful teachers and students who have grown into well-rounded individuals equipped to learn, serve, and grow in their faith.

Bill Koehne  
*Principal*

# ✠ GATHERING ✠

PRELUDE: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Helmut Walcha

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*We stand.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** 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.

**C** 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,

**C** we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.

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.

**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.

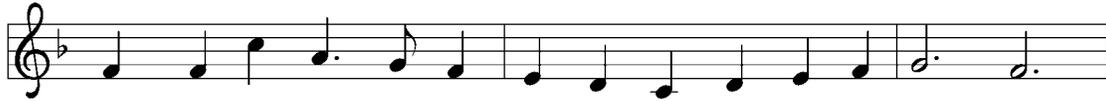


*We face the cross in procession*

**ENTRANCE HYMN:** Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

(green) **LBW #543**

Concertato by Michael D. Costello



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!  
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing  
**Choir** 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros-per your work and de-fend you;  
4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!  
and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.  
sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.  
All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,  
Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been  
Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do  
Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!  
sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?  
if with his love he be - friend you.  
Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, Part II, Stralsund, 1665



**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.
- C** And also with you.

**HYMN OF PRAISE**



**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



**C** Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another.

Keep our feet from evil paths.

Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** Amen.

*We sit.*

## ANTHEM: Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above

Jody W. Lindh

Praise the Lord who reigns above, and rules the earth below;  
Praise the holy God of love and all God's greatness show;  
Praise God for great and noble deeds, praise God for power and love adored;  
Praise God from whom all good proceeds, let all things praise the Lord.

Celebrate the eternal God with harp and psaltery,  
Timbrels soft and cymbals loud in this high praise agree;  
Praise with every tuneful string; all the reach of heavenly art,  
All the powers of music bring, the music of the heart.

Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt. (based on Psalm 150)

## ✠ WORD ✠

### FIRST READING: Amos 8:4–7

Hear this, you that trample on the needy,  
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,

<sup>5</sup>saying, “When will the new moon be over  
so that we may sell grain;

and the sabbath,  
so that we may offer wheat for sale?

We will make the ephah small and the shekel great,  
and practice deceit with false balances,

<sup>6</sup>buying the poor for silver  
and the needy for a pair of sandals,  
and selling the sweepings of the wheat.”

<sup>7</sup>The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:  
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**PSALM ANTHEM: Blessed Be the Name of the Lord**

Dale Grotenhuis

Praise ye the Lord. Praise him, O ye servants of the Lord. Praise the name of the Lord.  
Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time forth and evermore.  
From the rising of the sun to the going down of the same, the Lord's name is to be praised.  
The Lord is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens.

Psalm 113:1-4

**SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 2:1-7**

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup>for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup>This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup>who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup>For

there is one God;  
there is also one mediator between God and humankind,  
Christ Jesus, himself human,  
<sup>6</sup>who gave himself a ransom for all —

this was attested at the right time. <sup>7</sup>For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*We stand.*

**GOSPEL VERSE: Philippians 1:27**

John Helgen

**Choir** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

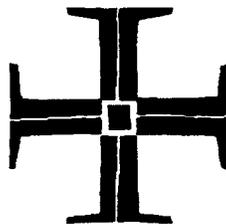
**C** REFRAIN (*below*)



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**Choir** Live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ;  
strive side by side for the faith of the gospel.

**C** REFRAIN



## HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 16:1–13

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixteenth chapter.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. <sup>2</sup>So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ <sup>3</sup>Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup>I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ <sup>5</sup>So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ <sup>6</sup>He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ <sup>7</sup>Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ <sup>8</sup>And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. <sup>9</sup>And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

<sup>10</sup>Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. <sup>11</sup>If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup>And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? <sup>13</sup>No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*We sit.*

### CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON: Faithful in Much: Celebrating the Riches of God’s Grace

Pastor David R. Lyle



*We stand.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY: A Life Begins, A Child Is Born

