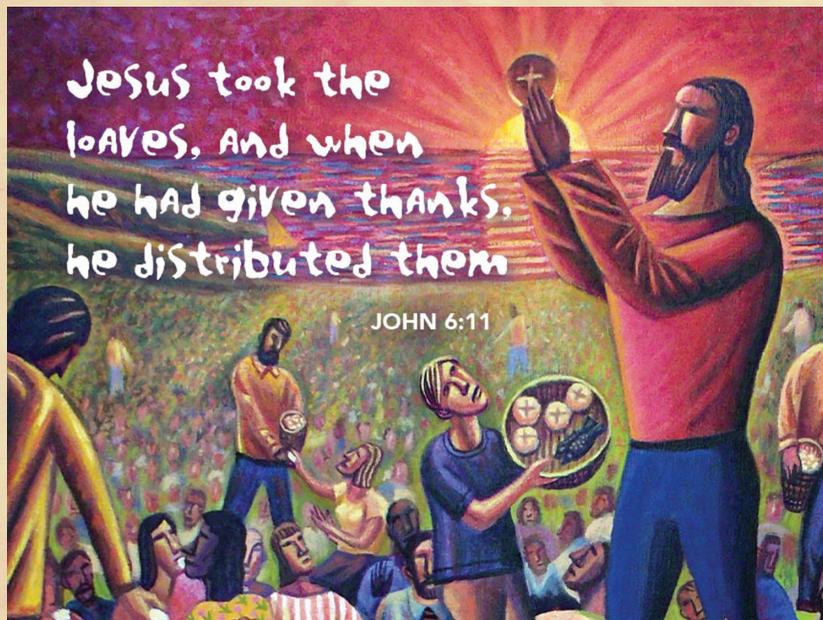


Pentecost 9

July 25, 2021



Grace Lutheran Church

Worship at 8:00 am (Spoken) & 10:15 am (Liturgical)

Shore Road @ Dawes & Meyran Aves.

11 East Dawes Ave., Somers Point, New Jersey 08244

Phone: 609-927-3082—Fax: 609-927-6672—Food Pantry: 609-927-9982

Email: office@gracelutheranspnj.comcastbiz.net

Website: www.gracelutheranspnj.org

Pastor: Rev. Althea Albright

Music Director: Mr. Scott J. Breiner

Church Secretary: Diana McArdle

Sexton: Andrew McCarrick

Welcome

Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church! We are glad you are here whether you are here to worship with us as a first time visitor, friend, neighbor, or lifelong member. If you have any questions, concerns, or need pastoral care, Pastor Althea would love to talk with you. Feel free to speak with her after worship or contact her by email at: pastoralthea3@gmail.com or by phone 484-345-0399.

Mission Statement

Through God's Word and Holy Spirit, Grace Lutheran Church will be...

- Inviting all people to *belong* to the church of Jesus Christ,
- Equipping those who *believe* as faithful disciples of Jesus, and
- Sending members to *become* caring servants of God in the world.

Serving in Worship Today—Worship Assistant: Meg LaSpina

Altar Guild: Brenda Traa—**Fellowship**—Mary Goodman

Sound Technicians: Jim Foreman, Michael Piskun, Shawn Welfield

In Our Hearts and Prayers

Greetings members, friends, and family of Grace! We are trying a new way of listing our prayer concerns in the coming weeks. If you notice someone who is missing or if anyone has someone new to add, please don't hesitate to contact Pastor Althea via phone, Facebook, or email or contact our secretary in the office to add people who are on our hearts each week and include our ongoing concerns.

Members of Grace: Jim C., Cheryl R., Betty N., John N., John S.

