

Pentecost 22
October 24, 2021

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Making Christ Known to all Through Grace

2225 Washington Street, Lincoln NE 68502 + 402-474-1505 + www.egrace.org

Network: GLC-Balcony

Password: AlphaOmega

WELCOME to worship

Grace Lutheran Church, a church of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, has been at the heart of the faith community in Lincoln since 1889.

- We follow our mission: "Making Christ known to all through Grace."
- We celebrate our purpose: "That by God's grace we have been gathered to worship, called to witness, and sent to serve."
- We seek our vision: "To become a church with a passion for fostering a welcoming community that strives for peace and a sense of belonging."

Thank you for worshipping with us today and join our community at any time!

WORSHIP notes

Remember your response is marked in **BOLD** font.

Hearing enhancement devices are available in the entry space. Ask an usher to assist you.

Restrooms are located next to our chapel on the other side of the courtyard.

Masks are required for everyone during worship.

INTRODUCTION to worship

Can we pray the way Bartimaeus prays? People try to hush him up because by addressing Jesus as "Son of David" he is making a politically dangerous claim that Jesus is the rightful king. Could our prayers ever be heard as a threat to unjust powers that be? Bartimaeus won't give up or go away quietly, but repeats his call for help more loudly. Do we ask so boldly? And are our prayers an honest answer to Jesus' question, "What do you want me to do for you?"

GATHERING

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

WELCOME

PRELUDE: "Amazing Grace", New Britain, arr. Patricia Sanders Cota, 1996

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STAND

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart. *Silence*

God our comforter:

like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in ✠ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

God, Whose Almighty Word



1 God, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard
2 Christ, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,
3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,
4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,



and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the
heal - ing and sight; health to the trou - bled mind, sight where il -
speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the
Wis - dom, Love, Might: bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in



gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light.
lu - sions blind; oh, now to hu - man-kind let there be light.
lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place let there be light.
full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide, let there be light.

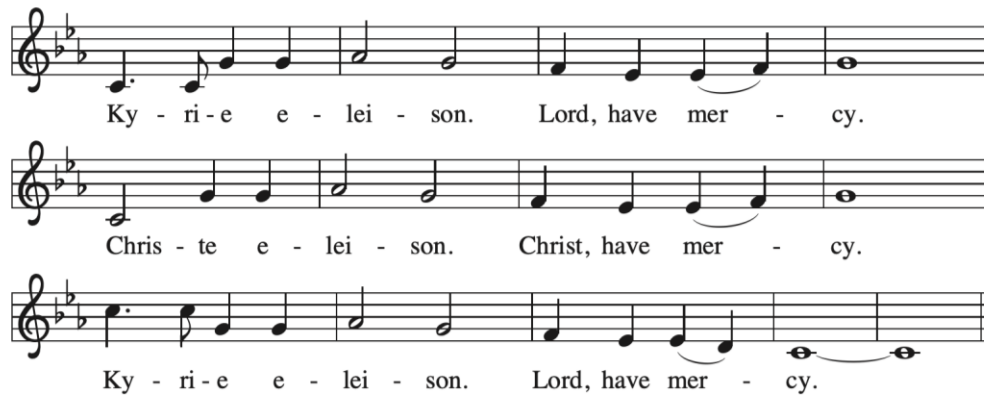
Text: John Marriott, 1780–1825, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

GREETING

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

KYRIE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal light, shine in our hearts. Eternal wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal compassion, have mercy on us. Turn us to seek your face, and enable us to reflect your goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

SIT

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-9

This passage speaks not only of the southern kingdom, Judah, and its homecoming from exile in Babylon, but also of the northern kingdom ("Israel" or "Ephraim") and its restoration. The northern tribes of Israel had been lost in exile to Assyria more than a century before Jeremiah prophesied.

A reading from Jeremiah:

⁷Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
"Save, O LORD, your people,
the remnant of Israel."

⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

⁹With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 126



Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

Psalm 126:6

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 1996 Augsburg Fortress
May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

¹When the LORD restored the for- | tunes of Zion,
then were we like | those who dream.

²Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with | shouts of joy.
Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great | things for them.” R

³The LORD has done great ¹ things for us,
and we are ¹ glad indeed.

**⁴Restore our for- | tunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses | of the Negeb.**

⁵Those who I sowed with tears
will reap with I songs of joy.

**⁶Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,
will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves. R**

Second Reading: Hebrews 7:23-28

Human priests of old offered sacrifice for their own sins and served only until their death. In contrast, Jesus is God's Son, the holy, sinless, resurrected high priest. Death did not terminate his priestly service, but through his death he has interceded for our sins.