*Written for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Grace Lutheran School.*



1. A life be - gins, a child is born And placed in - to our  
2. Christ Je - sus, Teach - er sent from God, Through whom all bless - ings  
3. You want the whole world to be saved, And come to know the  
4. See what a har - vest we still reap From seeds sown long a -



care. How shall we mold this spe - cial life, How train God's pre - cious  
flow, You are the wis - dom that we seek, To whom else should we  
truth; Your Spir - it draws us to your love Be - gin - ning in our  
go; So will the wis - dom we pass on Bless more than we can



heir? Where is the mod - el and the plan To  
go? You have the word that sets us free, To  
youth. Like pu - pils sit - ting at your feet, We  
know! Lord, keep on teach - ing us your ways, Your



build the life that God be - gan.  
be what we were meant to be.  
learn what makes our joy com - plete.  
wis - dom guide us all our days!

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda (1919–2008), Copyright © 1995 Concordia Publishing House.

Music: GRACE CHURCH NEW, Carl F. Schalk (1929–2021), Copyright © 1995 GIA Publications.

## APOSTLES' CREED

**P** Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

**C** 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,

**C** 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.

**C** And also with you.

*We greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

*We sit.*

## OFFERING/MISSION MOMENT

Forward in Faith Committee

*Giving is one of the ways we participate in all that God is doing through Grace.  
Visit [GraceRiverForest.org](http://GraceRiverForest.org) to give online.*

*We stand as the gifts are presented.*

**OFFERTORY HYMN: God Is Good All the Time**

*Written as the Chapel theme hymn for the 2020–2021 academic year of Grace Lutheran School.*



1. God is good all the time Like sun that shines and \_\_\_  
2. God is love all the time With love so vast it \_\_\_  
3. God is just all the time. God's mer - cy wel - comes  
4. God is good all the time! God's stead - fast love is \_\_\_



stars that glow. God our mak - er will pro - vide All  
must be shared. All our sor - rows, all our fears Are  
great and small. Age to age we hear God's voice Which  
ev - er sure. All earth's crea - tures join the song: For -



that we need to live and grow.  
safe in God's un - fail - ing care.  
calls on us to care for all.  
ev - er will God's love en - dure!

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Tune: Copyright © 2020 by Michael D. Costello. All Rights Reserved.

GRACE'S 125th  
6 8 7 8

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

- A** Let us pray. Merciful Father,
- C** 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** 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.

- 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:



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



Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.



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.



☐ You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God;  
you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.  
You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,  
that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.  
Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will  
and accomplished our salvation.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,  
his life-giving Passion and death,  
his glorious resurrection and ascension, and his promise to come again,  
we give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, not as we ought, but as we are able;  
and we implore you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving,  
and, with your Word and Holy Spirit, to bless us, your servants,  
and these your own gifts of bread and wine;  
that we and all who share in the body and blood of your Son  
may be filled with heavenly peace and joy,  
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be sanctified in soul and body,  
and have our portion with all your saints.

All honor and glory are yours, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church, now and forever.

☑ **Amen.**

☐ 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,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

- Ⓟ The gifts of God for the people of God.
- Ⓞ **Thanks be to God.**
- Ⓟ 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. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

**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.  
 We receive communion at the head of the center aisle, receiving the consecrated bread  
 and then drinking directly from the chalice or dipping the bread into the wine (intinction).  
 Those choosing individual cups will find non-alcoholic wine in the center of the tray.  
 Those with a gluten allergy may ask the pastor for a gluten-free host.*



MUSIC FOR THE COMMUNION

ANTHEM: A Jubilant Song

Mary Lynn Lightfoot

*Cantate Domino canticum novum.*  
Sing to the Lord a new jubilant song!  
*Cantate Domino canticum novum omnis terra.*  
Sing to the Lord all the earth!

Let the sea roar and the floods clap their hands!  
Let the hills sing together for joy!  
Let the heavens and the earth all rejoice,  
for the Lord is greatly to be praised!

