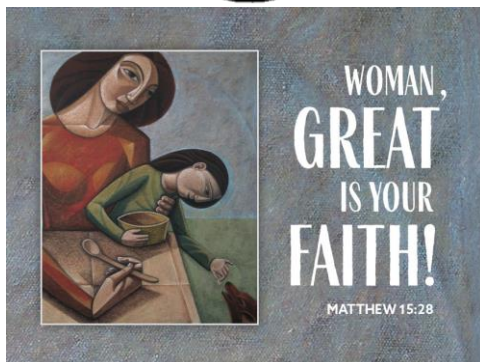


Grace Lutheran Church
1300 Kishwaukee Valley Road
Woodstock, IL 60098
www.gracewoodstock.org



August 16, 2026; 9:00 A.M.
12th Sunday after Pentecost



GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

OPENING MUSIC

“Creating God, Your Fingers Trace”

setting, Karl Osterland (Augsburg Fortress)

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins.
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, “Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest.”
In the name of God,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God’s love. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

“Creating God, Your Fingers Trace”

ELW 684 (One License)

Please be seated.

WELCOME

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

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8, *Pew Bible, Old Testament*, pg. 686

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM:

Psalm 67

The Psalms are found in the ELW, in the front section, beginning on page 339. We will read them responsively together.

SECOND READING:

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32, *Pew Bible, New Testament*, pg. 160 & 161

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 15:10-28, *Pew Bible, New Testament*, pg. 17

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Children are invited to come forward during the message.

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Healer of Our Every Ill"

ELW 612 (One License)

THE APOSTLES' CREED

ELW pg. 105

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. *A brief silence.*

For believers around the world who stream to your holy mountain, that all be united in faith and harmony in the body of Christ. Let your church on earth be a witness to the beloved community of your heavenly kingdom. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For your wondrous creation, that it thrives and flourishes as you intend. Raise up wise stewards to defend the natural world against carelessness and destruction. Safeguard endangered species and their habitats. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the nations of the world and all in authority, that they heed the cry of the outcast and ensure care for the most vulnerable. Give wisdom to leaders of countries, congregations, and communities, that they lead and serve justly. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For all who are lonely, grieving, or struggling with chronic pain, that they find comfort, community, and hope. Send relief to all who struggle with illness of any kind, especially those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts _____. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For this congregation, for visitors and those new to this faith community, that all may recognize the presence of Christ in each new face. Draw this community together in love and strengthen it in unwavering faith. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the saints before us whose work is done, that their faithful example continues to direct your church. May their witness remind us that your gifts and calling are irrevocable, whether in life or death. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

After praying for the whole world, we receive and extend to one another the gift of Christ's peace. We invite you to share a sign of God's peace with one another.

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Please be seated.

OFFERING PRAYER

Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.

OFFERING

Thank you for your generous offerings and commitment to Grace's mission and ministry. You are invited to place your financial offerings in the offering plate. Additional ways to give include mailing your offering to the church office, or by giving online: by texting the amount you would like to give to 877-698-3604, through the Vanco Mobile App, or online at Grace's website (Use the QR code provided). You are also invited to call the church office to learn more about the automatic withdrawal Electronic Giving Program.



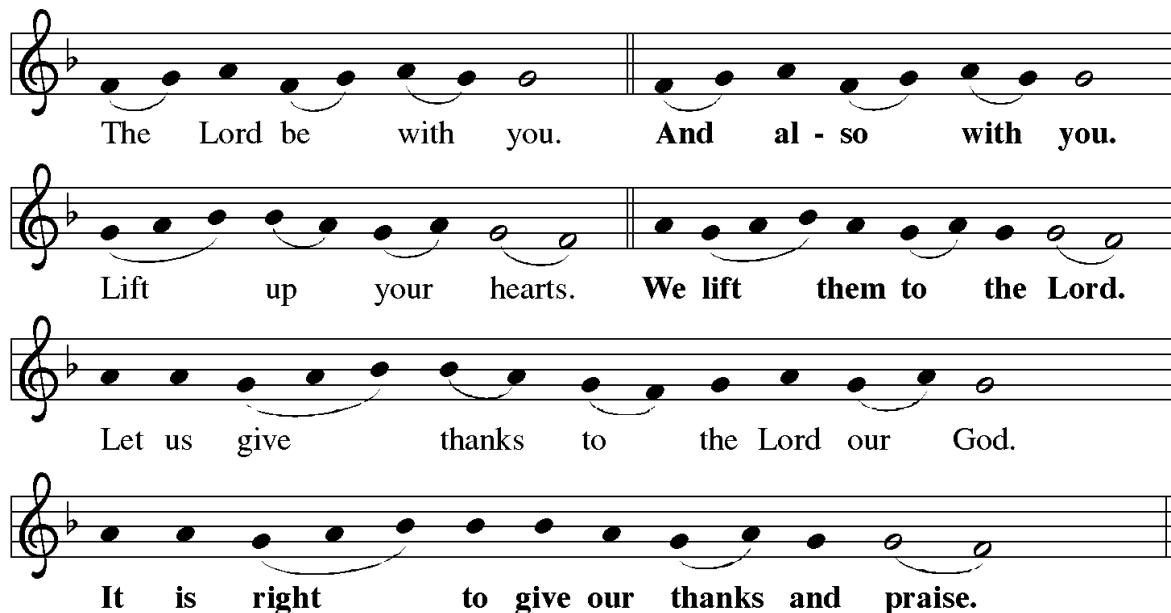
OFFERING HYMN

"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

ELW 182 (One License)

Please stand as you are able.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



