

Grace Lutheran Church, Ph. #920-682-7377 gracelutheran@tm.net
Pastor Tom Pankow - gracepastor@tm.net
14th Sunday After Pentecost - September 6 & 8, 2020

“God’s People Will Overcome!”

*The Church will stand forever. Nothing can keep our Redeemer from upholding his promised salvation.
Neither false expectations nor the gates of hell will keep our God from preserving his Church.*

DIVINE SERVICE II - page 28 in Supplement

We live-stream our 9:30am service.

To join us for worship online, go to our website www.gracelutheran-church.com and click on the “Live Stream Video” link. Livestreaming will begin about 5 minutes prior to the start of worship. You will also be able to watch an archived video of this service online by clicking on the link for Sep 6.

HYMN #382: “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less” verses 1 & 2

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION

P: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus’ sake.

ABSOLUTION

P: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy... and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen. (spoken)

LORD, HAVE MERCY - Kyrie

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy,

P: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C: Amen.

GLORY BE TO GOD Luke 2:14 Gloria in Excelsis

1 All glory be to God on high!

Your name, O Lord, we glorify;

We praise you for your peace and grace,

Your favor toward our fallen race.

2 O Lamb of God, to you we pray.

You take all human sin away.

Have mercy, Lord; receive our prayer;

From God’s right hand, your mercy share.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray: Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Exodus 6:2-8 (EHV)

To a people who wanted to know who God was, he responded, “I AM who I AM.” In this lesson he explains exactly what it means to be the LORD, the God of free and faithful love. It means that he is the living God who will preserve his Church forever. Why and how does he preserve it? God gives a striking answer by referring to himself 21 times in seven verses. The God of free and faithful love will redeem his people. And because our redemption is not based on our obedience, but on him and his faithfulness, his power and his grace, it is a covenant that cannot be shaken or removed. God will preserve his Church forever. How can we be certain? Look at the simple promise that brackets our lesson. “I am the LORD.”

SECOND LESSON: Romans 11:33-36 (EHV)

The living God preserves his Church forever by remembering his covenant. How can man respond to the illogical nature of grace? Only with awe; only with praise. Here Paul records a great doxology fit for our Redeemer God. The depth of his wisdom, his unsearchable judgments, his limitless grace in Christ—that truth is the rock on which the Church will stand forever. Worship him with awe! Praise him with joy.

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 14:13-21 (EHV)

Who is Jesus? This question is as applicable today as it was in Matthew's Gospel. As the disciples rattled off the popular misconceptions, people surely had high opinions of Jesus. But they didn't even begin to compare with the truth. Many people today give similar answers: they call Jesus a teacher, a philosopher, the founder of a religion, a worker of positive good. Their answers miss the mark today as they did then. Only disciples of Jesus, through the work of the Spirit of God, can confess him as he truly is. Peter said, "You, Jesus of Nazareth, are the Son of the God who is life and who gives life. The Son of the living God stood before them. His mission was to restore life to this world of death. This truth is the rock on which the Church stands. Because it stands on the rock and not on the pebbles of men who serve it, the Church will stand forever: its message is changeless; the results of its work are eternal.

TODAY'S MESSAGE (based on Matthew 16:13-20) **"God's People Will Overcome!"**

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH and LORD'S PRAYER

P: O Lord, our God, you are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day you open your hand and provide for the needs of your children on earth.

C: ***We praise you for every grace and blessing.***

P: Strengthen your Church in all the world. Let your comforting message of salvation in Christ Jesus be proclaimed to troubled souls everywhere.

C: ***Use our ministries and offerings to extend your healing and your hope.***

P: We bring you our requests for the various structures of our society. Bless our national, state, and local governments.

C: ***Grant us civil servants who are worthy of honor and respect.***

P: Grant prosperity to our businesses and industries. Give employers a sense of fairness toward their workers, and employees a feeling of joy and pride in their workmanship.

C: ***Help us find satisfaction in all work well done.***

P: Invigorate the schools of our land. Give success to every effort that helps students read, think, and communicate in ways that will promote an informed and responsible citizenry. Arouse curious minds to discover the wonders of your created order.

C: ***Give us teachers and students who pursue excellence.***

P: Strengthen the families of our country. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to be good parents. Give children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as your representatives.

C: ***Lead us to love one another as you have loved us.***

P: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions... *Silent prayer*

P: Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that you will hear and with the faith that you will respond for our welfare....

LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING Numbers 6:24-26

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

C: ***Amen.***

CLOSING HYMN #382: "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" verses 3 & 4

Starting Sunday, September 20th, we start our FALL SCHEDULE:

- **Sunday Worship:** We return to 2 services at 8:00 (live streaming) & 10:45am
- **Sunday School & Adult Bible Class** - will meet between services.