Proclaim God's salvation! Declare God's great glory!  
Lift up a jubilant song and make joyful noise!

HYMN: All Depends on Our Possessing

(green) LBW #447



1 All de - pends on our pos - sess - ing God's free grace and  
2 God, who hith - er - to has fed me and to man - y  
3 When with sor - row I am strick - en, hope my heart a -  
4 Well he knows what best to grant me; all the long - ing  
5 If on earth my days he length - en, God my wea - ry



con - stant bless - ing, though all earth - ly wealth de - part.  
joys has led me, is and ev - er shall be mine.  
new will quick - en, all my long - ing shall be stilled.  
hopes that haunt me, joy and sor - row, have their day.  
soul will strength - en; all my trust in him I place.



They who trust with faith un - shak - en by their God are  
He who did so gent - ly school me, he who dai - ly  
To his lov - ing - kind - ness ten - der soul and bod - y  
I shall doubt his wis - dom nev - er; as God wills, so  
Earth - ly wealth is not a - bid - ing; like a stream a -



not for - sak - en and will keep a daunt - less heart.  
guides and rules me, will re - main my help di - vine.  
I sur - ren - der, for on God a - lone I build.  
be it ev - er; to him I com - mit my way.  
way it's glid - ing; safe I an - chor in his grace.

Text: *Gesang-Buch*, Nürnberg, 1676; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878, alt.  
Music: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645-1705, adapt.

**ANTHEM:** Awake, Thou Spirit, Who Didst Fire

Setting by Richard Hillert

Awake, thou Spirit, who didst fire  
The watchmen of the Church's youth,  
Who faced the foe's envenomed ire,  
Who witnessed day and night thy truth,  
Whose voices loud are ringing still  
And bringing hosts to know thy will.

Lord, let our earnest prayer be heard,  
The prayer thy Son hath bid us pray;  
For, lo, thy children's hearts are stirred  
In every land in this our day  
To cry with fervent soul to thee,  
Oh, help us Lord! So let it be!

Oh, haste to help ere we are lost!  
Send preachers forth, in Spirit strong,  
Armed with thy Word, a dauntless host,  
Bold to attack the rule of wrong;  
Let them the earth for thee reclaim,  
Thy heritage, to know thy name.

And let thy Word have speedy course,  
Through every land be glorified,  
Till all the heathen know its force  
And fill thy churches far and wide.  
Oh, spread the conquest of thy Word  
And let thy kingdom come, dear Lord! Amen.

Carl H. von Bogatzky, 1750; tr., Catherine Winkworth, 1855

**HYMN:** With Faith and Thanksgiving

*Written as the Chapel theme hymn for the 2022–2023 academic year of Grace Lutheran School.*



1. With faith and thanks - giv - ing we bring all our cares  
2. When all seems a - gainst us, when each day is tough  
3. So trust in God's mer - cy and un - fail - ing pow'r



To God our cre - a - tor who list - ens to prayers.  
And all our best ef - forts seem not quite e - nough,  
And lean on God's pre - sence in each pass - ing hour.



Our wor - ry, our sad - ness, and e - ven our fears  
God holds us and helps us and speaks words of grace:  
Be - yond un - der - stand - ing, God's faith - ful love keeps



Are wel - comed, ac - cept - ed, by God's pa - tient ear.  
"I've got this, I love you, now rest in my peace."  
Your heart and your mind safe in Christ's per - fect peace.

