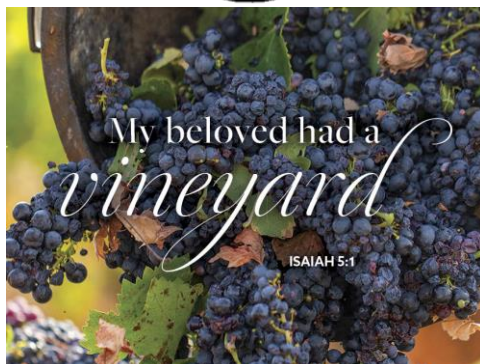


Grace Lutheran Church
1300 Kishwaukee Valley Road
Woodstock, IL 60098
www.gracewoodstock.org



October 4, 2026; 9:00 A.M.
19th Sunday after Pentecost



GATHERING

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

OPENING MUSIC

"How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord"

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,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.**

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

OPENING HYMN

"Can You Feel the Seasons Turning"

ACS 1065 (One License)



1 Can you feel the sea - sons turn - ing, winds and waves grown
2 Can you hear the crea - tures cry - ing— lynx and ot - ter,
3 Can you feel the sea - sons turn - ing? Storm clouds gath - er



wild and strange? Can you feel cre - a - tion groan - ing,
wolf and whale? Can you hear the Spir - it sigh - ing
in the skies. All a - round us signs of warn - ing



fear - ful of the com - ing change: ice - caps melt - ing,
as her chil - dren grieve and fail? Na - ture's poor, the
bid us o - pen fright - ened eyes. Called by God to



o - ceans ris - ing, homes and hab - i - ta - tions lost?
first to suf - fer, pay the price of hu - man greed.
serve as stew - ards till earth's gar - den greens and thrives,



Can you feel the sea - sons turn - ing? Can you count the bit - ter cost?
Can you hear the crea - tures cry - ing, beg - ging us to stop and heed?
can we learn in time to lis - ten? Can we turn and change our lives?

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

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

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

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 5:1-7, *Pew Bible, Old Testament*, pg. 634

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

PSALM:**Psalm 80:7-15**

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

SECOND READING:**Philippians 3:4b-14**, *Pew Bible, New Testament, pg. 198*

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

GOSPEL

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

Matthew 21:33-46, *Pew Bible, New Testament, pg. 24*

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**"Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth"**

ELW 727 (Public Domain)

THE APOSTLES' CREED

ELW pg. 105

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.
A brief silence.

God of every generation, we give thanks for all who have sought to renew and transform your holy church. Inspire us to follow their example in our own day. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every creature, bless and protect the earth and all those who dwell within it. We give thanks for those who have helped us to see your Spirit in creation, especially Francis of Assisi, renewer of the church. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every tribe and nation, restore peace to the world's conflict zones, and shelter those who live within them. We pray especially for the safety of displaced people and refugees. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every comfort, you made us in your own image. Grant healing and relief to all who are sick or suffering, especially those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts _____. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every truth, you draw us nearer to you through your holy word. We give thanks for teachers of the faith. Fill their hearts with your Spirit, that they inspire others with your truth. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every soul, you are the one who calls us home. We give thanks for all the saints who have been restored to perfect unity with you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through 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

God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.

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.



