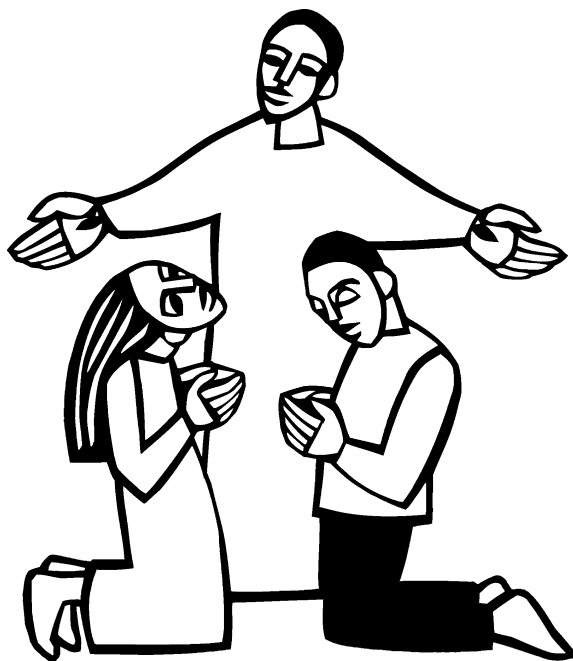


Sunday, September 6, 2026 - 9:30 AM



Grace Lutheran Pastors, Staff, and Musicians

Rev. Dr. Allison Cobb: Senior Pastor
Nicole Kolbe: Office Administrator
Jaime Core: Youth Coordinator
Dr. Lyn Burkett: Youth Choir Director
Molly Bleess: Pianist and Celebration Choir Director

Rev. Cole McCormick: Associate Pastor
Jane Reiman: Finance Director
Travis Anderson: Maintenance
Amber Hansen: Open Door Meal Coordinator
Joyce Jorgenson: Chancel 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

✠ Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

All: **Amen.**

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

All: **we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

P: Hear this good news: We have peace with God through Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

All: **Amen.**

✠ *The congregation is invited to stand as you are able.*

✠ **Gathering Song**

Holy Forever

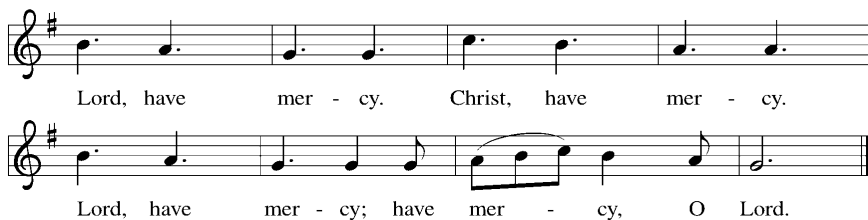
- Verse 1 A thousand generations falling down in worship
 To sing the song of ages to the Lamb
 And all who've gone before us
 And all who will believe
 Will sing the song of ages to the Lamb
- Pre-Chorus (Jesus) Your name is the highest
 Your name is the greatest
 Your name stands above them all
 All 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

✠ **Greeting**

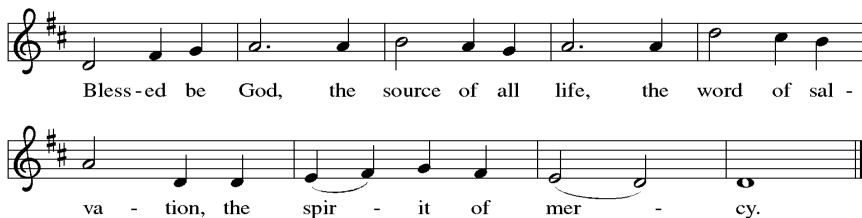
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the
 communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

† Kyrie



† Song of Praise



† Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷ So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸ If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹ But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰ Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” ¹¹ Say to them: As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

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

Second Reading: Psalm 119:33-40 (Read Responsively)

- ³³ Teach me, O LORD, the way¹ of your statutes,
and I shall keep it¹ to the end.
- ³⁴ **Give me understanding, and I shall¹ keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with¹ all my heart.**
- ³⁵ Lead me in the path of¹ your commandments,
for that is¹ my desire.
- ³⁶ **Incline my heart to¹ your decrees
and not to¹ unjust gain.**
- ³⁷ Turn my eyes from be-¹ holding falsehood;
give me life¹ in your way.
- ³⁸ **Fulfill your promise¹ to your servant,
which is for¹ those who fear you.**
- ³⁹ Turn away the reproach¹ that I dread,
because your judg-¹ ments are good.
- ⁴⁰ **Behold, I long for¹ your commandments;
by your righteousness en-¹ liven me.**