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HUMPHREY  
11 11 11 11

*We stand.*

**POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER**

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

**C** 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.

**C** Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

**BENEDICTION**

**P** Almighty God: Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**C** Amen.



SENDING HYMN: God of Grace and God of Glory

(green) LBW #415

Concertato by Michael D. Costello



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple  
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -  
**Choir** 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to  
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;  
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us  
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,  
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.  
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969

Music: CWM RHONDDA. John Hughes, 1873–1932

**DISMISSAL**

**A** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE:** *Nun danket alle Gott* (March triomphale), Op.65, No. 13

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

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### LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Troy E. Medlin	<b>Presiding Minister</b>
The Rev. David R. Lyle	<b>Preaching Minister</b>
The Rev. Michael D. Costello	<b>Cantor</b>
Gary Howell	<b>Assisting Minister</b>
Lori Martin	<b>Deacon</b>
Carrie and David Simpson	<b>Lectors</b>
Samuel Schueler and Naomi Schubkegel	<b>Crucifer/Bible Bearer</b>
Jessica Bullock and Esther Armstrong	<b>Gift Bearers</b>
Chuck Shea, Martin Becker, Marcia Nolan, Eliza Grahnke	<b>Ushers</b>
Roberta Gillespie and Catherine Amato	<b>Altar Guild</b>
Grace School 5 <sup>th</sup> –8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Choir and Grace Parish Choir	<b>Choirs</b>
Michael D. Costello and Johanna Johnson	<b>Directors</b>
Al Swanson and Andrew Costello	<b>Livestream audio/video</b>

# A Brief History of Grace Lutheran School: Faith, Wisdom, Humility, and Service

*Tell your children of it, and let your children tell their children,  
and their children another generation.*

—Joel 1:3

Grace Lutheran School was founded in 1895 by German Lutheran families who were members of St. John Lutheran Church in Forest Park. Erecting a branch school in northwest Oak Park meant that their children no longer had to walk 1.7 muddy miles down Harlem Avenue to school each day. Soon the building also served as a worship space for these families on Sunday afternoons, and in 1902 they organized a new congregation named Grace. The church building they dedicated in 1904 still stands at the corner of Augusta and Belleforte.



The tradition of the candlelight cross procession at the beginning of the Christmas Eve service was begun in 1949 and remains a treasured school tradition today.

*(Photo by Don Heimburger, December 24, 2019)*

The first teacher at the school was a retired pastor who taught 45 students in a single classroom. Both school and congregation flourished in the early years of the 20th century, and by 1920, Grace students received their catechism instruction in English rather than German. Concordia Teachers College, which had opened in Addison in 1864 moved to River Forest in 1913, the beginning of a long relationship with Grace, as Concordia students observed and practiced teaching in Grace School classrooms.

In 1929 the congregation purchased the lot at the corner of Division and Bonnie Brae from Concordia and built a new school and church, taking on what seemed like a colossal debt at the beginning of the Great Depression. School enrollment climbed slowly during these years and then exploded following World War II, rising from 287 students in 1949 to an all-time high of 367 children in 1955. Then, as now, many of these students came from families who were not members of Grace Church. (And yes, class sizes were well beyond what educators would find acceptable today!) A new wing was added to the building in 1953, with six additional classrooms, the classrooms currently used by grades 1-2 and 7-8. What we now often call the “new” building

was dedicated in 1999 and includes the gym and the classrooms for grades 3-6 gathered around the third-floor commons.

But it is the people, not the building, that are most important in the history of Grace Lutheran School —past principals including Victor Waldschmidt, Jerry Koenig, and Hugh Kress; creative teachers such as Elfrieda Miller, Morella Mensing, and Margaret Kruse; gifted church musicians such as Paul Bouman, Carl Halter, and John Folkening; pastoral leadership from Otto Geiseman, Dean Lueking, and Bruce Modahl; and of course, legendary custodian and bus driver Gunther Gutgesell. These faithful stewards, along with many more, have served Grace students through the years as examples of faith, wisdom, humility, and service. We give thanks for them today, as well as for the thousands of graduates of Grace School whose lives have exemplified faith and trust in God's abundant grace and mercy.