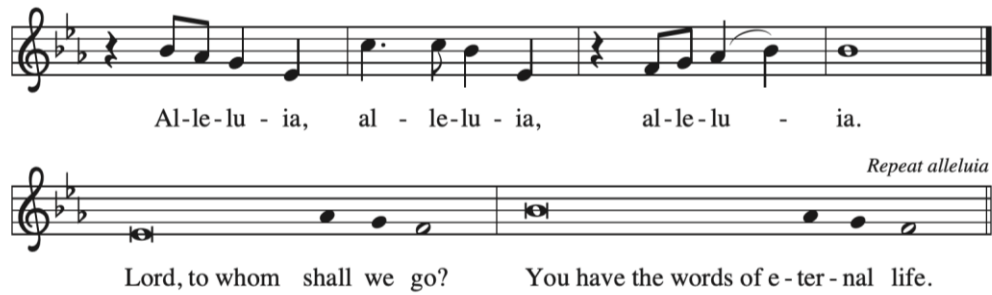
A reading from Hebrews:

²³The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office;
²⁴but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. ²⁵Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

²⁶For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. ²⁷Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. ²⁸For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

STAND



Gospel: Mark 10:46-52

Bartimaeus comes to Jesus with faith, asking that he might see again. Recognizing Jesus' identity, Bartimaeus is the first person to call him "Son of David" in the Gospel of Mark.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁴⁶As [Jesus] and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁸Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁹Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." ⁵⁰So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." ⁵²Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SIT
SERMON

STAND
HYMN OF THE DAY

O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate



**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 INTERCESSION

Set free from sin and death and nourished by the word of truth, we join in prayer for all of God's creation. *A brief silence.*

Risen One, we give you thanks for congregations and ministries throughout the world that serve as centers of prayer and action. Empower missionaries, teachers, healers, evangelists, and all who are sent to share your song of joy. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy One, we give you thanks for generous land that produces abundant harvests. Strengthen and protect all soils, from rooftop gardens to prairie farmlands, to patio planters to fertile valleys, and bless all who lovingly tend them. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Ruling One, we give you thanks for leaders of nations who work to build up the common good. Strengthen efforts of reconciliation among all nations (*especially*), that peace extends in every direction. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Healing One, we give you thanks for all who labor for the health of others. Comfort and strengthen all who struggle with chronic pain. Send healing and relief to all who are sick. Especially those we name before you now.... Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Providing One, we give you thanks for all who provide for others. Inspire generosity in your people, so that we carry out the work of making disciples of all nations. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Living One, we give you thanks for the saints who have increased our faith. Give us courage to follow in hope until you gather us all around your table of abundance. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Confident that you hear us, O God, we boldly place our prayers into your hands; through Jesus Christ, our truth and life. **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Christ.

SIT

MUSIC OFFERING: "I Lift My Eyes Up To The Hills", Thomas Keesecker, 2007

I lift my eyes up to the hills; where will my help come from?

My help comes from the creator of heaven and earth.

God will not let you stumble, your protector will always be near.

The God of Israel will not fall asleep.

God will keep you from all harm; you will rest in God's shade.
God will protect you, keep you safe, both night and day.

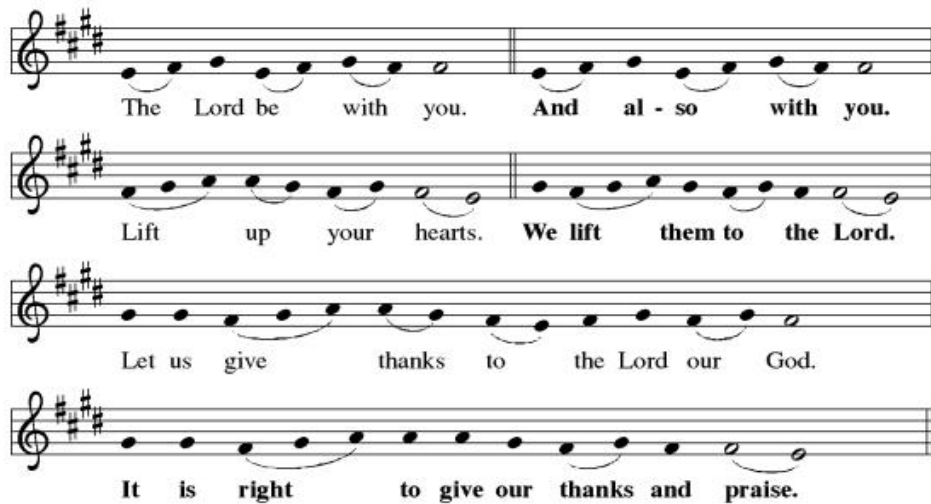
God will keep you from evil, God will watch over you all your life.
The Lord will watch you wherever you go, both now and forever more.