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

Children's Message (Sing)

Seek Ye First

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and its righteousness;
and all these things shall be added unto you,
Al-le-lu, al-le-lu-ia

✠ Gospel Acclamation

What are you look - ing for? Come,

see, come and see. What are you



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

✠ **Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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

Sermon

Pastor Allison Cobb

✠ **Song of the Day**

Jesus, Friend of Sinners

Verse 1 Jesus Friend of sinners
 We have strayed so far away
 We cut down people in Your name
 But the sword was never ours to swing
 Jesus Friend of sinners
 The truth's become so hard to see
 The world is on their way to You
 But they're tripping over me

Chorus (Oh) Jesus Friend of sinners
 Open our eyes to the world
 At the end of our pointing fingers
 Let our hearts be led by mercy
 Help us reach with open hearts and open doors
 Oh Jesus Friend of sinners
 Break our hearts for what breaks Yours

Verse 2 Jesus Friend of sinners
 The One whose writing in the sand
 Made the righteous turn away
 And the stones fall from their hands
 Help us to remember we are all the least of these
 Let the mem'ry of Your mercy
 Bring Your people to their knees

Chorus (Oh) Jesus Friend of sinners
 Open our eyes to the world
 At the end of our pointing fingers
 Let our hearts be led by mercy
 Help us reach with open hearts and open doors
 Oh Jesus Friend of sinners
 Break our hearts for what breaks Yours
 Oh Jesus Friend of sinners
 Break our hearts for what breaks Yours

✠ 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



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.

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

My Jesus

Soloist: Dani Morris

You call me out upon the waters
The great unknown, where feet may fail
And there I find You in the mystery
In oceans deep my faith will stand

And I will call upon Your name
And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise, my soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine

Your grace abounds in deepest waters
Your sov'reign hand will be my guide
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me
You've never failed and You won't start now

And I will call upon Your name
And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise, my soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine

Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders

Let me walk upon the waters, wherever You would call me
 Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander
 And my faith will be made stronger in the presence of my Saviour

And I will call upon Your name
 And keep my eyes above the waves
 When oceans rise, my soul will rest in Your embrace
 For I am Yours and You are mine

Offering Prayer

God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. 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.

† Lords Prayer

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***Come As You Are***

Verse 1 Come out of sadness from wherever you've been
 Come broken-hearted let rescue begin
 Come find your mercy O sinner come kneel
 Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal
 Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal

Chorus (So) Lay down your burdens lay down your shame
 All who are broken lift up your face
 O wanderer come home
 You're not too far
 So lay down your hurt lay down your heart
 Come as you are

Verse 2 There's hope for the hopeless
 And all those who've strayed
 Come sit at the table come taste the grace
 There's rest for the weary
 Rest that endures
 Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't cure (Chorus)

Bridge Come as you are
 Fall in His arms
 Come as you are

Verse 3 There's joy for the morning O sinner be still
 Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal
 Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal (Chorus)

Ending Come as you are
 Come as you are
 Come as you are

Prayer after Communion

P: Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with
 mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table
 to serve a world in need. Make us living signs of your liberation,
 healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we
 pray.

All: Amen.

† **Blessing**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give your peace

All: Amen.

† **Sending Song**

Build Your Kingdom Here

Verse 1 Come set Your rule and reign
In our hearts again
Increase in us we pray
Unveil why we're made
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope
Like wildfire in our very souls
Holy Spirit come invade us now
We are Your church
We need Your pow'r in us

Verse 2 We seek Your kingdom first
We hunger and we thirst
Refuse to waste our lives
For You're our joy and prize
To see the captives' hearts released
The hurt the sick the poor at peace
We lay down our lives for heaven's cause
We are Your church
We pray revive this earth

Chorus Build Your kingdom here
Let the darkness fear
Show Your mighty hand
Heal our streets and land
Set Your church on fire
Win this nation back
Change the atmosphere
Build Your kingdom here we pray

Verse 3 Unleash Your kingdom's pow'r
Reaching the near and far
No force of hell can stop
Your beauty changing hearts

You made us for much more than this
 Awake the kingdom seed in us
 Fill us with the strength and love of Christ
 We are Your church
 We are the hope on earth

Chorus Build Your kingdom here
 Let the darkness fear
 Show Your mighty hand
 Heal our streets and land
 Set Your church on fire
 Win this nation back
 Change the atmosphere
 Build Your kingdom here we pray

✠ **Sending**

P: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude