Grace Lutheran Church, ELCA
Fairmont, MN

Welcome to Worship

Our Mission: To boldly live out our faith in Jesus through worship, fellowship, and service to God and our neighbor, here and around the world.

Sunday, November 8, 2026 - 10:45 AM



Grace Lutheran Pastors, Staff, and Musicians

Rev. Dr. Allison Cobb: Senior Pastor
Rev. Cole McCormick: Associate Pastor
Nicole Kolbe: Office Administrator
Jane Reiman: Finance Director
Jaime Core: Youth Coordinator
Amber Hansen: Open Door Meal Coordinator
Tim Siegler: Maintenance Manager
Dr. Lyn Burkett: Youth Choir Director
Joyce Jorgenson: Chancel Choir Director
Molly Bleess: Pianist and Celebration
Jen Kahler and Musicians: Praise Band Choir Director
Carol Madsen: Organist

300 S. Grant Street, Fairmont, MN 56031 | www.gracelutheranchurch.org | 507-238-4418

Please Note: Worship services are broadcast on local TV and online. Being in the Sanctuary implies consent to being on camera. If you do not wish to be on camera, please sit in the back rows or balcony. Communion may be brought to you in your pew.

At Grace Lutheran, we believe in the real presence of Christ in Holy Communion, and we practice eucharistic hospitality with an open table. ***All persons****, whether visiting or a member, are welcome to meet Jesus at the table. Please ask your communion server if you prefer grape juice or a gluten free communion kit. The ushers will direct you to the front for communion or you may receive communion in your pew. Jesus invites all to come and be fed, forgiven, and free!*

Prelude and Bell Ringing

Welcome and Offering of Peace

P: The Peace of Christ be with you always.
All: And also with you.

P: Welcome to Worship!

Announcements

Call to Worship

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers.
All: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,
All: we confess that we trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.

P: Inherit the riches of God's grace. Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.
All: Amen.

✞ **Gathering Song** ***O Praise The Name (Anastasis)***

Verse 1 I cast my mind to Calvary
Where Jesus bled and died for me
I see His wounds, His hands, His feet
My Savior on that cursed tree

Verse 2 His body bound and drenched in tears
They laid Him down in Joseph's tomb
The entrance sealed by heavy stone
Messiah still and all alone

Chorus O praise the name of the Lord our God
O praise His name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise Oh Lord, oh Lord our God

Verse 3 Then on the third at break of dawn
The Son of heaven rose again
O trampled death where is your sting
The angles roar for Christ the King
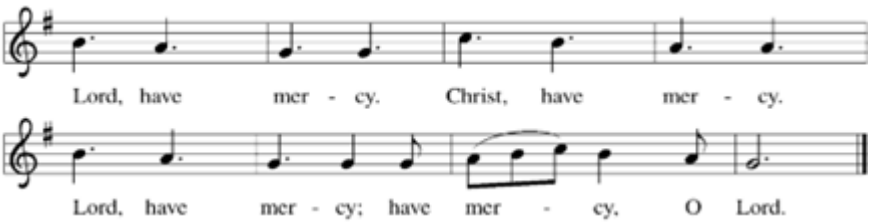
Verse 4 He shall return in robes of white
The blazing sun shall pierce the night
And I will rise among the saints
My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face (Chorus)

✞ **Greeting**

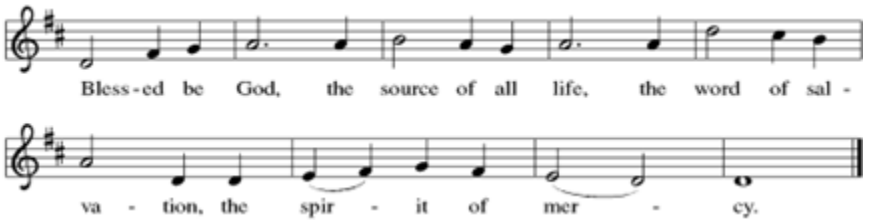
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

✞ **Kyrie**



✞ **Song of Praise**



✞ **Prayer of the Day**

O God of justice and love, **you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

First Reading: Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

1 Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and summoned
the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel, and they
presented themselves before God. 2 And Joshua said to all the people,
"Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—
Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates
and served other gods. 3a Then I took your father Abraham from beyond
the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his
offspring many.

14 "Now, therefore, revere the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in
faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the
River and in Egypt and serve the Lord. 15 Now if you are unwilling to
serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods
your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the
Amorites in whose land you are living, but as for me and my
household, we will serve the Lord."

