

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - see slides

GOSPEL: Mark 6:1-6

Many in Jesus' hometown rejected his ministry.

⁶ Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. ² When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed.

"Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing? ³ Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.

⁴ Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home." ⁵ He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them.

⁶ He was amazed at their lack of faith.

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

HYMN #639: "God Has Spoken by His Prophets" - see slides

SERMON THEME: "You and Your Country"

Psalm 33:12-15

- 1. Acknowledge your blessings as a citizen of heaven and America.**
- 2. Assume the responsibilities that accompany this dual citizenship.**

THE NICENE CREED - (page 180) - see slides

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (spoken responsively) - see slides

OFFERING PRESENTATION - HYMN #750 - see slides

THE SACRAMENT - see slides

DISTRIBUTION HYMN #900: "Lift High the Cross" - see slides

PRAYER, & BLESSING - see slides

CLOSING HYMN #774: "God Bless our Native Land" - see slides

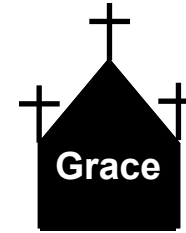
Thank you to our Worship Team:

Worship Music Leader: Connie Hauf

Thank you to all who served in our worship service today!

Attendance:

Last Sunday 9:00am - 81; Monday: 26; Total: 107



Grace Ev. Lutheran Church
2426 North Rapids Road
Manitowoc, Wisconsin 54220
Office Phone 682-7377

Vacancy Pastor David Laabs
Robert Fink, Staff Minister
www.graceLutheran-church.com
gracelutheran@tm.net

Worship Services Sundays 9:00am, Mondays 6:30pm



MEANINGFUL MINISTRY

**"NOT GLEE AND GRATITUDE, BUT REJECTION
AND RESENTMENT"**

**July 7 & 8, 2024
Seventh Sunday After Pentecost**

“NOT GLEE AND GRATITUDE, BUT REJECTION AND RESENTMENT”

July 7 & 8, 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.

Listening Assist Aids are available. Please see an usher.

Our Communion Practice

In obedience to God's Word and in loving concern for the spiritual welfare of others, we practice closed communion, participating in this wonderful supper. By limiting communion at our altar to those of our faith and fellowship we are not trying to judge non-members' personal faith, we are acting in accord with the Lord's will concerning the administration of the Sacrament. Those of our faith and fellowship, Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) or Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS), but not of our congregation, should announce to the pastor personally prior to taking Communion with us for the first time.

Today's Theme:

“NOT GLEE AND GRATITUDE, BUT REJECTION AND RESENTMENT”

If ministry involves serving others with love and compassion, you would think that people would respond only with glee and gratitude for the help they received. Sometimes, but not always. If you offer to help a family member who is having trouble paying his bills, he might be offended, wondering if you are implying that he is not a good provider. Likewise, if you try and share the gospel with someone, he might resent the message that he is a sinner in need of salvation. You are trying to minister to this man's greatest need. Your intentions are loving. Yet he responds with rejection and resentment. When our ministry efforts are met not with glee and gratitude but rejection and resentment, we are in good company. The prophets, apostles, and even Jesus himself all had those who responded negatively to their ministries. When that happens to us, it doesn't mean our ministry is no longer meaningful. For if others do not appreciate our efforts to serve them, God still appreciates our efforts to serve him.

The Service - Service Setting One with Sacrament pg. 154

OPENING HYMN #895: "Preach You the Word" - see slides

CONFESSION - Responsive prayer - see slides

LORD, HAVE MERCY - Kyrie - see slides

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST - Gloria in Excelsis (ALL sing) - see slides

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

Almighty, eternal and righteous God, you revealed your divine Word to teach us what we should do and what we should avoid. Strengthen and lead us by your Holy Spirit that we

serve you in new obedience here until we come to complete holiness before you in that life to come; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 2:1-7

The LORD sends Ezekiel to prophesy to the Israelites, knowing that most will not be grateful for the prophet's message but resentful.

²He said to me, "Son of man, stand up on your feet and I will speak to you." ²As he spoke, the Spirit came into me and raised me to my feet, and I heard him speaking to me.

³He said: "Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, to a rebellious nation that has rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have been in revolt against me to this very day. ⁴The people to whom I am sending you are obstinate and stubborn. Say to them, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says.' ⁵And whether they listen or fail to listen—for they are a rebellious people—they will know that a prophet has been among them. ⁶And you, son of man, do not be afraid of them or their words. Do not be afraid, though briars and thorns are all around you and you live among scorpions. Do not be afraid of what they say or be terrified by them, though they are a rebellious people. ⁷You must speak my words to them, whether they listen or fail to listen, for they are rebellious.

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

PSALM 27C – CW Psalter (page 135) - see slides

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 2:1-13

St. Paul's ministry resulted in him being chained like a criminal. Yet God's Word cannot be chained.

¹You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. ²And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others. ³Join with me in suffering, like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. ⁴No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in civilian affairs, but rather tries to please his commanding officer. ⁵Similarly, anyone who competes as an athlete does not receive the victor's crown except by competing according to the rules. ⁶The hardworking farmer should be the first to receive a share of the crops. ⁷Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this.

⁸Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, ⁹for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God's word is not chained. ¹⁰Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

¹¹Here is a trustworthy saying:
If we died with him, we will also live with him; ¹²if we endure, we will also reign with him. If we disown him, he will also disown us; ¹³if we are faithless, he remains faithful, for he cannot disown himself.

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