

The Christian lives as wheat among the weeds



Pentecost 8
July 23, 2023

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rev. Mark R. Jacobson, x321
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{Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod}
5600 W. Palmyra Avenue
Glendale, AZ 85301
Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 AM
623-937-2010

Principal Joel D. Walker, x302
jwalker@graceglendale.org
School Office Manager, Monica, x326
massaker@graceglendale.org

WELCOME...

- *May the Word of God bring you comfort in Christ alone.*
- *Check our website at www.graceglendale.org for more information.*
- *Please reserve **the BACK PEWS** for parents with **SMALL CHILDREN**.*
- *Ask an usher to receive a **RECEIVER** if you need hearing assistance.*

THE SERVICE: p. 154, Setting 1

RISE, MY SOUL, TO WATCH AND PRAY

CW 873

Rise, my soul, to watch and pray;
from your sleep awaken!
Be not by the evil day
unawares o'ertaken;
for the foe,
well we know,
is a harvest reaping
while the saints are sleeping.

Watch against the devil's snares
lest asleep he find you;
for indeed no pains he spares
to deceive and blind you.
Satan's prey
oft are they
who secure are sleeping
and no watch are keeping.

Watch! Let not the wicked world
with its lies defeat you
lest with bold deceptions hurled
it betray and cheat you.
Watch and see
lest there be
faithless friends to charm you
who but seek to harm you.

Watch against yourself, my soul,
lest with grace you trifle;
let not self your thoughts control
nor God's mercy stifle.
Pride and sin
lurk within,
all your hopes to shatter;
heed not when they flatter.

But while watching also pray
to the Lord unceasing.
God protects you day by day,
strength and faith increasing,
so that still
mind and will
shall unite to serve him
and forever love him.

*Text: Johann B. Freystein, 1671–1718, abr.; (sts. 1, 3–5): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.;
(st. 2): tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-book, 1907, alt.*

Text: Public domain

(Stand)

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CONFESSION

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

(Silence for meditation and reflection)

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.
Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

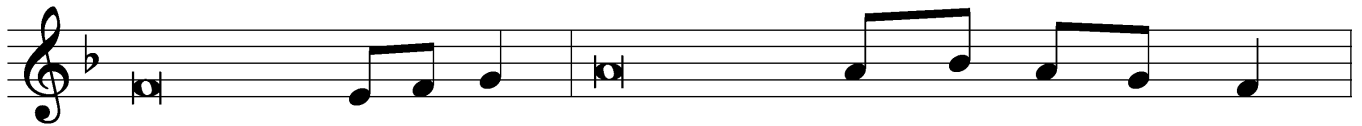
Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH

CW 157



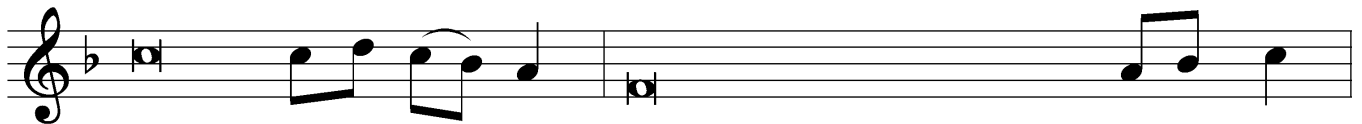
Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



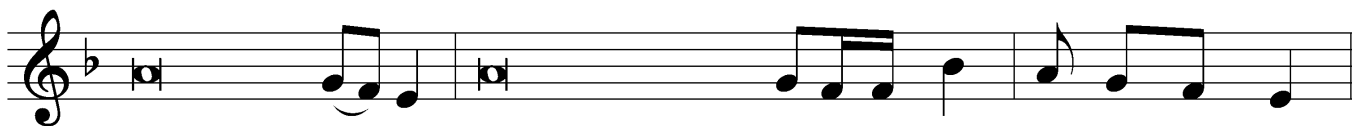
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



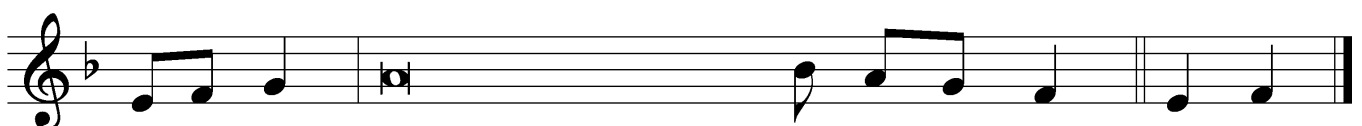
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.



For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with you in perfect joy hereafter; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(Be seated)

FIRST READING

Isaiah 44:6–11

⁶“This is what the LORD says—

Israel’s King and Redeemer, the LORD Almighty:
I am the first and I am the last;
apart from me there is no God.

⁷Who then is like me? Let him proclaim it.