16 Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should
forsake the Lord to serve other gods, 17 for it is the Lord our God who
brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the
house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He
protected us along all the way that we went and among all the peoples
through whom we passed, 18 and the Lord drove out before us all the
peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will
serve the Lord, for he is our God."

19 But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the Lord, for he
is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your
transgressions or your sins. 20 If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign
gods, then he will turn and do you harm and consume you, after having
done you good." 21 And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve
the Lord!" 22 Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses
against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him." And

they said, “We are witnesses.” [23] He said, “Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel.” [24] The people said to Joshua, “The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey.” [25] So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

[13] We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. [14] For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. [15] For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. [16] For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel’s call and with the sound of God’s trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. [17] Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. [18] Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**
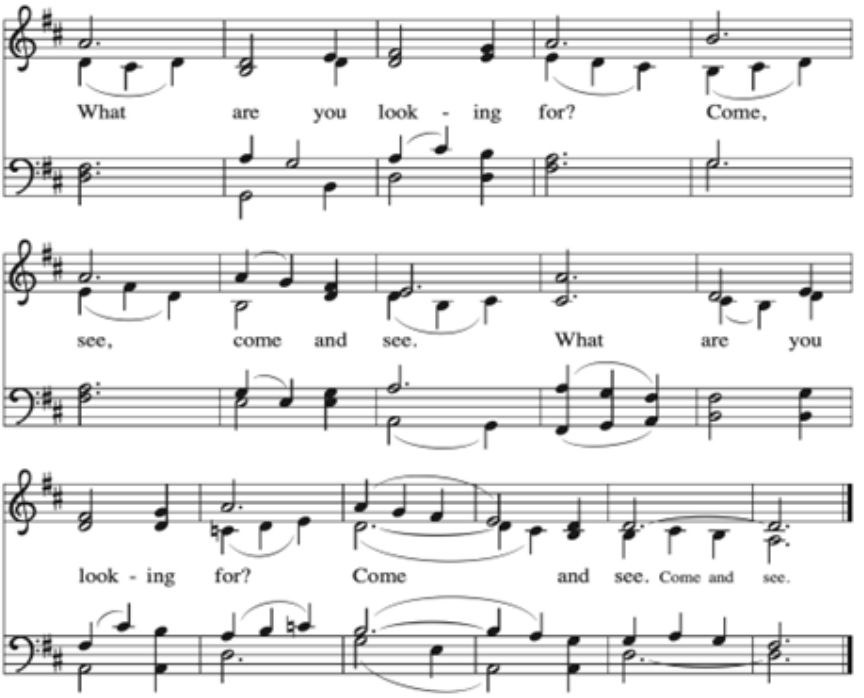
Children’s Message (Sing) ***Zacchaeus***

Zacchaeus was a wee, little man,
And a wee, little man was he.
He climbed up in a sycamore tree,
For the Lord he wanted to see.
And as the Savior came that way,
He looked up in the tree,

Spoken: And he said, "Zacchaeus, you come down!"

For I'm going to your house today.
For I'm going to your house today.

✞ **Gospel Acclamation**



P: A reading from the Gospel of Matthew.
All: Glory to you, O Lord.

✞ **Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] [1] "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. [2] Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. [3] When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, [4] but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. [5] As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. [6] But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' [7] Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. [8] The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' [9] But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.'

[10] And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was

shut. [11] Later the other young women came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord,
open to us.’ [12] But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’
[13] Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon **Pastor Cole McCormick**

✞ **Song of the Day** ***Holy Forever***

Verse 1
A thousand generations falling down in worship
To sing the song of ages to the Lamb
And all who've gone before us
And all who will believe
Will sing the song of ages to the Lamb

Pre-Chorus
(Jesus) Your name is the highest
Your name is the greatest
Your name stands above them all
All thrones and dominions
All powers and positions
Your name stands above them all

Chorus 1
And the angels cry Holy
All creation cries Holy
You are lifted high Holy
Holy forever

Verse 2
If you've been forgiven and if you've been redeemed
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
If you walk in freedom and if you bear His name
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
We'll sing the song forever and amen

Chorus 2
Hear Your people sing Holy
To the King of Kings Holy
You will always be Holy
Holy forever