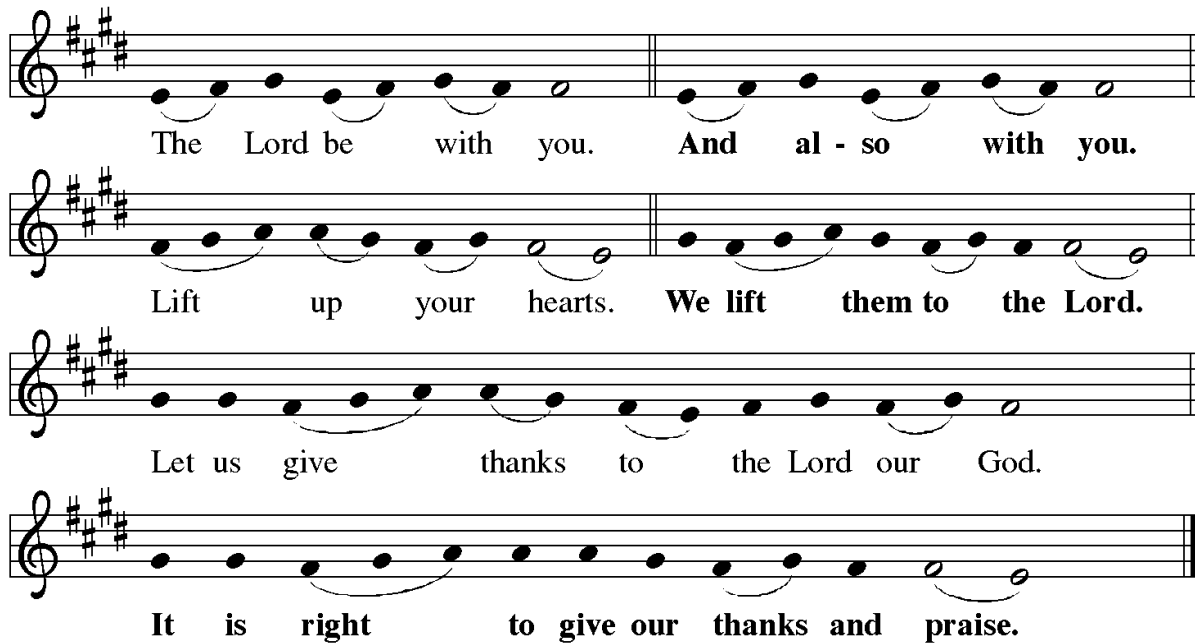
OFFERING ANTHEM

"Psalm 80"

by John D. Horman (Augsburg Fortress)

Please stand as you are able.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



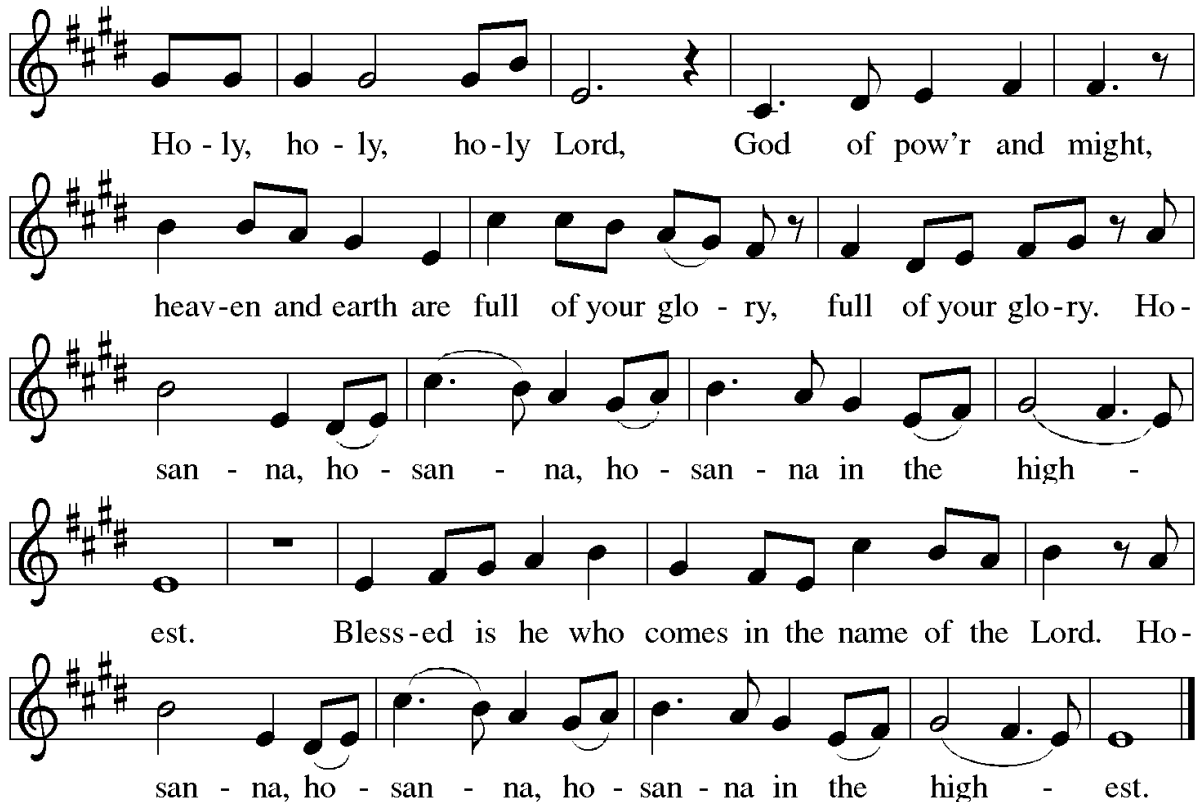
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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'r and might,

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

san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -

est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

ELW pg.191, left column

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All are welcome at the Lord's table.

