



Suilding faith...sharing hope...living love.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, L.C.M.S

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#### The Sacrament of Holy Communion at Grace

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. The bread and wine do not symbolize or represent the body and blood of Christ, but are the real presence, as he says of "This is my body. . . This is my blood."

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked to first speak with Pastor Matthews.

For further study, see Matt. 5:23f; 10:32f; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

#### FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 6, 2020

Ezekiel 33:7–9 Romans 13:1–10 Matthew 18:1–20

## Living as Humble Little Children of the Father

True greatness is not self-sufficient strength, but humility like that of a little child. The greatness of childlike faith receives all good things as gracious gifts from our Father in heaven. Apart from such faith, "you will never enter the kingdom of heaven," but whoever is humbled like a little child will be "the greatest in the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 18:3–4). Though in our sin we deserve to be "drowned in the depth of the sea" (Matt. 18:6), we have instead been drowned ("buried") with Christ in Baptism and then raised to the new, humble life of a child of God. The Lord sends His watchman to warn us with a word from His mouth, in order that we may not die in our iniquity but be turned from our pride and selfishness to live (Ezek. 33:7–9). Thus, we live in humility and faith before God as well as in love for our neighbor, which "is the fulfilling of the law" (Rom. 13:10). In the reverent fear of God, we do no harm to our neighbor, but we "pay to all what is owed to them" (Rom. 13:7) and we "owe no one anything, except to love each other" (Rom. 13:8).

#### +Welcome and Announcements+

#### +Confession and Absolution+

Stand



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The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

<u>Invocation</u> LSB 167

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

3

LSB 686

**Exhortation** LSB 167

- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

**Confession of Sins** LSB 167

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

**Absolution** LSB 167

- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

+Service of the Word+

# **Introit**

Ps. 92:1–4; antiphon: Ps. 92:5

How great are your works, O LORD!\*

Your thoughts are | very deep!

It is good to give thanks | to the LORD,\*

to sing praises to your name, O Most High;

to declare your steadfast love in the | morning,\* and your faithful- ness by night,

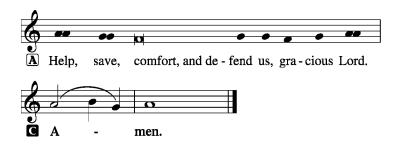
to the music of the lute | and the harp,\* to the melody of the lyre.

For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;\* at the works of your hands I | sing for joy.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,\* is now, and will be forever. | Amen. How great are your works, | O LORD!\* Your thoughts are | very deep!



LSB 168



## **Hymn of Praise--Gloria in Excelsis**

LSB 170



#### **Salutation and Collect of the Day**





#### P Let us pray.

O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

## **Old Testament Reading**

Ezekiel 33:7-9

"So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

## **Psalm**

Psalm 32:1-7 (antiphon: v. 1)

Blessèd is the one whose transgression is for- | given,\* whose sin is | covered.

Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no in- | iquity,\* and in whose spirit there is | no deceit.

For when I kept silent, my bones wast- | ed away\* through my groaning | all day long.

For day and night your hand was heavy up- on me;\*
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my in- | iquity;\* I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity | of my sin.

Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you | may be found;\* surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not | reach him.

You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from | trouble;\* you surround me with shouts of de- | liverance.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,\* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

**Epistle**Romans 13:1–10

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

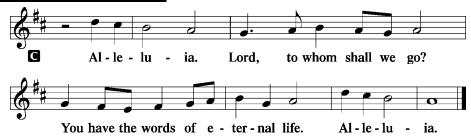
Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

**Alleluia and Verse** 

LSB 173



Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:1–20

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.



At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

"Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

"Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.

"See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he

listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



## **Apostles' Creed**

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life \(\frac{1}{2}\) everlasting. Amen.