*If you'd like to know more about the school's history, take a look at the school timeline posted on the east wall of Fellowship Hall, along with a list of all the teachers who have taught at Grace School through the years. You're invited to add your own memories of Grace Church and School to the timeline using Post-Its that you'll find on the lunch tables. And join us after lunch in Fellowship Hall as we reminisce about the school in several rounds of Grace School Jeopardy.*

*This brief history of the school is taken from the book "Lift High the Cross," written for the school centennial in 1996. Copies are available in the Grace Church library.*

# Sent Out to Serve: Grace School's Impact

*Live your life in a manner worthy of the Gospel of Christ.*

—Philippians 1:27

Since 2014, Grace School has recognized with its Distinguished Alumni Award graduates whose accomplishments embody the mission and values of Grace Lutheran Church and School. Christian education at Grace School has set the course for these and thousands of other individuals. Their influence extends into families and communities and impacts the worlds of education, business, civic life, and social, scientific and cultural pursuits. Here are brief examples of the impact made by **Grace's Distinguished Alumni Award winners**.

## LIVES OF SERVICE IN EDUCATION

**Margaret Kruse '49** and **Lyle Mortensen '65** became dedicated Lutheran teachers and administrators here at Grace. **Jay Christopher '58** continues as an entrepreneur and dedicated philanthropist guided by a commitment to Lutheran education. **Paul Grotelueschen '73** is a retired Lt. Colonel in the U.S. Air Force who played baseball internationally and coaches at Trinity International University.

## PERFORMING ARTISTS WITH DIVERSE STYLES AND INTERESTS

**Rob Clearfield '99** took his training at Grace to Chicago's improvisational jazz scene. Today he is a pianist, keyboardist, guitarist and composer living, performing, and recording in Paris. **Dena El Saffar '86** and her brother **Amir El Saffar** are versatile musicians performing in classical, jazz and Middle Eastern musical styles, the latter drawing on their family's Iraqi and American heritage. Dena teaches violin, viola and oud in Bloomington, Indiana, while Amir, a jazz trumpeter, band leader and composer, tours both nationally and internationally. **Mark Lamos '60** credits his Grace teachers Paul Bouman and Elfrieda Miller for laying the groundwork of his career as an actor, director and artistic director in the American theater. He has directed productions at the Lyric Opera of Chicago, on Broadway and at Lincoln Center. Under his direction, Hartford Stage won the 1989 Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre, and he has been nominated for two other Tonys. He is now Artistic Director of the Westport Country Playhouse.

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO HEALTHCARE, SCIENCE AND SOCIETY

**Dr. Ryan Uitti '74** is the former chair of the Department of Neurology at Mayo Clinic and an expert in the treatment of Parkinson's disease. **Joyce Hagen Fites '71** held several leadership roles in the healthcare industry. An active civic volunteer, she serves on the board of Valparaiso University. She and her husband, Don Fites, support the Immokalee Foundation of Naples, Florida, which provides educational programs that build pathways to professional careers and economic independence. **Noelani Ho '09** was recognized for her work while in high school leading a ballet program in the Austin neighborhood and winning a science fair with her design for more affordable, supportive ballet pointe shoes. She is currently pursuing a career in medicine. **Tyler J. VanderWeele PhD '90** is the Loeb Professor of Epidemiology in the Departments of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. He is also the Director of the Human Flourishing Program and Co-Director of the Initiative on Health, Religion and Spirituality at Harvard University. His research explores how the religious community shapes the health and well-being of society through social relationships, common values, healthy behaviors, moral beliefs, hope and resilience. He said Grace School profoundly shaped his life – mentioning teachers Margaret Kruse and Ellie Schnack.

