

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 8, 2019

8:30 AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

God takes the initiative in finding the lost and rescuing them. Each of us is so precious to God that our recovery brings joy in heaven. Now Jesus helps us care for the lost too. We give thanks for all who make our lives safe, becoming God's hands as they rescue others.

We also remember the anniversary of September 11.

All baptized Christians are welcome to join in receiving Holy Communion as we celebrate the presence of Jesus among us. As you prepare for worship, please fill out a worship information sheets found in the red folders in each pew. Parents or children are welcome to use our "Wiggle Room" behind the sanctuary. Hearing assistance devices are available at the sound desk.

Congregation responses in **Bold**.

*Those who are able, please stand.

WE GATHER TO PRAISE THE LIVING GOD

PRELUDE

Sonata VI

Mendelssohn

WELCOME/GREET ONE ANOTHER

*CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the house of God, and we are, by Christ's invitation the guests.

Yes, this is the house of God, and we are, by saving grace, the guests.

Sing to God who is our strength! Shout and cheer the God of deepest joys!

Lift up our songs, make joy with keyboard, strum the guitar and let the drums roll!

This is the house of God

and we are, by grace, the guests.

*GATHERING SONG

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.

*GREETING

Sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved children of God,
grace and peace be with you all.

And also with you.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WE HEAR THE WORDS OF LIFE

READING

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

We hear a reading from Deuteronomy.

¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

*VERSE

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a common time signature. It consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word. Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood. When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way. Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil."

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950
Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson
Text and music © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc., admin. Augsburg Fortress.

MESSAGE FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL/PRESENTATION OF BIBLES

Dear friends in Christ, when you brought your children for Holy Baptism, part of your promise was “to place in their hands the Holy Scriptures.” As you place this Bible into your child’s hands, to be used in worship and Sunday School, know that we work together to help all children grow in faith.

When your parents brought you to the church to be baptized, you may have been too little to read or write, walk or talk. Through Holy Baptism, God promised to be with you as you grew. And how you have grown! You are now ready to receive one of the great treasures of the faith, the written Word of God, the bible. We hope that you will read your bible at church and home, in Sunday School, Confirmation, and Youth Group, and continue to grow as a child of God.

COMMITMENT TO CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

By the waters of Holy Baptism we are claimed as God’s own and brought into a new community. Today we gather to celebrate the nurturing and teaching aspects of our faith community.

Do you accept the responsibility to use your talents and gifts to nurture the faith of all God’s people?

I do and I ask God to guide me.

Parents and guardians, you are the primary faith teachers of your children. Do you intend to model a faithful lifestyle and to continue in the promise you made at baptism?

I do and I ask God to lead me.

It is God’s intention that we are all drawn into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and that we all support each other as disciples in the world. Congregation, will you participate in faith-growing opportunities and support our educational ministry in your prayers and giving?

We will and we ask God to help us.

*VERSE

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

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*GOOD NEWS

Luke 14: 25-33

Good news from Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵Now large crowds were traveling with him; and he turned and said to them, ²⁶“Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace.³³So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions. (NRSV)

The good news of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

Pastor Dan Kahl

*SONG OF THE DAY

Take My Life, That I May Be



1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.
Music: PAIMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

WE SHARE IN THE LIVING LORD

*LITANY OF THANKSGIVING FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

You saw the need in your community. You looked in the mirror and said, "I can't do everything, but I can do something."

You are a blessing, and we thank God for you.

You signed up for training. You studied countless hours; you sweated through exams and waited for the results. You showed up for drills, when you might have spent the evening or the Saturday with friends.

You are a blessing, and we thank God for you.

You got the pager and the uniform. You took on the responsibility to respond when your neighbors, your friends, or even a stranger passing through needed someone to help.

You are a blessing, and we thank God for you.

The pager went off during dinner; it went off during the big game; it went off when you finally fell asleep at the end of a long day. You grabbed your gear, and went to the building, to the scene. You set aside your comfort and your plans, that someone else might have life, or hope, or comfort.

You are a blessing, and we thank God for you.

Then came the tough call. Too young. The long-time neighbor. The unimaginable scene.

You gave your best. Then you went home, and hugged your loved ones, and prayed for those who had lost so much.

You wondered if you'd done enough.

You are a blessing, and we thank God for you.

We give thanks to God for you. You exemplify for us, and for the next generation, the values of courage and service and commitment. You do not seek or wish our recognition, but today we say thanks you for all you do, quietly, faithfully, each day to make our community stronger.

You are a blessing, and we thank God for you.