Tag
You will always be Holy
Holy forever

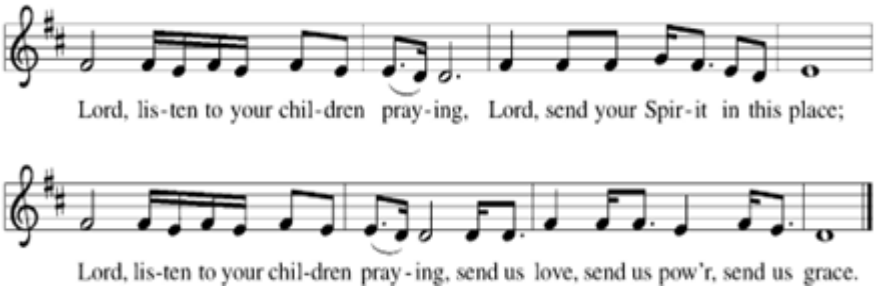
✞ **Apostles' Creed**

**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 into heaven,
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. Amen.

Prayers of the Church



Loaves and Fishes Offering

Youth are invited to walk forward and place their offering into the basket. Just like the little boy who gave his 2 fish and 5 loaves to Jesus, who multiplied them to feed thousands, the youth offering will go to The Grace Food Pantry. Adults are welcome to give a child an offering to bring up too.

Offering Song ***In Christ Alone***

Verse 1 In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease

My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

Verse 2 In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness Scorned by the ones
He came to save Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

Verse 3 There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

Verse 4 No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

✞ **Offering Prayer**

Eternal God, **our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Holy Communion

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 (Sing)** **Rachel Kurtz**

Our Father which art in heaven,
hallowed be, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as it is, is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread and help us
remember 'til all people are fed
forgive us our sins as we forgive those who have sinned against us
whether friend or foe
lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom and thine is the power and thine is the glory forever, forever
Ah… Ah… Ah… A - men

Communion Song ***Psalm 34***

Verse 1
I sought the Lord and He answered me
And delivered me from every fear
Those who look on Him are radiant
They'll never be ashamed
They'll never be ashamed

Verse 2
This poor man cried and the Lord heard me
And saved me from my enemies
The Son of God surrounds His saints
He will deliver them
He will deliver them

Chorus
Magnify the Lord with me
Come exalt His name together
Glorify the Lord with me
Come exalt His name forever

Verse 3
O taste and see that the Lord is good
O blessed is he who hides in Him
O fear the Lord O all you saints
He'll give you everything
He'll give you everything

Bridge Let us bless the Lord
Every day and night
Never ending praise
May our incense rise (REPEAT)

✞ **Prayer after Communion**

P: Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever.

All: Amen.

A Litany for Veterans

P: On this day, we remember those who have served in our armed forces.
Pause for silent reflection

C: Prince of Peace, even as we pray for an end to war, we give thanks for our soldiers' courage, for their love of country, and for their work to bring peace to our world.

P: Healer of All, bind up the wounds of all who have served

C: Show us how to comfort those who are hurting.

P: Merciful God, all suffer the cost of war.

C: We remember widows and widowers, orphans, and all those separated from those they love.

P: We pray, Gracious God, that swords will be turned into plowshares and that peace will reign.

C: We give thanks for all who have served. Shield from danger those who bravely protect us. With them, may we glory not in war, but in your love and righteousness. Strengthen us to be your peacemakers in the world. Amen.

We invite our veterans to please stand for a blessing.

P: Almighty and ever-living God, we give you thanks for the men and women who have served and defended our country and the values of freedom and justice we hold so dear. Help us be mindful of the sacrifices they made, and the hardship endured by their families and friends, so that we never take for granted the privileges they have secured for us. Hear us, we pray, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

✞ **Blessing**

P: The holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always.

All: Amen.

✞ **Sending Song** ***Gone***

Verse 1
It wasn't for nothing that you shed your blood
So I'm gonna live like my shame is gone
Won't be shackled to the way I was
I'm gonna live like my chains are

Chorus
Gone, gone, now my sin is dead and gone
And I sing Hallelujah
Done, done, He is risen, it is done
And I sing Hallelujah

Verse 2
Prase is a weapon that will overcome
I'm gonna shout like the battle's won
Fall back devil 'cause your time is up
I'm gonna live like the stone is (Chorus)

Bridge
How great the power of the blood, oh, oh
I am the righteousness of God, oh, oh
How great the power of the blood, oh, oh
I am the righteousness of God, oh, oh (Chorus)

Sending

P: Go in peace. Encourage one another.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude