Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost Outdoor Service of Holy Communion Rally Day

September 14, 2025 9:30 am

Grace Lutheran Church Camp Hill, PA

WELCOME TO GRACE

A warm welcome to all who are worshipping with us this summer. If you are visiting with us, please fill out a guest card which are found in the pews. Following the service, please introduce yourself to the pastor.

We hope that this bulletin will help guide you through our worship service.

INTRODUCTION

The grumbling of the religious leaders in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God seeks and saves the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As the writer of 1 Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.

God gathers us in unity.

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Give Me Jesus

Jeremy Camp, arr. David Shipps Abundant Grace

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

^{*-}the congregation is invited to stand

Merciful and loving God,

we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of + Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN

Jesus Loves Me

ELW#595

*GREETING

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

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly may be seated.

God speaks to us in scriptures read, sung, and preached.

WORD

FIRST READING - Exodus 32:7-14

⁷The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' " ⁹ The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this

people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰ Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation."

¹¹ But Moses implored the LORD his God and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' ¹⁴ And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM – Psalm 51:1-10

- ¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- ² Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.
- ³ For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.
- ⁴ Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.
- ⁵ Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother's womb.
- ⁶ Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.
- ⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.
- 8 Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.

- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.
- ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

SECOND READING - 1 Timothy 1:12-17

¹²I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³ even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-10

The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.' ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸ "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly may be seated.

SERMON

INSTALLATION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS, ASSISTANTS AND YOUTH MINISTRY LEADERS

The following people have accepted the call to educate, assist and lead our youth,

[Ethan Lentz, Julie Flook, Miriam Chesky, Julia Wren, Mikala Benning, Xavier Briel, Bree Sultzaberger, Andy Hyatt, Kirsten Hyatt, Lori Weber, BJ Weber, Tom Pautz, Karen Pautz, Dominique Johansen and Sarah Hooper].

We give thanks for their willingness to serve. In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that these *siblings* will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

A reading from First Corinthians: There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

The presiding minister continues.

You have accepted the call to lead our youth.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church.

You are to be faithful teachers, assistants, advisors and leaders to our youth, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

The presiding minister addresses those being installed. On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you: Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the ministries to which you have accepted?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

The assembly stands. Those being installed face the assembly. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, I ask you:

Will you support these, teachers, advisors, assistants and youth ministry leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized? **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

Those being installed face the presiding minister, who addresses them.

I now declare you installed.

Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ. **Amen.**

*APOSTLES CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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.

*THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each prayer concludes: God of grace, **Receive our prayer.**

*THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Share the peace with one another.

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

MEAL

OFFERING

We respond to the grace given us by sharing our gifts with others through the offering. Today's regular offering supports the ongoing ministry of Grace church. You can give online, by cash, or by check.

MUSICAL OFFERING

I Will Follow

Jeff Pardo & Matt Armstrong

Abundant Grace

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*THANKSGIVING AT TABLE

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.

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

God of dreams and prophecy, send down upon us your gifts of wisdom, knowledge, and faith; of healing, discernment, and interpretation, that your church may be built up in the likeness of your Son. Let anyone who is hungry find in you the bread of life, and anyone who is thirsty find in you rivers of living water. Speak your word to all who are alone and in fear or despair, and let each one of your children hear your voice in their own language, whether that language be art or science, work or play. Sanctify your groaning creation, that your universe may breathe your breath and be filled with your life anew, that we may love what you love, and do what you would do, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, ever one God.

Amen!

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly may be seated.

Those communing at home or in their seats are invited to prepare their elements then to be led through eating and drinking the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine.

Please come forward to receive the body and blood of Christ in the bread and the wine.

The Lutheran Church welcomes all to the Lord's Supper. If you are not a Christian and wish to inquire about the Christian faith, we invite you to speak to the minister.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

It Is Well

Kristene DiMarco, arr. Dan Galbraith Abundant Grace

*BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of the Risen Lord strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Let us pray. O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need.

We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

*BLESSING

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, + bless you now and forever.

Amen.

*SENDING HYMN

This Little Light of Mine

ELW#677

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

All the People Said Amen

Paul Moak, Trevor Morgan, & Matt Maher Arr. Dan Galbraith

Abundant Grace

SERVING TODAY IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister	The Rev. Chad Butz
9	Sue Painter
Lector	Michelle Knight
Communion Assistants	Patty Rohde
Director of Music	Kristopher Hartman
Organist	Emily Hartman
Technology Operator	
Abundant Grace	Bonnie Barton, Kelly Smith,
	Dave Lebo, Julie Flook, Matt Lebo

Jesus Loves Me!



Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820–1915, alt. Music: JESUS LOVES ME, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

This Little Light of Mine



Text: African American spiritual Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer, b. 1935 Arr. © Horace Clarence Boyer, admin. Augsburg Fortress.



EVENTS



Connect With Us



Give Now

Our Story

Matthew 25:35-40: 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, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' 37Then 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? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' 40And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

The purpose of Grace Lutheran Church is to make a difference by serving others through God's love and our faith

Grace Church Staff 610.297.2514 (cell); pastorchad@gracecamphill.org Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministry.....Ethan Lentz Ethan.Lentz@gracecamphill.org Director of Music Kristopher Hartman K.E.Hartman11@gmail.com Organist Emily Hartman K.E.Hartman11@gmail.com cjury@gracecamphill.org Administrative Specialist......Diane Deppen ddeppen@gracecamphill.org

Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Grace Lutheran Church * 1610 Carlisle Road *

Camp Hill, Pennsylvania 17011

To contact the church office: 717.737.0439; office@gracecamphill.org

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #32545.