*CALL TO PRAYER

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

OFFERING

Sonata VI

Mendelssohn

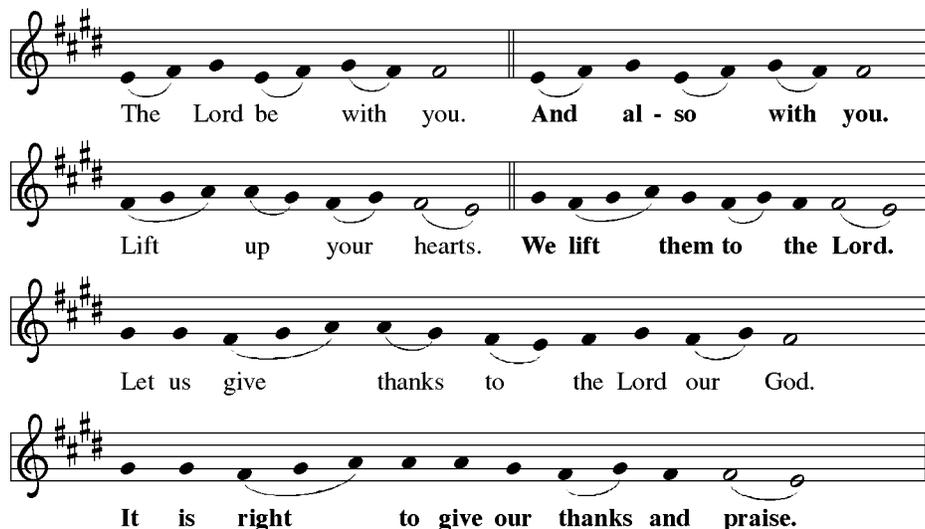
*OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth.

Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

*We invite all baptized believers to share with us in Holy Communion.
This morning the method of distribution will be intinction.
Gluten-free elements are available.
Please come to the front by the outside aisles and return by the center aisle.*

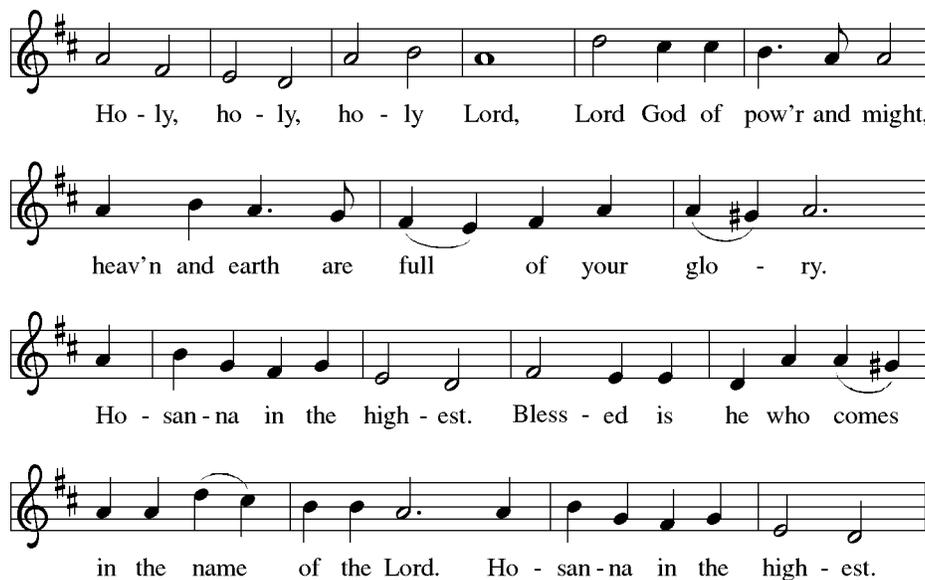
***GREAT THANKSGIVING**



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***PREFACE**

***HOLY, HOLY**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***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

The table of life is spread before you. Feast on the goodness and mercy of God.
Thanks be to God.

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less



1 My hope is built on nothing less than
2 When darkness veils his lovely face, I
3 His oath, his covenant, his blood
4 When he shall come with trumpet sound, oh,



Je - sus' blood and righteousness; no merit of my
rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and
tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are
may I then in him be found, clothed in his righ - teous -



own I claim, but wholly lean on Je - sus' name.
storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.
ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

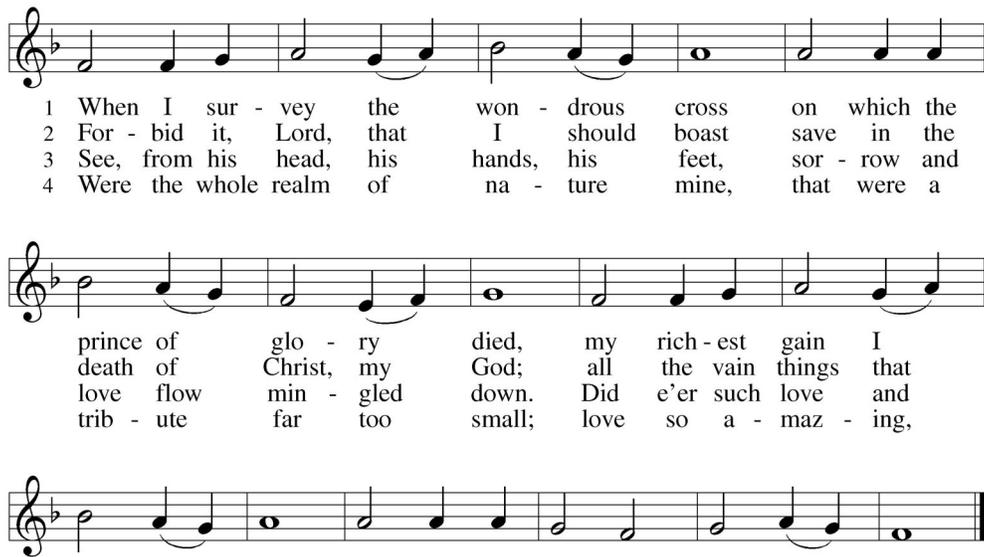
Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.
Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823-1876