Let him declare and lay out before me
what has happened since I established my ancient people,
and what is yet to come—
yes, let them foretell what will come.

⁸Do not tremble, do not be afraid.

Did I not proclaim this and foretell it long ago?
You are my witnesses. Is there any God besides me?
No, there is no other Rock; I know not one.”

⁹All who make idols are nothing,
and the things they treasure are worthless.
Those who would speak up for them are blind;
they are ignorant, to their own shame.

¹⁰Who shapes a god and casts an idol,
which can profit nothing?

¹¹People who do that will be put to shame;
such craftsmen are only human beings.

**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. Refrain**

Text: Lectionary for Mass

Tune: Richard T. Proulx

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SECOND READING

Romans 1:18–25

¹⁸The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, ¹⁹since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. ²⁰For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse. ²¹For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²²Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools. ²³and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

²⁴Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. ²⁵They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

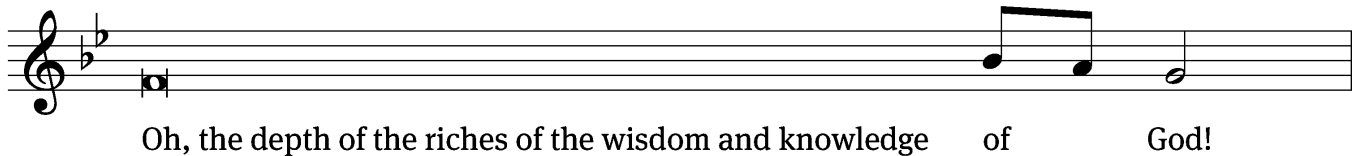
Romans 11:33



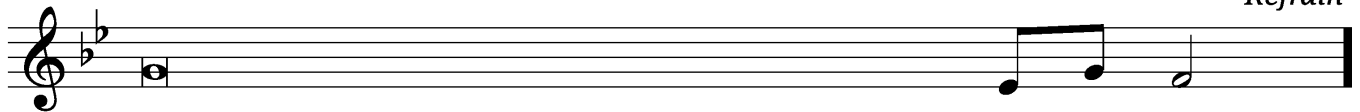
Refrain



Tone



Refrain



How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!

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GOSPEL

Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43

²⁴Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. ²⁶When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. ²⁷“The owner’s servants came to him and said, ‘Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?’ ²⁸“ ‘An enemy did this,’ he replied. “The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’ ²⁹“ ‘No,’ he answered, ‘because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. ³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.’ ” ³⁶Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field.” ³⁷He answered, “The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. ⁴⁰“As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of

the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. ⁴²They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

(Be seated)

COME, YOU THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME

CW 491

Come, you thankful people, come;
raise the song of harvest home.

All be safely gathered in
ere the winter storms begin.

God, our maker, shall provide
for our wants to be supplied.

Come to God's own temple, come;
raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field,
fruit unto his praise to yield;
wheat and weeds together sown,
unto joy or sorrow grown.

First the blade and then the ear,
then the full corn shall appear.

Lord of harvest, grant that we
wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come
and shall take his harvest home,
from his field shall in that day
all offenses purge away,
give his angels charge at last
in the fire the weeds to cast,
but the fruitful ears to store
in his garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come
to your final harvest home;
gather all your people in,
free from sorrow, free from sin,
there, forever purified,
in your garner to abide.
Come with all your angels, come;
raise the glorious harvest home.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.

Text: Public domain

SERMON

Grow as wheat among the weeds.

1. Don't look like an unbeliever.
2. Don't be an overzealous servant.
3. Shine because you will shine.

(Stand)

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the
Father Almighty. From there 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 everlasting. Amen.**

(Be seated)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially
for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious

will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Special Intercessions

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

Amen.

OFFERINGS OF LOVE TO OUR LORD

Please fill out the "Welcome to Grace" register in your pew at this time!

LORD JESUS CHRIST, WITH US ABIDE

CW 641

Lord Jesus Christ, with us abide,
for round us falls the eventide,
nor let your Word, that heav'nly light,
for us be ever veiled in night.

In these last days of sore distress
grant us, dear Lord, true steadfastness
that pure we keep, till life is spent,
your holy Word and sacrament.

O God, how sin's dread works abound!
Throughout the earth no rest is found,
and falsehood's spirit wide has spread,
and error boldly rears its head.

Lord Jesus, help, your Church uphold,
for we are sluggish, thoughtless, cold.
O prosper well your Word of grace,
and spread its truth in ev'ry place.

O keep us in your Word, we pray;
the guile and rage of Satan stay.
Oh, may your mercy never cease;
give concord, patience, courage, peace.

A trusty weapon is your Word,
the Church's armor, shield, and sword.
O let us in its pow'r confide
that we may seek no other guide.

O grant that in your holy Word
we here may live and die, dear Lord;

and when our journey's ending here,
receive us into glory there.