STAND

OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens.
Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

DIALOG



PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should always 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. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All who hunger and thirst, come. The table is ready.

COMMUNION SONG

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.

COMMUNION

Come forward by way of the center aisle to receive the wafer (Body of Christ). Gluten free is available upon request. Move to the next station to receive the cup (Blood of Christ). Red grape juice is available. Return to your pew by way of the side aisle. Please dispose your used cup into the basket at the head of the side aisle.

COMMUNION HYMN

Healer of Our Every Ill

Refrain

Heal - er of our ev - ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,
give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.

1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your

Refrain

peace and glad-ness; Spir-it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.
still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.
ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir-it of all kind-ness, be our guide.
way of heal - ing; Spir-it of com-pas - sion, fill each heart.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL, Marty Haugen

Text and music © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com 800.442.3358.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

STAND

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

God sends us in mission to the world.

SENDING HYMN

Be Thou My Vision



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,

naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!

thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

BLESSING

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, ☩ one God, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: "Cantad al Senor", O Sing to the Lord, Brazilian folk song, arr. Kevin McChesney, 1996

WORSHIP Contributors:

Worship leader:	Eric Leshner
Organist/Pianist:	Anne Melang-Thoren/Jennifer Aliwarga-Carlson
Bell Choir:	Lisa Holmstrom, Dave Rathjen, Jillian Jensen, Isabel Kuebler, Peter Schnake
Cantor/Music Offering:	Chancel Choir
Communion Assistants:	Roger Potts and Julene Leshner
Bread:	Chris and Wendy Apple
Altar Guild:	Doug and Sarah Krueger
Wine:	Pat Lickei, Ron and Carolyn Ossian, Jan and Terry Branting
Ushers:	Robert Stimbert, Neil Larson, Ron Holtgrewe

WORSHIP RESTRICTIONS

The following temporary changes will occur for the foreseeable future:

- As always, if you are ill or at risk, please stay at home and watch the service online.
- Masks are required for everyone during worship.
- We will enter the building through the North doors. The doors will be locked at 9:10. All other doors will be locked.
- There will hand sanitizers in the narthex. If you wish you can sanitize your hands prior to entering the worship space.
- There will be no offering. There will be an offering basket located at the entrance door to the sanctuary.
- There will be no sharing of the peace.
- The presiding minister will greet you in the narthex after the postlude.
- There will be no reader, or acolyte
- There will be no nursery available.



Rev. Catherine Miller remembers her sister-in-law who was killed in a car accident. Before the accident she and her husband were foster parents for traumatized children. They gave these children second chances believing they could thrive in a loving Christian family and a supportive community.

In today's reading, we find Bartimeus, a blind beggar with a deep faith in God living on society's margins. He cries out to Jesus as he's leaving Jericho, "Son of David, have mercy on me." Jesus asks, "what do you want from me?" and Bartimeus says, "Heal Me." Jesus heals him and says, "Go, your faith has made you well." In this reading we learn that gratitude increases with faith. Faith that sees with the soul. A broken soul.

Bartimaeus' miraculous healing happened because of his faith. He saw with his soul. Thomas Merton said, "Gratitude is the heart of the Christian life." May our faith continue to increase our gratitude so we, in turn, can live with seeing hearts.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Coffee and cookies in the gym following worship. Treats today are provided by Yvonne Nielsen and Lois Schuerman. Sign-up list to host a coffee hour is outside the office. Who's next?

Green attendance cards can be filled out and returned to the Offering basket in the front of the church or the Welcome Table basket in the back of the church.

Cub Scout Pack 30 will be selling popcorn in the Atrium after worship today. Sales help support the work of the pack.

The Social Ministry committee is preparing thanksgiving boxes again this year. If you know of someone who needs a box for the holiday then contact Lori Drake at 402-310-8386 or ldrake3@neb.rr.com

2021 Offering Envelope boxes are available in the atrium after worship today or during the week.

The Lutheran magazine and **Daily Devotionals** are available in the narthex after worship or in the atrium during the week.

Flower chart is available in the atrium. You can sign up for flowers there and leave through the east main entrance.