Family and friends: Family and friends of Doris Pugliese (sister of Rene Pugliese) Elliott and Rodriguez Family (friend of Pastor Althea). Jody (niece of Grings), Maria, Cecilia, and Richard (friends of Wellfields), Dr. Frank, (friend of Diana McArdle), Jim, Vicki, Don, and Barbara (friends of Meg LaSpina), Payton (friend of Joyce Bianco), Annmarie (friends of Marlene D.), Tami (friend of Brenda T.)
Family of Ambrose O'Donnell, 3rd (Friend of Claire Brick)

Those Serving Our Country: Matt Bilello, ANG; Daniel Casner 3rd, USN;
Sgt. Joshua McArdle, USM; Cainan Johnson, USAF

At Home - Bonnie Condliff, Joan Glenz, Ruth Kruger, Dot Reichelt, Lois Rahme, Lois Reardon, & Skip Uhrmann

Shores@Wesley Manor: Dot Crawshaw, Eleanor Guire, Eileen Rumble

Woodview Estates: Lorraine Moore

WITH ONE VOICE
BREAD OF LIFE
Congregation responses in bold print.

GATHERING

WELCOME

Rev. Althea Albright

HYMN SING

Selected hymns are inserted in the bulletin.

#1: Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty - #2: Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me
 #3 God of Our Fathers

Please stand as you are able

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Gracious God, we open our hearts to you. You know each of us inside and out.

We cannot hide anything from you. Create in us hearts of love and humble us to serve you by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit. Renew our relationship with you and restore our joy as we worship you and magnify your holy name. **Amen**

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

God of Grace, have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We humbly repent and we want to be close to you again. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Restore our relationship with you. Uphold us and strengthen us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may live and serve you once again through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace you have been saved through faith. In the name of † Jesus Christ, all of your sins are forgiven. May God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that you may know Jesus' great mercy and love for you. **Amen.**

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.**



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **C** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

L O R D H A V E M E R C Y
Christ have mercy
 L O R D H A V E M E R C Y

KYRIE



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
Refrain:



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☐ 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.

Refrain:



☐ 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.

continues on page 6



☒ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



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



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.



☒ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray... **Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated

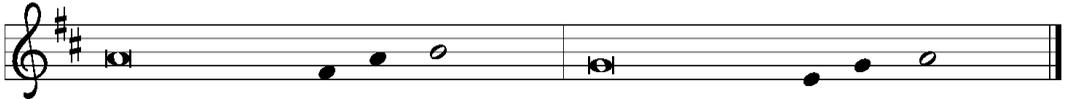
WORD

FIRST READING: Second Kings 4:42-44

Today's reading is part of a larger section of 2 Kings that describes the miracles of Elisha, the successor to Elijah. Here the prophet gives food to a hungry crowd. Though there is not enough food to go around, Elisha trusts God, who provides enough and even more to satisfy the need.

⁴²A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to [Elisha,] the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." ⁴³But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, "They shall eat and have some left.'" ⁴⁴He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

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



PSALM: Psalm 145:10-18

¹⁰All your works shall praise | you, O LORD, / and your faithful | ones shall bless you.

¹¹**They shall tell of the glory | of your kingdom / and speak | of your power,**

¹²that all people may know | of your power

and the glorious splendor | of your kingdom.

¹³**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom;**

your dominion endures through- | out all ages.

You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in | all your works.

¹⁴The Lord upholds all | those who fall / and lifts up those who | are bowed down.

¹⁵**The eyes of all wait upon | you, O LORD,**

and you give them their food | in due season.

¹⁶You open | wide your hand / and satisfy the desire of every | living thing.

¹⁷**You are righteous in | all your ways / and loving in | all your works.**

¹⁸You are near to all who | call upon you, / to all who call up- | on you faithfully.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:14-21

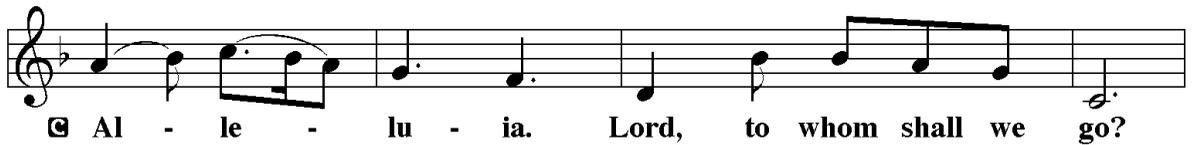
We have been rooted and grounded in the love of Christ, which surpasses all human knowledge. Because Christ dwells in our hearts, our lives are continuously strengthened and empowered by the ongoing presence of the Spirit.