## 820 My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker



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#### Sermon

#### Stand

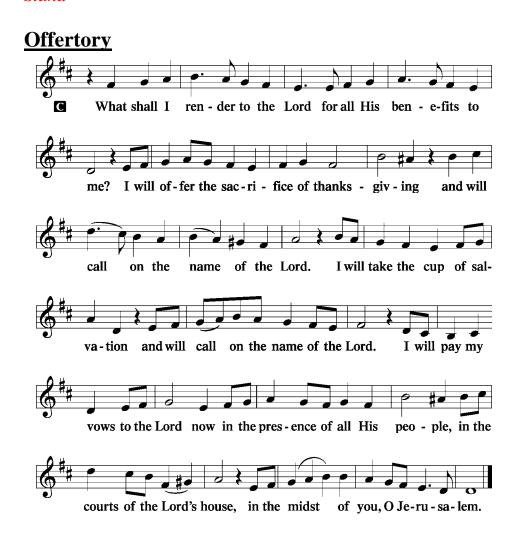
# **Prayer of the Church**

- ...Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.
- . . . our Savior, Jesus Christ, whom with the Spirit, You are one God and one Lord, now and forevermore. **Amen.**

Sit

## **Offering**

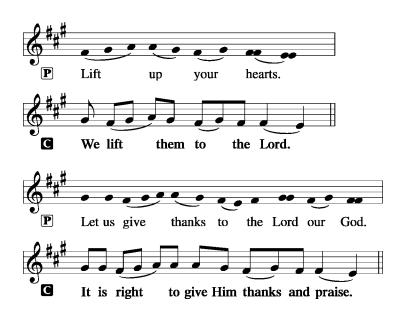
#### Stand



LSB 176







#### **Proper Preface**

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus LSB 178



# **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

LSB 178

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

LSB 179

- **P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- C 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.

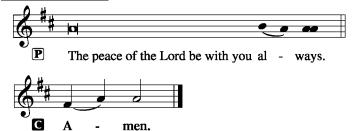
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

## **The Words of Our Lord**

LSB 179

- P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ⅓ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini LSB 180



Agnus Dei LSB 180



Sit

## **Distribution**

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

Amen.

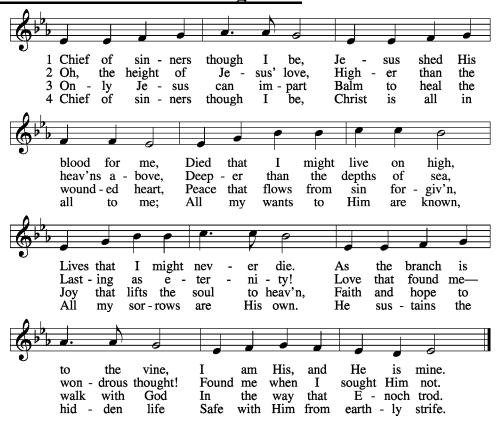
In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

The Dismissal

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart 

  in peace.
- C Amen.

### 611 Chief of Sinners Though I Be



O my Savior, help afford
By Your Spirit and Your Word!
When my wayward heart would stray,
Keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply
While I live and when I die.

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### 618 I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table

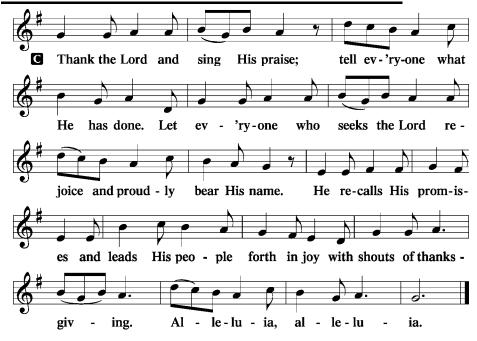


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#### Stand

#### LSB 181

#### **Post-Communion Canticle--Thank the Lord**



# **Post-Communion Collect**

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction LSB 183



The Lord bless you and keep you.

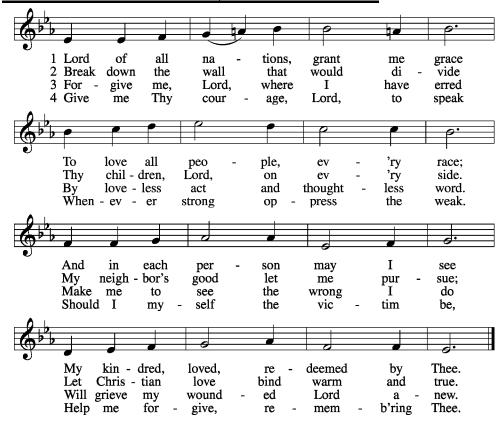
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



#### LSB 844

#### 844 Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace



5 With Thine own love may I be filled And by Thy Holy Spirit willed, That all I touch, where'er I be, May be divinely touched by Thee.

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- **P** Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!
- **C** Thanks be to God!

#### Acknowledgments

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#### Quote for the week of September 6, 2020

"On earth, there will be no shortage of burdens to bear as we care for those in need. But one day, these burdens will be lifted from our shoulders in Heaven, where the Lord will see us through the lens of Christ's perfect sacrifice and will say, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! ... Enter into the joy of your master' (Matthew 25:21). Rest in His unfailing love." *Marie K. MacPherson, author – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org* 



6 Korin Baccus





11 Dan & Tomi Budd



#### Weekly Worship in-person and via Facebook Live!

As we return to in-person worship today, we give thanks to God for bringing us through these trying times. For all who are ill, do not feel comfortable in larger groups, or cannot get to our services, we will continue to stream our worship services using Facebook Live! At our regular Sunday morning worship time (10:45 a.m.) we will broadcast the worship service. You can watch the live worship service, or you can view the service later by going to the Grace Lutheran Tacoma Facebook page.

Bulletins for the service are mailed out on Thursday or Friday each week. If you have not received a bulletin by Saturday afternoon, please message Pastor Matthews through the Facebook page (Messenger) and a copy of the service folder will be sent you in reply.

Your feedback on these services is greatly appreciated. If you are having difficulties accessing the services, or if other difficulties arise, please contact us through the Facebook page or by sending an email to <a href="mailto-Pastor@GraceLutheranTacoma.org">Pastor@GraceLutheranTacoma.org</a>.

## **Weekly Bible Study Opportunities**

Join us Sunday Mornings at 9:30. When we are able to join together for Bible Study again, we will begin working through the Synod's program, **Every One His Witness**. This resource will help us feel more comfortable discussing our faith with friends and family. Our Bible Studies are a great way to build understanding of God's Word and give us tools to survive the challenges of daily living. **We are reviewing options for returning to Sunday Morning Bible Study. Stay tuned for more information on when classes will resume.** 





Midweek Bible Study meets Thursday mornings. We are continuing our study of the Gospel of Luke. The meeting location has changed to Prince of Peace until the South Tacoma Library lifts its meeting room closure (to avoid the spread of Corona Virus). Our sessions begin at 10:30 and conclude around 11:30. We are planning to restart midweek Bible Study July 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m.

## **Reading and studying the Lutheran Confessions**

Our Lutheran Confessions reading/study/discussion group is rolling along. We meet the first and third Thursdays of each month. The meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. and last for approximately one and a half hours. The meeting will be in the library at Prince of Peace. We are reviewing options for returning to our study of the Lutheran Confessions. Stay tuned for more information on when classes will resume.



### **End Alzheimers Walk**

#### From Lisa Wolf

As many of you know, my Dad Walter had this cruel disease. More specifically he had Lewy Body Dementia. This is the same disease that took Robin Williams' life.

Currently, more than 5 million Americans have Alzheimer's and that number is expected to grow to as many as 16 million by 2050. Our future is at risk unless we can find a way to change the course of this disease.



The end of Alzheimer's disease starts with you. Please make a donation to help the Alzheimer's Association advance research into methods of treatment, prevention and, ultimately, a cure.

Thank you for joining the movement! Thank you for everyone who has supported me! End Alzheimer's Walk September 27, 2020

You can contact me, support by clicking on the link or send a check to Alzheimer's Association- our team is Walter's Memory.

