

²²And the teachers of the law who came down from Jerusalem said, “He is possessed by Beelzebul! By the prince of demons he is driving out demons.”

²³So Jesus called them over to him and began to speak to them in parables: “How can Satan drive out Satan? ²⁴If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. ²⁶And if Satan opposes himself and is divided, he cannot stand; his end has come. ²⁷In fact, no one can enter a strong man’s house without first tying him up. Then he can plunder the strong man’s house. ²⁸Truly I tell you, people can be forgiven all their sins and every slander they utter, ²⁹but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; they are guilty of an eternal sin.”

³⁰He said this because they were saying, “He has an impure spirit.”

³¹Then Jesus’ mother and brothers arrived. Standing outside, they sent someone in to call him. ³²A crowd was sitting around him, and they told him, “Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you.”

³³“Who are my mother and my brothers?” he asked.

³⁴Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵Whoever does God’s will is my brother and sister and mother.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

HYMN OF THE DAY #871: “Rise! To Arms! With Prayer Employ You” - see slides

SERMON: “The Lord’s Forgiveness - Aspirin for the Soul” (Based on Psalm 130)

THE APOSTLES’ CREED (page 163) - see slides

OFFERING PRESENTATION HYMN #750 - see slides

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (page 164 - Spoken responsively) - see slides

HYMN #574: “The Tree of Life” - see slides

PRAYER, LORD’S PRAYER, & BLESSING - see slides

CLOSING HYMN #863: “A Mighty Fortress” (v - 3) - see slides

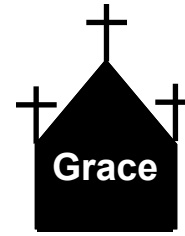
Thank you to our Worship Team:

Worship Music Leader: Connie Hauf

Thank you to our Guest Minister, Pastor Norris Baumann

ATTENDANCE:

Last Sunday: 8:00am - 97; Monday: 19; Total: 116



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Summer Worship Services Sundays 9am, Mondays 6:30pm



A TOP-DOWN FAITH
“THE DEVIL DOES HIS WORST,
YET JESUS ALWAYS WINS”

Third Sunday After Pentecost
June 9 & 10, 2024

“THE DEVIL DOES HIS WORST, YET JESUS ALWAYS WINS”

JUNE 9 & 10, 2024

In the name of our Lord Jesus, welcome to one and all! We pray that here at Grace you will find the warmth of Christian hospitality, the abiding truth of God’s Word, and the quiet assurance of peace in Christ. If we can assist you in any way, please ask. Come worship with us again!

Listening Assist Aids are available. Please see an usher.

“THE DEVIL DOES HIS WORST, YET JESUS ALWAYS WINS”

Look at our lives—the problems, the pains—and it’s easy to conclude that we are losing. Look at the world—the brokenness, the bedlam—and it’s easy to believe that the devil is winning. It all can lead us to despair. Yet this turmoil is exactly what God said would happen already in the Garden. There God declared that until the end of time enmity would prevail between the devil and mankind. But God promised more than that. He promised that from humanity would rise one who would completely defeat the devil. We need a top-down faith to understand that things are definitely not what they seem. Yes, the devil and his allies are constantly doing their worst. Their work always brings pain. Yet, ultimately, Jesus always wins. And his victory is our victory. Jesus’ victory is so complete that even when Satan continues to cause chaos, Christ uses it to reveal his glory and grace to those gifted with top-down faith.

The Service - Setting 1 pg. 154

OPENING HYMN #556: “All Mankind Fell in Adam’s Fall” - see slides

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION - see slides

LORD, HAVE MERCY - Kyrie - see slides

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST - Gloria in Excelsis - see slides

PRAYER OF THE DAY (Spoken by Pastor - ALL speak the Amen)

Almighty and eternal God, your Son Jesus triumphed over the prince of demons and freed us from bondage to sin. Help us to stand firm against every assault of Satan, and enable us always to do your will; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Genesis 3:8-15

The devil did his worst, but a gracious God promised that from Eve’s descendants would come one who would defeat the serpent for us.

⁸Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man, “Where are you?”

¹⁰He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”

¹¹And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”

¹²The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?”

The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

¹⁴So the LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, “Cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life.

¹⁵And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

P: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 130B (CW PSALTER) - see slides

SECOND READING: Revelation 20:1-6

God had promised victory in the Garden. Jesus allows St. John to see that victory in his Revelation.

¹And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain. ²He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a thousand years. ³He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time.

⁴I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony about Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years. ⁵(The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.) This is the first resurrection. ⁶Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years.

P: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - see slides

GOSPEL: Mark 3:20-35

Jesus came to oppose Satan and his allies and undo all their work.

²⁰Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered, so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat. ²¹When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, “He is out of his mind.”