¹⁴For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. ¹⁶I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, ¹⁷and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. ¹⁸I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, ²⁴to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

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

Please stand as you are able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL READING: John 6:1-21

The holy gospel according to St. John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In John's gospel, the miracles of Jesus are called "signs," because they reveal the true character of God. As such, they remain within the mystery of God and cannot be brought under human control.

¹Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ²A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. ³Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. ⁵When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" ⁶He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." ⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, ⁹"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" ¹⁰Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. ¹¹Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹²When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." ¹³So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. ¹⁴When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

¹⁵When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

¹⁶When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, ¹⁷got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them.

¹⁸The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. ¹⁹When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. ²⁰But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." ²¹Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

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

SERMON

Rev. Althea Albright

1 Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as once you
 2 Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you
 3 You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, your ho - ly

broke the loaves be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page
 blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond-age cease,
 word the truth that res - cues me. Give me to eat and live

I seek you, Lord; my spir - it waits for you, O liv - ing Word.
 all fet - ters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All - in - All!
 with you a - bove; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841–1913, alt.

Music: BREAD OF LIFE, William F. Sherwin, 1826–1888

APOSTLES' CREED

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

WEEKLY OFFERING

We are thankful for however you are able to continue supporting our ministry at Grace. Offering may be received through the mail, church office, or Simply Giving online. Please call the church office if you need assistance with Simply Giving, or have any questions or concerns.

OFFERTORY

I Am the Bread of Life
Soprano: Corinne Rhodes

by Simon Lole

I am the bread of life;
whoever comes to me will never hunger,
and whoever believes in me will never thirst.

John 6



PRESENTATION OF GIFTS*Please stand as you are able*

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
 bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
 sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
 Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
 of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
 Lord, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

*Please be seated***OFFERING PRAYER***We pray together for however we have made offerings to God in our lives.*

Let us pray. **We praise you, God, Creator of the universe. We thank you for all of the blessings in our lives and in the lives of those around us. Take these gifts and use them for your holy work. Grant us opportunities to serve those in need. Send your Spirit to watch over us and guide us in all that we do through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Pastor: Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Leader: We pray for the church. Bless the ministries of our neighboring congregations . Empower churches throughout the world and encourage missionaries who accompany global neighbors. Kindle in us a spirit of collaboration, that all people may know your loving works. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Leader: We pray for creation. Send rain to lands experiencing drought and come to the aid of those enduring sweltering heat. Nurture wheat and barley crops grown for the nourishment of your people and conserve aquatic habitats and fish populations. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Leader: We pray for those who govern. Cast out arrogance, selfishness, and corruption and instruct those who lead to practice compassion and humility. Inspire them with a vision of the common good and a commitment to ensure that all who hunger are fed. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Pastor: We pray for those bowed down by heavy burdens: those who are unemployed or underemployed, those unable to find affordable housing, and those without health insurance. Console those who grieve and hear the cries of those who call to you for healing (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Leader: We pray for this assembly. Deepen our resolve to use what we have to serve those in need. When we worry that we do not have enough resources for ministry, assure us of your abundance. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Pastor: We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

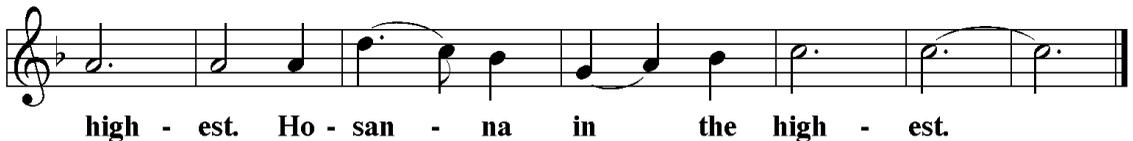
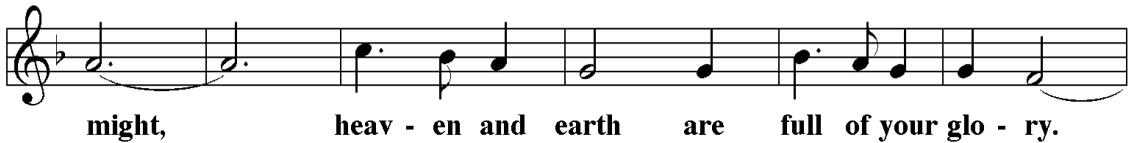
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God, for you have taken us by the hand, and offered yourself to us in a sacred sacrament. You are the creator of all things; you knew the earth and its inhabitants before their birth. You know our inner most being and offered us love and forgiveness in the new covenant embodied in your Son, Jesus, who died for all the world. Now, with the whole church, the angels, and all of heaven we praise you and sing:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Almighty God, at this, your holy table, we come to you to be fed by your presence.

We give you thanks for Jesus' coming into the world to fulfill your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

On 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.

Together we celebrate this holy meal. May all praise and thanks be to you, Holy God, through Christ Jesus, and by your Life-giving Spirit. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by Christ, let us pray.

**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**

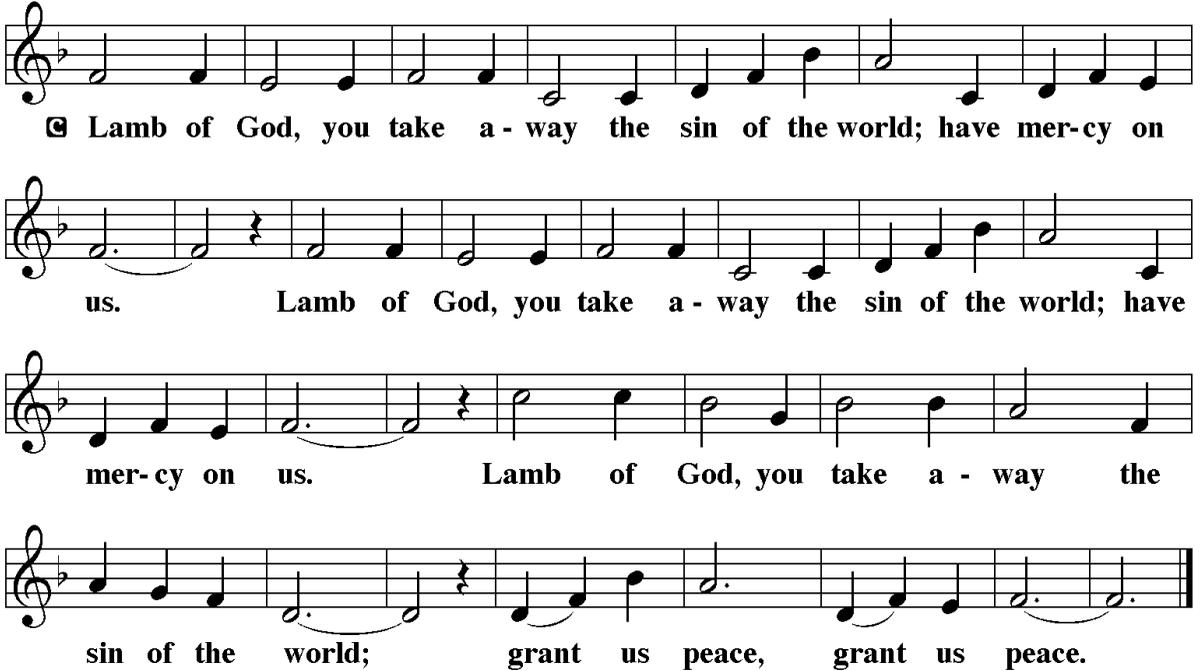
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet for Christ is our host. **Amen.**

Communion will be offered in two ways, continuous at the chancel step, and at the direction of Pastor after everyone has come forward (for those at home online and those who choose to remain seated).

Follow the direction of the ushers to come to the front or remain seated and after all have come forward, direction for the prefilled host and grape juice will be given.

COMMUNION HYMN



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.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

IF YOU CHOOSE TO COME FORWARD:

Follow the directions of Pastor and the Ushers.

IF YOU CHOOSE TO REMAIN AT YOUR SEAT OR YOU ARE ONLINE:

Prepare your elements after all have come forward and wait for direction from Pastor.

CANTICLE



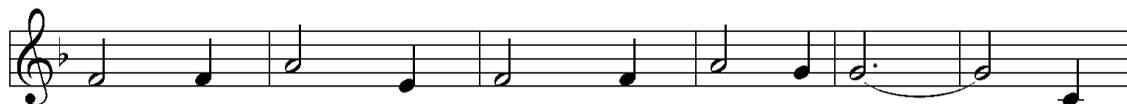
☐ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -



one what God has done. Let all who seek the



Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and



lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -



giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in the sharing of this holy meal you bless us with the body and blood of your Son to refresh and restate all of your people.

Give us courage and guidance that we may continue to be your hands and feet in the world. Amen

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

Beloved children of God, as we are sent from this place, know that God loves you.

Remember Christ's presence is with you wherever you go.

Know that the Spirit is with you whenever you call on the Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

ELW # 775

Please be seated for the postlude.

Take this time to listen to the music and contemplate the message presented today.

POSTLUDE

Fanfare

arr. by David Paxton

DISMISSAL

Go and serve others with the love of Christ! **Thanks be to God!**

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1 Je - sus, price-less trea - sure, source of pur - est plea - sure,
 2 In thine arm I rest me; foes who would mo - lest me
 3 Hence, all fears and sad - ness, for the Lord of glad - ness,

tru - est friend to me: ah, how long I've pant - ed, and my heart has
 can-not reach me here. Though the earth be shak - ing, ev - 'ry heart be
 Je - sus, en - ters in. God, who dear-ly loves us, from all tri - al

faint - ed, thirst - ing, Lord, for thee! Thine I am, O spot - less Lamb;
 quak - ing, Je - sus calms my fear. Light-nings flash and thun - ders crash;
 saves us, gives sweet peace with-in. I have borne this world - ly scorn;

no - thing in this world can hide thee, naught I ask be-side thee.
 yet, though sin and hell as - sail me, Je - sus will not fail me.
 still in thee lies pur - est plea - sure: Je - sus, price-less trea - sure!

Events This Week - July 25 - August 1, 2021

Sunday 7/25 Pentecost 9

8:00 am—Spoken Service - Lounge

10:15 am - Liturgical Worship Service
Holy Communion

11:30 am - Fellowship Hour - Downstairs

Monday 7/26

9:00 am - 11:30 am - Food Pantry

7:00 pm - AA Meeting—Social Hall

Tuesday 7/27

9:00 am - 11:30 am - Food Pantry

6:30 pm - NA

Wednesday 7/28

9:00 am - 11:30 am - Food Pantry

11:30 - 3:30 - Bayside Bridge Group

7:00 pm—NA Meeting - Social Hall

Thursday 7/29

5:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal

Friday 7/30

10:30 am - Grace Stitches

7:30 pm - AA Meeting—Lounge

Saturday 7/31

Sunday 8/1 Pentecost 10

8:00 am—Spoken Service - Lounge

10:15 am - Liturgical Worship Service
Holy Communion

11:30 am - Fellowship Hour - Downstairs

2021 FLOWER CHART is posted on the bulletin board outside the Church Office. Available for weekly dedications are Candles, Sanctuary Flowers, Bulletins, Wine & Anthems. Please sign your name next to the date and item on the chart you wish to have dedicated in the bulletin. For your convenience, flower /dedication envelopes are now available in the Narthex/Lobby. Please be sure to write your name on the date requested on the flower chart located in the Office Wing outside the Church Office.

Be sure to fill out the payment envelope with all the information for the bulletin, a week before (or sooner) your desired date, place it in the Offering plate or bring to the church office. Thank you, Diana

Dedications

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Celebrating Laura and Doug Siteman's

17th Wedding Anniversary

Given by Mom, Roberta Blumenthal