-Lisa

My page: http://act.alz.org/site/TR?fr\_id=13727&pg=personal&px=11979187

\*Check donations should be made out to the Alzheimer's Association. You can mail a check to the Alzheimer's Association along with the form available on my fundraising page, or send your check donation to me and I can deposit it directly to the Alzheimer's Association through the Walk to End Alzheimer's mobile app.

## **Updated Website for Grace**

During the time of our exile to our homes by order of Governor Inslee, Pastor Matthews has been working on updating our website. The old Grace Lutheran website was not significantly updated since we sold our old building. The new website presents to the world our Lutheran identity as a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, as well as our confessional position embracing the Sacraments for the precious gift that they are.

The site is still undergoing updating, but current information is now available for the public to see regarding our Grace Family. Part of our new presence is a page linking people to our Facebook Live! Services. Bulletins and sermons are available on the site as well. The website address is <a href="www.gracelutherantacoma.org">www.gracelutherantacoma.org</a>. When you have a chance, take a look at our digital face to the world. Your comments and ideas are welcome, encouraged, and greatly appreciated. Please let Pastor know what your thoughts are about this new look.

## **Shop on Amazon.com? Support our congregation**

Amazon.com has a program that contributes 0.5% of purchases to a charity of your choosing. AmazonSmile (<u>smile.amazon.com</u>) is the website through which purchases are made and donations to Grace Lutheran Church accrue.

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Grace every time you shop, at no cost to you.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile, you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Your selection will be remembered, and then every eligible purchase you make at <a href="mailto:smile.amazon.com">smile.amazon.com</a> will result in a donation. Grace Lutheran Church has registered as a charitable organization, so you will find us there.

We have received \$83.63 so far. Thanks to all for supporting us.

# **Prayer Requests**

This week we remember in our prayers, members and friends for whom prayers are requested, including:

<b>Healing</b>	<b>Healing/Other</b>	<b>Cancer</b>	<b>Homebound</b>
Alda S	Eric S	James M	Doug B
Judy G	Denes V	Gabe T	Karen J
Dan B	Randy H	Edith L	
Joan D	Hank B	Jason	
Jeremiah R	Grant O	Jerry M	
Alethea B	Bonnie S	Marion B	
Jim L	Ryan C	Jim M	
Chris R	Jim M		
Charles S	Jennifer Z		
Kirk D	Ray C		
Rick L	Eric H		
Alitha			$D_{100101}$
All who mourn the de	Prayer		
All who mourn the de	Requests		

# Prepare for next week

Spend a few minutes this week reading and thinking about the appointed scriptures for next week.

Genesis 50:15–21 Romans 14:1–12 Matthew 18:21–35

All who mourn the death of Joy Schoolmaster All who mourn the death of Harold McCloud

Scripture Readings

# This Week (and next) at Grace

Today	10:45 a.m.	Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecos Facebook Live!	st Worship Se	rvice in-person and via
Sept 8th	10:00 a.m.	Betty Ann Psalm Study	The Mole	
Sept 10 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 a.m.	Mid-week Bible Study –	3 4	Gospel of Luke
Sep 13 <sup>th</sup>	10:45 a.m.	Fifteenth Sunday After Service in-person and via	6 7 8	Pentecost Worship Facebook Live!



WHERE CHRISTIANITY MEETS CULTURE... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's subjects include: The Influence of Christianity on Labor & Economic Freedom, A Christian Response to Soft Totalitarianism, The Demolition of the Western Mind, Constitutional Republic vs. Democracy and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

#### LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM THE LORD'S PRAYER

# AS THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY SHOULD TEACH THEM IN A SIMPLE WAY TO THE HOUSEHOLD

#### 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

#### THE THIRD PETITION

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

#### What does this mean?

The good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

#### How is God's will done?

God's will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God's name or let His kingdom come; and when He strengthens and deeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die. This is His good and gracious will.