



Pentecost 17
September 19, 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

Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them a flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly.

GATHERING

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

WELCOME

PRELUDE: "Morning Has Broken", Gaelic tune, re-harm. A. Melang-Thoren, 2021

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.

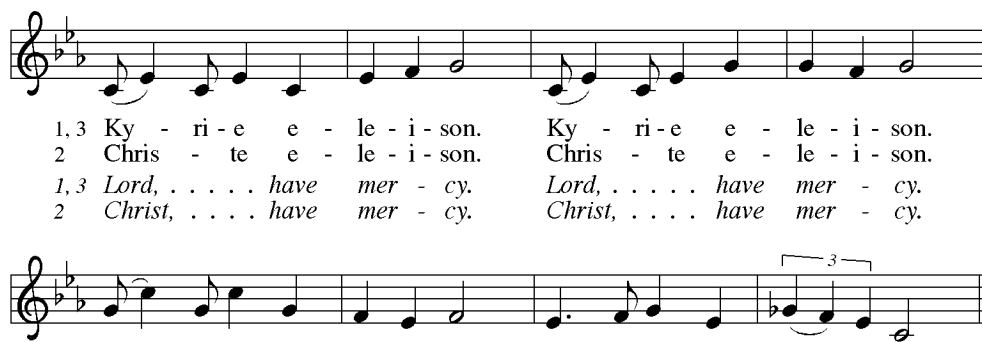
GATHERING HYMN (Intro then congregation sings vs. 1-2, bass solo, trumpet solo, congregation sings vs. 3-4)

Franz Joseph Haydn, 1732-1809
reharm: A. Melang-Thoren, 2019

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 (Intro and then congregation joins with piano & sings all 3 verses in English)

Kyrie



1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
2 Chris - te e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son.
1, 3 Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
2 Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Chris - te e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son.
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Music: Dinah Reindorf, b. c. 1927
Music © 1987 Dinah Reindorf, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

SIT

First Reading: Jeremiah 11:18-20

Today's reading tells of the suffering of the prophet Jeremiah, who announced God's word to Judah but was met with intense opposition and persecution. Jeremiah continues to trust in God amid his suffering.

A reading from Jeremiah:

¹⁸It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew;
then you showed me their evil deeds.

¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb
led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me
that they devised schemes, saying,
"Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
so that his name will no longer be remembered!"

²⁰But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously,
who try the heart and the mind,
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

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

Psalm: Psalm 54

A responsive reading from Psalm 54:

¹Save me, O God, by your name; in your might, defend my cause.

²**Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.**

³For strangers have revolted against me, and the ruthless have sought my life, those who have no regard for God.

⁴**Behold, God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life.**

God our helper, hear our prayer and uphold your church in times of testing. In the time of trouble, and in the day of deliverance, may we never cease to offer ourselves to you in praise and thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Second Reading: James 4:1-3, 7-8a

The wisdom God gives unites our hearts and minds. Instead of living to satisfy our own wants and desires, we submit ourselves to God.

A reading from James:

¹Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ^{8a}Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

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

STAND

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional

Gospel: Mark 9:30-37

Jesus' teaching and action in this text are directed to the church whenever it is seduced by the world's definition of greatness: prestige, power, influence, and money. The antidote to such a concern for greatness is servanthood.

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

³⁰[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;³¹ for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

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

SIT

SERMON

STAND

HYMN OF THE DAY (Intro and then congregation joins trumpet in singing the hymn)

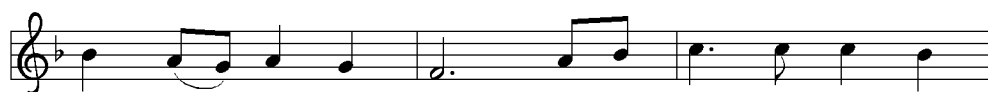
All Are Welcome



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 claim the faith of Je - sus:
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
 end to fear and dan - ger:
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen
 Text and music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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APOSTLES CREED

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 to the living,
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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.
A brief silence.

