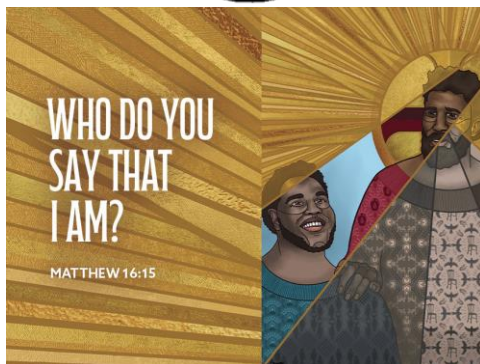


Grace Lutheran Church
1300 Kishwaukee Valley Road
Woodstock, IL 60098
www.gracewoodstock.org



August 23, 2026; 9:00 A.M.
13th Sunday after Pentecost



GATHERING

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

OPENING MUSIC

“Built on a Rock”

setting, Edwin T. Childs (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

“Built on a Rock”

ELW 652 (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

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES

Today we have our Preschool, 3rd Grade Sunday School students, and first year Confirmation Students with us here at the font.

When you were baptized, your family and your church family made some promises to God. They promised to live with you among God's faithful people, bring you to the word of God and the holy supper, teach you the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in your hands the holy scriptures, and nurture you in faith and prayer.

You are now at ages when you are learning stories or beginning to read the Bible for yourself or studying together in class. Together we are going to fulfill our promise to God to place in your hands the holy scriptures.

Bibles are presented to students.

God's word is a lamp to your feet and a light to your path.

The congregation blesses the children.

**May you find God in these scriptures,
the holy story of God's love for us,
and may it open your eyes
to see God in the world around you. Amen.**

WORD

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

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 51:1-6, *Pew Bible, Old Testament, pg. 681*

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

PSALM:

Psalms 138

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

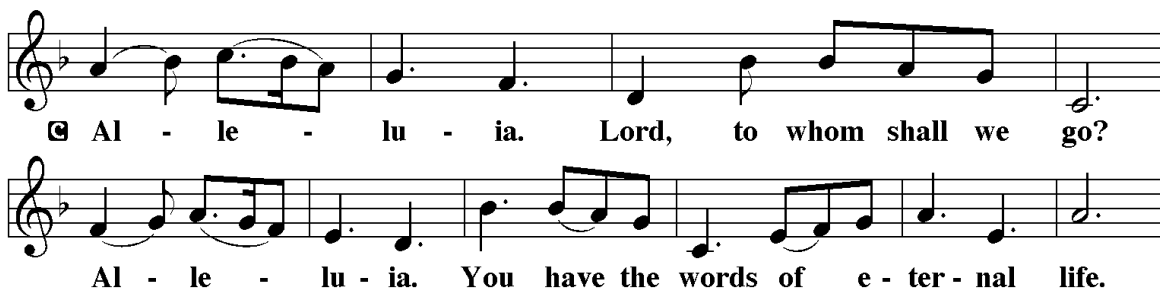
SECOND READING:

Romans 12:1-8, *Pew Bible, New Testament, pg. 161*

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

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





GOSPEL

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

Matthew 16:13-20, Pew Bible, New Testament, pg. 18

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

"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

ELW 645 (Public Domain)

Please be seated.

HOLY BAPTISM – Rowen Ann-Marie Clancy

The candidate, parents and sponsors gather at the Baptismal Font.

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Sponsors for the candidate, Justin Jagarnauth & Sabrina Ceasario, presents the candidate with these words: I present Rowen Ann-Marie to receive the Sacrament of Holy baptism.

The presiding minister addresses the parents, CJ & Briana Clancy:

As you bring Rowen Ann-Marie to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with her among God's faithful people, bring her to the word of God and the holy supper, teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in her hands the holy scriptures, and nurture them in faith and prayer, so that Rowen Ann-Marie may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help Rowen Ann-Marie grow in the Christian faith and life? *We do.*

The presiding minister addresses sponsors:

Justin and Sabrina, do you promise to nurture Rowen Ann-Marie in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church? *I do.*

The presiding minister addresses the assembly:

People of God, do you promise to support Rowen Ann-Marie and pray for her in her new life in Christ? **We do.**

Assembly, please stand as you are able.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? *I renounce them.*

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? *I renounce them.*

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? *I renounce them.*

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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**

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen**

Assembly may be seated.

BAPTISM

Rowen Ann-Marie, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Blessed be God, the source of all life, the word of salvation, the spirit of mercy.

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Rowen Ann-Marie with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen

Rowen Ann-Marie, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen**

WELCOME

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome Rowen Ann-Marie, the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world. Amen

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.*

God, our rock, you are the foundation on which the church is built. We give thanks for Rowen Ann-Marie, the newly baptized. Strengthen and encourage your faithful people everywhere they gather, that they boldly proclaim your word of life to all the world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You spoke and all creation came into being. Field and forest, wetland and wilderness—all reveal your glory. Sustain and nourish your creation. Teach us to be wise stewards of all you have made. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You bring deliverance to nations and peoples. Come to the aid of nations experiencing war, conflict, disease, famine, and disaster. Guide the work of relief agencies and peacemaking organizations. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You regard the lowly and hear us when we cry out to you. Be present among all who struggle with addiction, housing insecurity, incarceration, and mental illness, that they know they are not alone. Hear our prayers for all in need this day, especially those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts _____. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You draw together people with differing gifts. Lift up the many and varied gifts and talents of this congregation and strengthen the bonds of fellowship that all may be united as the body of Christ. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your steadfast love endures forever. We give thanks for the faithful who died in the hope of this promise. Strengthen us in faith until the day we join them at your eternal banquet. 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.

COMMISSIONING & BLESSING OF TEACHERS

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

"We Are an Offering"

ELW 692 (CCLI)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

"O Savior, Precious Savior"

ELW 820 (Public Domain)

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 Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

ELW 596 (Public Domain)

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

CLOSING MUSIC

“Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

setting, David Lasky (Augsburg Fortress)



Worship Team

A/V Team: Andy Bellavia

Communion Assistants: Michelle Anderson, Alan Beckman, Sheri Conover,

Robin Gibbs, Adalynn Wedoff

Greeters: Mike Phillips

Acolyte: Riley Poremba

Reader: Paul Lockwood

Ushers: Faith Metze, Bob Teuber

Children's Sermon: Andy Bellavia

Altar Guild: Tammy Baier, Michelle Anderson, Kristy Nellessen, Grace & Tim Nellessen

Musicians: Jan Burns

Lead Pastor: Pastor Amanda Bergstrom

Presence Light Sponsor:

Donated for love of God; given by Bev Unglaube.

Bulletin Sponsors:

Donated for love of God; given by Bev Unglaube.

In memory of Todd Hovey, Tammy's twin brother; given by Tammy & Tom.

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

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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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