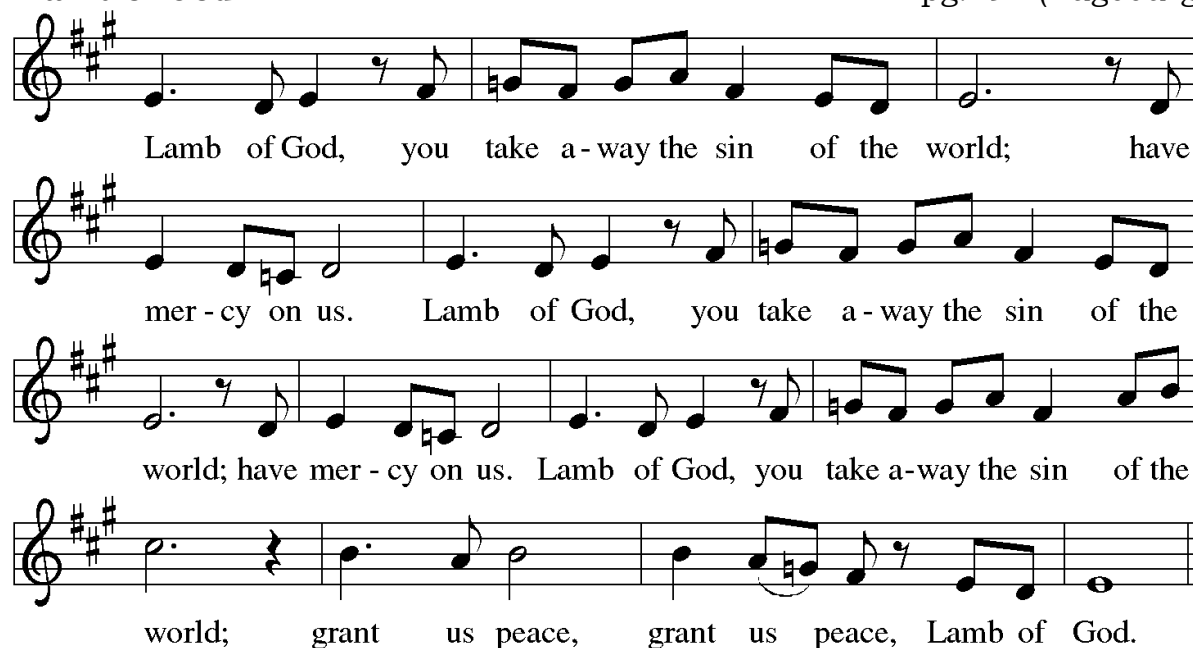
Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

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”

ELW pg.191 (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, Lamb of God.

“How Clear Is our Vocation, Lord”

ELW 580 (One License)

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sustaining God,

with this bread and cup,

you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.

By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.

Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,

following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

Amen.

SENDING OF COMMUNION

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother’s tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick, homebound, and imprisoned. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“Thine the Amen”

ELW 826 (One License)

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING MUSIC

“Trumpet Tune on Mit Freuden zart”

setting, Michael Helman (Augsburg Fortress)



Worship Team

A/V Team: Bill Nattress

Communion Assistants: Michelle Anderson, Anne Johnson, Beth Miller, Mark Miller, Mike Phillips

Greeters: David Ackerman, Mike Phillips

Acolyte: Julia Ackerman, Johanna Bergstrom, Riley Poremba

Reader: Paul Lockwood

Ushers: Laura Boal, Jace Hanlin, Faith Metze

Children's Sermon: Jon Bergstrom

Altar Guild: Laura Boal, Donna Neubaum, Brian Gerloff, Carole Gerloff

Musicians: Cherubs, Cindy Meyer, Jan Burns

Lead Pastor: Pastor Amanda Bergstrom

Presence Light Sponsor:

To the Glory of God; given by the Steckl Family.

Bulletin Sponsors:

In honor of our 47th anniversary; given by Sheri & Mike Conover.

To the Glory of God; given by the Steckl Family.



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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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!