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
 trib - ute far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748
 Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

We come again to you, O God, giving you thanks that in this feast of mercy you have embraced us and healed us, making us one in the body of Christ. Go with us on our way. Equip us for every good work, that we may continue to give you thanks by embracing others with mercy and healing; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WE DEPART TO SHARE THE WORDS OF LIFE

*BLESSING

God Almighty send you light and truth to keep you all the days of your life.
 The hand of God protect you; the holy angels accompany you;
 and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit,
 be with you now and forever.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SENDING SONG

Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther; there is no
2 Sum-mer and win-ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and



shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-
stars in their cours-es a-bove join with all na-ture in



pas-sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for-ev-er wilt be.
man-i-fold wit-ness to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy, and love.

Refrain



Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by



morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy



hand hath pro-vid-ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960

Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

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POSTLUDE

Sonata VI

Mendelssohn

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Adult Forum

Adult Forum books, *The Anatomy of Peace*, are available for pick up in the office.
Adult Forum begins today at 9:45 am. We meet in the upper level Library.

Honey Do Dinner Meeting

Men, please plan to attend our first planning/brainstorming meeting
TODAY, after second service.
We will meet in the upper level library.

Three year-old & third grade Sunday School Children receive a Bible during worship TODAY.

Busy Bags on Noah's Ark Board

These bags are provided for children to use during the worship service. Feel free to take one on your way to the pew. Please return them to the peg on the Ark as you leave the Sanctuary.—The Ark is located in the back, beside the sound desk.

Bell Choir rehearsals begin Monday, September 9. Rehearsal is in the balcony from 5:30-6:30 pm. We welcome new members. See Bruce Perry if you have questions.

Choir rehearsals are Wednesdays in the Fireside Room. Rehearsal is from 7-8 pm. New members are always welcome. See Bruce Perry if you have any questions.

Looking ahead...

September 11—Dorcas Cluster Fall Retreat at Twin Lakes
September 15—Sojourn Band at both Worship Services
(Sojourn is Pastor Dan's former band)
September 15—Sojourn Band Concert at 3 pm
October 6—Special Congregational Meeting
October 6—Pet Blessing at St. Mark's Episcopal Church
October 27—Trunk or Treat

Community Bible Study

Community Bible Study, (CBS), offers an interdenominational women's Bible study. CBS is not affiliated with any church. Exodus, Leviticus and Numbers will be studied this year. A preschool program is also offered.

CBS meets Thursday mornings beginning September 5. You can still join.
9-11 am, St. Olaf Lutheran Church, 239 N. 11th St., Fort Dodge.
For more information please contact Michelle Pratkelis at 515-570-5173.

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Sunday, September 8	<p>Bible Distribution (Children 3 years old & 3rd graders) Sunday School Teacher Blessing—10:45 am 8:30 am Traditional Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 9:45 am Adult Forum 10:45 am Creative Spirit Worship 11:45 am Honey-Do-Dinner meeting in upper level Library 1:30-4:30 pm Bridge-A-Rama at Friendship Haven 6-8 pm McColley’s Grace Group in home</p>
Monday, September 9	<p>8:30 am Quilting 9:30 am Women’s coffee 5:30 pm Bell practice 7:00 pm 500 Club 7:30 pm FDCCS</p>
Tuesday, September 10	<p>9:00 am Men’s Coffee 1:00 pm Mission Haiti</p>
Wednesday, September 11	<p>6:45 am Men’s Bible Study at ICCB Dorcas Cluster Retreat at Twin Lakes 5:45 pm ARiSE 7:00 pm Choir</p>
Thursday, September 12	<p>9:30 am Pastors’ Forum 6:30 pm Executive Team Meeting 6:30 pm Helen’s Grace Group 6:30 pm Divorce Care</p>
Saturday, September 14	<p>8:00 am Lutheran Men in Mission 10-1-Baby Shower in Fireside Room 2 pm Sojourn Band practice</p>
Sunday, September 15	<p>Sojourn Band 8:30 am Traditional Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 9:45 am Adult Forum 10:45 am Creative Spirit Worship 3:00 pm Sojourn Concert</p>

Mission Statement

In celebration of God’s grace,
 given through Jesus Christ, we
 seek to grow through worship,
 teaching, fellowship and
 reaching out with our gifts to
 share the gospel and serve the
 needs of all people.