## GLOBAL OUTREACH, THE CHURCH AND PEACE

**Reverend Dr. Stephen Bouman '61** continues as an interim Lutheran pastor and writer following his leadership roles as Bishop of the ELCA Metropolitan New York Synod and Executive Director of ELCA's Congregational and Synodical Mission Unit — positions that took him to the Middle East, Europe and Africa. **Jan Schalk Westrick '69** recently retired as Professor of Education at Valparaiso University. She served 25 years at the Hong Kong International School in a wide variety of elementary and high school teaching and administrative positions. She worked for UNICEF on child-friendly initiatives focusing on quality and equity in education in places such as Oman, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Uzbekistan. **Joan Rohlfing '74** seeks to galvanize global action to reduce urgent nuclear dangers. She served as the President and Chief Operating Office of the Nuclear Threat Initiative, whose mission is to strengthen global security by reducing the risk of use and spread of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons.

# A Message from the Forward in Faith Endowment Committee

*Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God,  
serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.*

—1 Peter 4:10

In early 2020, a small group of Grace members began talking about the Christian education mission of Grace Lutheran Church and School – especially as we anticipated celebrating the 125th anniversary of the founding of Grace Lutheran School. Through God’s grace and the investment of time, talent, and treasure by members of the Grace community, we have set the course for the future of the school, even amidst unprecedented challenges and change.

We’ve been inspired by stories of the school’s impact on current students and graduates and the continuing strength of student outcomes. Above all, we reaffirmed the increasing relevance of our school as a visible sign of God’s Kingdom in the world. Our families, communities, country, and world need individuals with the qualities a Grace education imparts — intellectual curiosity, a strong moral compass, and a heart for service.

Your inspiration and belief in the mission are critical as we set the course for the future of Grace school together. Your generosity in establishing the new Forward in Faith endowment is a tangible expression of God’s work through us. This growing source of financial revenue for the school will enable Grace to maintain its strong educational and faith tradition and be open to new ideas and innovation. Together we are preparing to send out the next generation of students into a world known to be difficult yet with opportunities limited only by the imagination.

Please accept our gratitude for your commitments to Grace Lutheran School. And please know we are also gratified that many additional donors have expressed interest in making a commitment to the school’s endowment, including those who are considering including Grace Lutheran School in their estate plans or making a gift at the end of the calendar year. Commitments to this phase of the Forward in Faith campaign can be made through the end of 2022 and a complete list of donors will be published again in early 2023.

In Christ,  
Richard Martens ’59 and Lori Martin ’74  
*Forward in Faith Endowment Committee Co-Chairs*

  
**Forward**  
**IN FAITH**

## **Committee Members**

Esther Armstrong  
Brian Becker  
Candice Buchbinder  
James Claud, *Chair, Elementary Education Committee*  
Scott Christopher ’60  
Gwen Gotsch  
Mary Jane Keitel  
Bill Koehne, *Principal*  
David Lyle, *Senior Pastor*  
Lyle Mortensen ’65

## ✦ DONORS ✦

THANK YOU! These individuals have made gifts and commitments to the Forward in Faith campaign through September 7, 2022. Should you wish to join this group being recognized for their support, or to make a gift anonymously, we encourage you to make your intentions known to Principal Bill Koehne by the end of the calendar year. You may also make a gift or pledge today by visiting the welcome table in the library.

Anonymous	Bob and Kathy Hale	Lyle and Jane Mortensen
Dr. Douglas and Ann Anderson	George S. Hallenbach	Joseph Niedzielak
Neal and Esther Armstrong	Janis Harris	Verna Offermann
Carolyn Becker and Rev. Gale Schmidt	Justin and Emily Hartung	Ruth Rehwaldt
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	Rev. Troy Medlin	
	Rev. Bruce and Jackie Modahl	

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Mark Bouman and Mary Jane Keitel, and Randy and Janet Peterson

Carolyn and Walter Martin by Lori Martin and Fred Potter

Samuel and Lydia Janzow by Paul and Christine Phillips

Dr. and Mrs. Herbert M. Gross by Herb and Carol Gross

*We make every effort to ensure this list is complete and accurate.  
If you see errors or omissions, kindly bring them to our attention  
by calling 708-366-6900 so that we may correct our records and  
acknowledge you properly.*

**GRACE  
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