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.

Thanksgiving Worship
Sunday, November 22, 2026 - 9:30AM



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
Joyce Jorgenson: Chancel Choir Director
Dr. Lyn Burkett: Youth Choir Director
Molly Bleess: Pianist and Celebration Choir Director
Jen Kahler and Musicians: Praise Band
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 ***We Gather Together*** **Cherub/Alleluia Choirs**
(Youth Choirs vs. 1-2, All vs. 3)

1 We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
He chastens and hastens his will to make known;
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing,
Sing praises to His name, He forgets not His own.

2 Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining
Ordaining, maintaining His kingdom divine;
So from the beginning, the fight we were winning
Thou, Lord, were at our side, all glory be Thine!

3 We all do extol Thee, Thou Leader triumphant,
And pray that Thou still our Defender will be;
Let Thy congregation escape tribulation;
Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

Invocation

Our worship begins in the name of the Father + and the Son + and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Litany of Welcome

L1: We gather now in the name of Christ, the one who calls us to bring in the kingdom of God: a kingdom not of houses, not of land, but a kingdom of love and acceptance, a kingdom where we are God's hands in this world.

L2: Welcome each other. Welcome the stranger. Welcome all who come. As Christ welcomed everyone, no matter what their background, no matter what their social status; as Christ welcomed enemies and friends, out casts and leaders, foreigners and neighbors, let us open our hearts and homes and lives. Let us be Christ to everyone we meet.

L1: Welcome to this place. Welcome to this worship. Let us praise the God of all who has brought us here. Let us learn of God's love and share that love wherever we go. Be welcome here, for this is God's house.

Gathering ***Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*** **#693**

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.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God our Father, **your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

First Reading: Psalm 100 (spoken responsively)

R: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all you lands!

All: Serve the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with a song.

R: Know that the Lord is God, our maker to whom we belong;

All: We are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.

R: Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving and the courts with praise;

All: Give thanks and bless God's holy name.

R: Good indeed is the Lord, whose steadfast love is everlasting,

All: Whose faithfulness endures from age to age.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-9

4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5 Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. 6 Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 8 Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.9 Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

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

Children's Message - Blessing of the Food

P: A reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, 33 and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. 34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, 35 for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' 37 Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38 And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' 40 And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.'
41 Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, 42 for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' 44 Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?' 45 Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' 46 And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

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

Sermon **Pastor Allison Cobb**

Song of the Day ***Jesus Messiah***

Verse 1
He became sin who knew no sin
That we might become His righteousness
He humbled Himself and carried the cross
Love so amazing love so amazing

Chorus
Jesus Messiah Name above all names
Blessed Redeemer Emmanuel
The Rescue for sinners
The Ransom from heaven
Jesus Messiah Lord of all

Verse 2
His body the bread His blood the wine
Broken and poured out all for love
The whole earth trembled and the veil was torn
Love so amazing love so amazing (Chorus)

Bridge
All our hope is in You
All our hope is in You
All the glory to You God
The Light of the world (Chorus)

Ending
Jesus Messiah
Lord of all
The Lord of all
The Lord of all

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.

Thanksgiving For The Word

P: On this Christ the King Sunday, let us go before our Lord in prayer,

- Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

- By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

- Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

- Your Word of life is balm for our weary souls. We offer you our joys and concerns, blessings and sorrows, as we remember those on our congregation's prayer list, those who are on our hearts this day, all who are grieving, and anyone who needs to feel your presence in a tangible way. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

- We lift up the injustices of our world including hunger, systematic racism, lack of health care, limited availability of resources we so easily can take for granted, those searching for work, and for all who need a warm and safe place to sleep tonight. O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

- We thank you for our military and first responders who put their lives on the line to make sure we are safe. We are grateful for everyday heroes like moms and dads, next door neighbors, essential workers, and scientists who work every day to make the world a better place. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

- With grateful hearts, we thank you for walking with us on this journey of life, accompanied by the Holy Spirit, who brings us new life each day, and reminds us of the resurrection promise with all the saints in light. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

- Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen**

Offering

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 ***Have You Thanked the Lord*** **Chancel Choir**

Prayer Over Pledge Cards

P: Loving God, receive our offering and this season's Stewardship pledges, to continue the ministries God is calling us to at Grace. These pledges represent our sweat, they represent our lives, they represent our dreams. They are but tokens of the awesome gifts that have been given to us and are pledged in thanksgiving for all we have received. May they be the first fruits of all we have, and not what we have left over, so that we may live generously as you give generously to us. May we see our stewardship as our offering to you, sacred, holy, and filled with possibilities to pass on the faith and love our neighbor. May our lives be part of this offering, living sacrifices to you. **Amen.**

Holy Communion

Great Thanksgiving (spoken) **p.129**

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Thanksgiving at the Table

Children of all ages may receive communion or a blessing. They are also invited to take an instrument to praise God during the sending song. All are welcome at Christ's table.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,

who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your
love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and
the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

<u>Lord's Prayer</u>

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

Communion Song ***The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing***
Celebration Choir

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.

Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

All: Amen.

Sending Song ***Now Thank We All Our God*** **#840**

Sending

P: Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve The Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