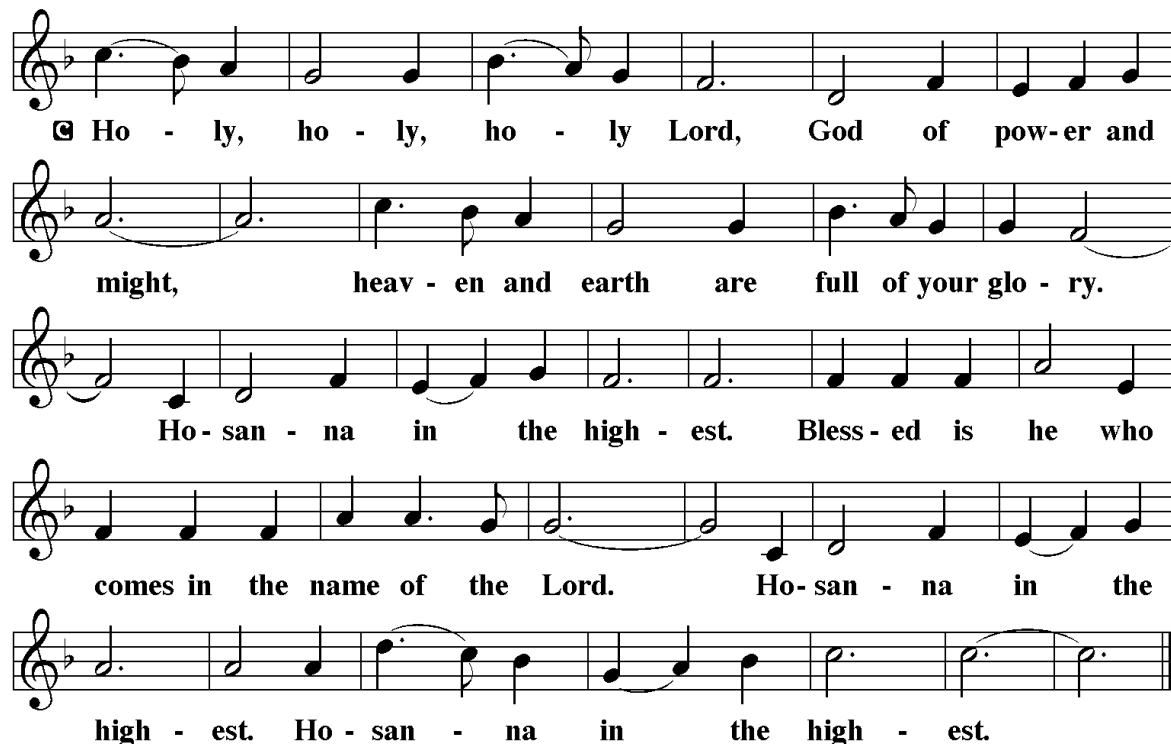
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, . . . and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and

might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

ELW pg.112, left column

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All are welcome at the Lord's table.

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

Please be seated. The congregation will then commune, beginning with the front pews, you are invited to come forward to receive the bread and wine or juice. Extend your hands to receive a wafer from the pastor or communion assistant. Then please pick up one cup from the trays (red wine or white grape juice), and then place the empty cup in a tray on the front pew before returning to your seat. Gluten free elements are available upon request. If you would like the communion elements to be brought to you, please notify an usher.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Lamb of God"

WOV pg. 39 (Augsburg Fortress)

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

"One Bread, One Body"

ELW 496 (One License)

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Compassionate God,

through the gifts of bread and wine

our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.

Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,

may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.

We ask this in the name of Jesus,

through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

Amen.

COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
✠ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

ELW 759 (Public Domain)

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING MUSIC

“My Faith Looks Up To Thee”

setting, Walter L. Pelz (Augsburg Fortress)



Worship Team

A/V Team: Andrew Thomas

Communion Assistants: Michelle Anderson, Alan Beckman, Robin Gibbs,

Mike Phillips, Adalynn Wedoff

Greeters: Aubrey Emery, Madelyn Emery, Quintin Emery, Robin Gibbs

Acolyte: Riley Poremba

Reader: Michelle Anderson

Ushers: Kevin Jarnecke, Bill Kreznor, Nancy Kreznor

Children's Sermon: Jon Bergstrom

Altar Guild: Laura Boal, Donna Neubaum, Sheri Conover, Nan Behrns

Musicians: Jan Burns

Guest Preacher: Pastor Sharon Rogers

Lead Pastor: Pastor Amanda Bergstrom

Presence Light Sponsor:

In memory of Jim Reinhard; given by Karen Reinhard.

Bulletin Sponsors:

In honor of our many August celebrations; given by Andy & MB.

In memory of Jim Reinhard; given by Karen Reinhard.

Thank you for sharing time to hear God's word and pray together. A video recording of



worship will be posted to Grace's website later in the day. You are welcome to join Grace Lutheran Church's Facebook group for news & ministry opportunities. Peace be with you as you go forth to share God's grace.

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Join us on Sunday August 30th after service for our Congregational Meeting



God's work. Our hands.

Service Day September 13th

Signups available online or in the Narthex



Sewing Circle

*Every 1st & 3rd
Tuesday*

8:30am-12:00pm

MAHJONG
GAME NIGHT
EVERY 2ND & 4TH
TUESDAY

6:30PM-8:00PM

SIGN UP ONLINE OR WITH THE OFFICE

Daytime Pinochle

*Every 1st & 3rd
Wednesday*

1:00pm-4:00pm



A Sincere Thanks to our Worship Volunteers!