God of community, we pray for the church around the world. Unite us in our love for you. Help us overcome our divisions, that we are encouraged to work together for your sake. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of creation, we pray for this hurting earth. Awaken in us a new desire to care for this world and empower us to support agencies, organizations, and individual efforts to heal our environment. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of cooperation, we pray for nations of the world embroiled in conflict. Inspire leaders to listen to each other and work towards peaceful solutions to disagreements. Protect the vulnerable, especially children, who cannot find safety in their home or country. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of comfort, we pray for all who live with mental or physical illness. Help them find appropriate care. Bring healing and wholeness when the path forward seems bleak. We pray especially for those we name before you now...Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of consolation, we give you thanks for our loved ones who have died and pray for all who grieve today. Shine your grace on all your saints. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Christ.

SIT

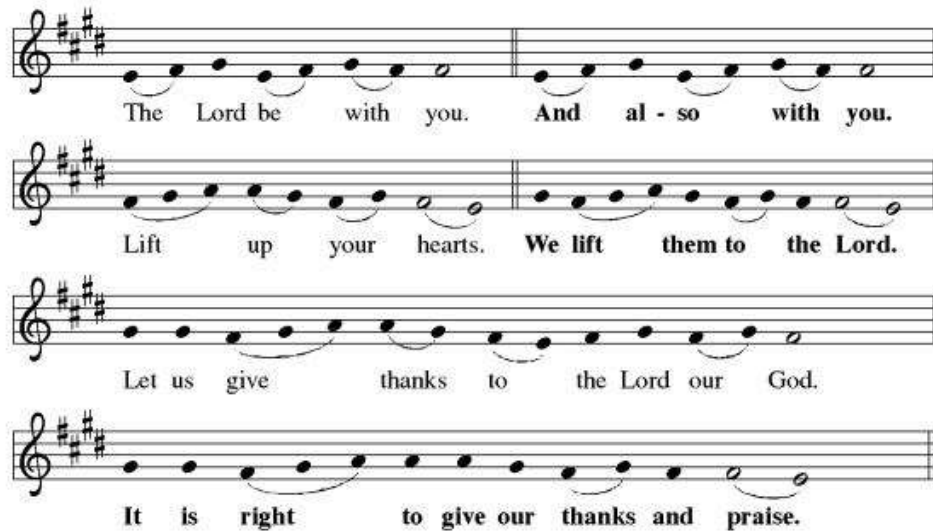
MUSIC OFFERING: "Let The Vineyards", Marty Haugen, b. 1950, re-harm. A. Melang-Thoren, 2019

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

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.

Music: *Bread of Life*, Jeremy Young, b. 1948
Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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.

DISTRIBUTION SONG

You Are Holy *Du är helig*

1*



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

2



Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

* May be sung in canon.

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945
Music: DU ÄR HELIG, Per Harling
Text and music © 1990 Ton Vis Produktion AB, admin. Augsburg Fortress in North America,
South America, and Central America, including the Caribbean.

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 (Intro and then congregation sings 1st section twice, then 2nd section twice, instrumental interlude, congregation repeats what was sung before)

The Lord Now Sends Us Forth *Enviado soy de Dios*



En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta es - tá
The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,
pa - ra cons - truir con él un mun - do fra - ter - nal.
to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.
Los án - ge - les no son en - via - dos a cam - biar
The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain
un mun - do de do - lor por un mun - do me - jor;
to do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name;
me ha to - ca - do a mí ha - cer - lo rea - li - dad.
that falls to you and me and all who are made free.
A - yú - da - me, Se - ñor, a ha - cer tu vo - lun - tad.
Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.

Text: Anonymous, Central America; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923
Music: ENVIADO, anonymous, Central America
English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.

