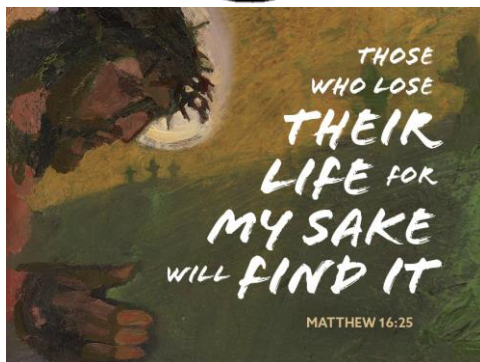


Grace Lutheran Church
1300 Kishwaukee Valley Road
Woodstock, IL 60098
www.gracewoodstock.org



August 30, 2026; 9:00 A.M.
14th Sunday after Pentecost



GATHERING

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

OPENING MUSIC

“Spirit, Open My Heart”

setting, Brenda Portman (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

“Commonwealth is God’s Commandment”

ACS 1036 (One License)



- 1 Com-mon-wealth is God’s com-mand-ment; com-mon goods are meant to share.
- 2 Shar-ing lav-ish gifts and bless-ings, love that not one mite with-holds,
- 3 Gen-ders, rac-es, tribes, and na-tions, hear the Ho-ly One who calls,



Ta-bles set and doors wide o-pen wel-come an-gels un-a-ware.
stretch out arms to friends and strang-ers: God has sheep of man-y folds.
bid-ding all to work to-geth-er, bridg-ing lives and breach-ing walls.



Plead for the peace of all cre-a-tion. Pray for a place where grace is found.



Shan-ti, pax, sha-lom, mas-la-ha: com-mon good is ho-ly ground.

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, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

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

FIRST READING:

Jeremiah 15:15-21, *Pew Bible, Old Testament, pg. 717*

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

PSALM:

Psalm 26:1-8

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

SECOND READING:

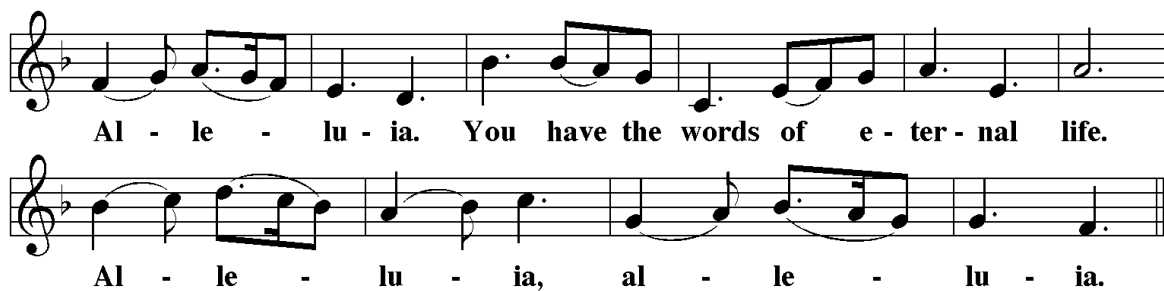
Romans 12:9-21, *Pew Bible, New Testament, pg. 162*

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 16:21-28, 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

"Spirit, Open My Heart"

ACS 1043 (One License)

Refrain

Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of

liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing

and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.

1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
 2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
 3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of

kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
 goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
 friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to

Refrain

fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
 deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
 day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

Please be seated.

HOLY BAPTISM – Raelynn Jo Price

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, Louis Gaddy & Ava Price, presents the candidate with these words:
I present Raelynn Jo to receive the Sacrament of Holy baptism.*

The presiding minister addresses the parents, Nicholas & Anna Price:

As you bring Raelynn Jo 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 her in faith and prayer, so that Raelynn Jo 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 Raelynn Jo grow in the Christian faith and life? *We do.*

The presiding minister addresses sponsors:

Louis and Ava, do you promise to nurture Raelynn Jo 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 Raelynn Jo 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

Raelynn Jo, 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 Raelynn Jo 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

Raelynn Jo, 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 Raelynn Jo, 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.*

For the church in every land, that its mission and ministry is anchored in the love of Christ, and for our congregation as we rejoice in welcoming Raelynn Jo, the newly baptized.

When threats or challenges arise, teach us to take up our cross and follow you in faith.
Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the well-being of your creation, that all that lives and grows on the earth may thrive.
Bring relief to areas ravaged by droughts, floods, fires, storms, and other disasters. Merciful
God, **receive our prayer.**

For the nations and all in authority, that they seek to live in peace with one another. Bless
the work of international and diplomatic organizations and all who work to bring peace to a
world scarred by violence. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For all those in need, that they be satisfied. Ensure all your children have safe access to
food, water, shelter, and medical care. Bring healing to all who bear wounds in body, mind,
and spirit, especially those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts _____.
Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the congregation gathered here to serve you, that they remain strong in faith and
united in purpose. Guide our committees, study groups, and other meetings toward
honesty and humility, always seeking genuine love. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the faithful departed, that their witness continues to strengthen and guide the church.
Renew our hope in your promises in this life and the life to come. 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

"Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song"

ELW 808 (One License)

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.

"Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen"

ELW 548 (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

“Let Streams of Living Justice”

ELW 710 (One License)

DISMISSAL

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

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING MUSIC

“Let Streams of Living Justice”

setting, David Lasky (Augsburg Fortress)

**Worship Team**

A/V Team: Bill Nattress

Communion Assistants: Michelle Anderson, Doug Noe, Mary Noe, Audrey Wedoff, Eleanor Wedoff

Greeters: Doug Noe, Mary Noe

Acolyte: Johanna Bergstrom, Bennett Washkowiak, Adalynn Wedoff

Reader: Michelle Anderson

Ushers: Beth Miller, Mark Miller, Bob Teuber

Children's Sermon: Cindy Meyer

Altar Guild: Beth Miller, Andrea Johnson, Andy Bellavia, Mary Beth Bellavia

Musicians: Jan Burns

Lead Pastor: Pastor Amanda Bergstrom

Presence Light Sponsor:

In memory of Sheri's Uncle Einar Orsett, on his heavenly birthday, given by the Conover family.

Bulletin Sponsors:

In memory of Marlene L. Teuber and in honor of Robert W. Teuber; given by Robert B. Teuber.

In honor of our 35th wedding anniversary; given by Paul & Cindy Meyer.

Please join us after service for the 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