Prayers of comfort and assurance as Betty Shaw enters hospice care in her battle with cancer.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

October 25:

Lessons	4:00 pm
Scouts BSA	7:00 pm

October 26:

Al-Anon	9:30 am
Lessons	4:00 pm
Cub Scouts	6:30 pm

October 27:

Bell Choir A	6:00 pm
Bell Choir B	7:00 pm
Confirmation	7:00 pm

October 28:

Quilting	9:00 am
----------	---------

October 29:

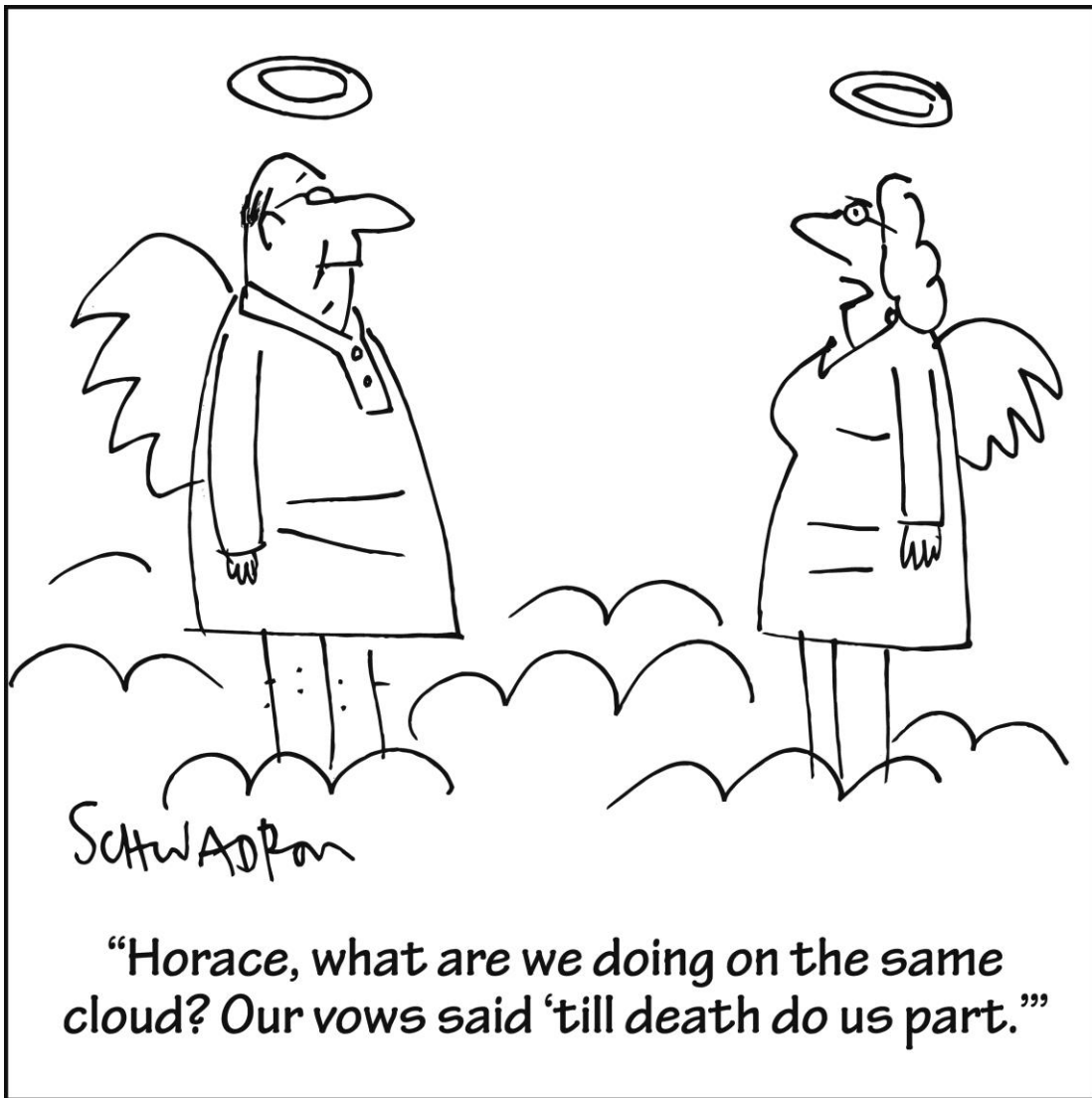
Suzuki Recital	3:00 pm
----------------	---------

October 30:

Worship	5:30 pm
---------	---------

October 31:

Reformation Sunday	9:00 am
Adult Choir	10:15 am



"Horace, what are we doing on the same cloud? Our vows said 'till death do us part.'"