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: "Go, My Children, With My Blessing", *Ar Hyd Y Nos*, Welsh traditional, arr. R. V. Williams, 1872-1958, re-harm., A. Melang-Thoren, 2020

WORSHIP ministers:

Worship leader:	Rev. Eric Leshar
Preacher:	Rev. Otto Schultz
Organist/Pianist:	Anne Melang-Thoren
Trumpet:	Damian David
Bass:	Jonah Bennett
Communion Assistants:	Cindy Eberspacher and Roger Potts
Bread:	Chris and Wendy Apple
Altar Guild:	Kurt and Cindy Eberspacher
Wine:	Dave Ripa
Ushers:	Lynette and Mike Lews John and Beth Johnson
Fellowship Treats:	Darlene Stutheit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Coffee and treats in the gym following worship.

Adult Class will start at 10:30 in Leshar Lounge.

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.

2021 CROP Hunger Walk is October 10th. To sign up go to:
<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/event/lincolnne>

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.



Cathy Clement remembers her mother-in-law as woman who taught Sunday School and volunteered at a local Girls Club. Her home was always open to any family member and yet her own family abandoned her near the end of her life. Her life raises questions for us. Are we striving to be the greatest or a servant leader? What are the characteristics of a servant leader? Who has inspired you to serve others?

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

September 20:

Lincoln Literacy	9:15 am
Lessons	4:00 pm
Gathering Place	5:00 pm
Boy Scouts	7:00 pm

September 21:

Al-Anon	9:30 am
Lessons	4:00 pm
Cub Scouts	6:30 pm
WELCA Group 6	7:00 pm

September 22:

Lincoln Literacy	9:15 am
Bell Choir A	6:00 pm
Bell Choir B	7:00 pm
Confirmation	7:00 pm

September 23:

Quilting	9:00 am
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September 25:

Worship	5:30 pm
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September 26:

Worship	9:00 am
Adult Choir	10:15 am

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.



OUR MISSION

The faith community has often seen alcoholism, drug dependence, and other addictions as simply a moral issue or a sin that separates us from God. The medical profession recognizes it as a complex disease that affects the entire family.

We at Faith Partners see addiction disease like other chronic illnesses (i.e. heart disease, diabetes) which have identifiable symptoms and behavioral components, but unlike the other chronic diseases, addiction has a spiritual remedy.

The faith community is one of the principal healers for addiction and in fact has a moral responsibility to address the addiction issue by creating a safe place to start the conversation and respond to those individuals and families in need of hope and healing.

OUR HISTORY

Faith Partners, a non-profit 501c3, was founded in 1995 by religious leaders seeking ways to mobilize faith communities' resources to address alcohol and drug issues.

In 2004, after years of development, Faith Partners congregational team approach was elevated to a national audience with a five-year collaboration with the Johnson Institute.

A national religious leaders' summit and major outreach efforts marked this time together with the endorsement of the United Methodist Church and the Presbyterian Church USA. Today the Faith Partners Congregational Team Model is used in hundreds of congregations in twenty-three states with nineteen different faith traditions.

OUR MODEL

Faith Partners provides the leadership, training, educational materials and consultation to initiate, develop and sustain congregation teams. The structured approach strengthens the ability of the congregation to create an environment where fewer individuals and families will experience substance abuse problems and will receive support earlier in the illness. Each congregation works to create a safe place that allows for the conversation and encourages

people to access needed services consistent with their own faith perspective and personal experience with addiction.

The Faith Partners congregational team approach consists of trained lay people who serve the congregational community. It is unique in that:

- It builds on the strengths of the congregation by involving lay people with special expertise, life experience, and a passion for this work;
- Clergy time, energy, and involvement are carefully utilized;
- Teams are trained in five areas of service including prevention, early intervention, referral assistance, recovery support, and advocacy; choosing programs to meet the needs of their congregational community;
- Teams network with other congregational teams and bridge to community resources, keeping their efforts focused on their congregation's mission and the communities' needs;
- This effort is relevant to the whole congregation, young and old, individuals and families; and,
- This ministry cultivates a compassionate response to all human problems that makes the congregation a safe, hospitable, and healing place.

If you want more information then go to **www.faith-partners.org**