Text: tr. composite; (st. 1): German version, Geistliche Psalmen, Nuremberg, 1611; (st. 1): Philipp Melanchthon, 1497–1560; (sts. 2–7): Nicolaus Selnecker, 1532–1592
Text: Public domain

(Stand)

PRAYER

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

(Be seated)

FROM ALL THAT DWELL BELOW THE SKIES

CW 605

From all that dwell below the skies
let the Creator's praise arise.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let the Redeemer's name be sung
through ev'ry land, by ev'ry tongue.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Eternal are your mercies, Lord;
eternal truth attends your Word.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your praise shall sound from shore to shore

till suns shall rise and set no more.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Text: Public domain

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Setting One from Christian Worship

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ALTAR FLOWERS were donated by Matt and Jada Wightman in observance of their wedding anniversary.



Worship attendance: 8:00 AM – 130; 10:30 AM – 136

Communion attendance: 8:00 AM – 96; 10:30 AM – 97

Sunday School attendance: Adults – 72; Children – 19

Senior ushers – 8:00 AM: Chris Paul 10:30 AM: AJ McDunn/Tristan McDunn

Pianist: Stacey Hill

HOSPITALIZED OR RECUPERATING AT HOME:

Darhleen Spangenberg

Karen Barber

Wally Wahlberg

Patrick Walker

Marty Hartmann

Sandra Lederer

THIS WEEK AT GRACE:

SUN - **Worship, 8:00 & 10:30 AM;** Bible Class & Sunday School, 9:30 AM; Church Campout

MON - Church Campout

TUE - Newsletter Assembly, 9:00 AM

SUN - **Worship, 8 & 10:30 AM**; Bible Class & Sunday School, 9:30 AM

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. *Forward in Christ* and February Bible-reading & activity calendars are in the Narthex and south entrance to the church.
2. Thank you to the crew that cleaned the church last week. The cleaning crew for July 29 will be captained by Don & Debbie Petersen, David Petersen, Derek and Emily Fraser, Groth Family

✠

THANK YOU on behalf of the Lederer family to all who have sent prayers, cards, and letters to Sandra.

✠

WELS Youth Night- The WELS Youth Night provides a series of youth-focused events, three times a year, not only for the youth of our congregation but also for the youth from area congregations. Experience an inspiring evening of games, music, God's Word, small group discussion, and fun with fellow high schoolers (9th-12th grade) from all over the area. The next WELS Youth Night Phoenix will be on Saturday, August 26, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Cross of Glory Lutheran Church (10111 W Jomax Rd, Peoria, AZ 85383). Our keynote speaker is Dr. Joel Hahnke, an endocrinologist and elder at Emmanuel. He will speak with the teens about gender identity and God's Word. We hope you can join us. Watch for more information to come!

✠

GRACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL BAND PROGRAM is seeking instrument donations. Contact Rachel Kulhanek at 608-381-7370 if you have any unused instruments around!

✠

2023 ALTAR FLOWER SIGN-UP SHEETS... You may sign up to donate altar bouquets for 2023 in the Altar Flower binder in the narthex. Altar bouquets cost \$35 each. Enclose payment in a pink envelope (make checks payable to Grace Ladies Aid) and drop in the collection plate.

✠

2023 SCRIPTURAL CALENDARS are available for purchase in the fellowship hall after the first service this morning. Greeting cards can be purchased singly and by the box. The calendars are \$8.00 each.

✠

ABC – ADULT BREAKFAST AND COFFEE GROUP will not meet in August. We will resume our breakfast schedule on the first Wednesday of September. Look for information in upcoming bulletins and Newsletters.

✠

GRACE ADULT CHOIR will resume practice starting Monday, August 7th at 7 pm in the sanctuary. We look forward to welcoming veterans as well as new members to our ranks as we begin preparing music for upcoming services. Please feel free to speak to any choir members if you have any questions.

✠

DIVINE CALL ACCEPTED... Pastor Clark has accepted the Divine Call to serve as the Discipleship pastor at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Marana (Tucson), Arizona. His last Sunday at Grace will be August 27 with a farewell and celebration of his 40th anniversary in the ministry to follow. We hope you will make plans to attend.

✠

ART SUPPLY DONATIONS... The Grace Lutheran School art department is planning and is looking for donations. Items such as newspapers, old vinyl records, plastic, or glass yogurt cups (clean), food container lids, rectangular plastic tablecloths, and old T-shirts are desired. Please place all donations in the box marked Grace Art, at the back of the

fellowship hall. Should you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Amber Bode

at abode@graceglendale.org. Thank you!

✠

DONATE FROM YOUR SMARTPHONE!

using your phone's QR code reader! ext. 322 if you have any questions or



Scan this image Contact Debbie at need help with

setting this up. Automatic or one-time deductions for offerings may also be accessed from the graceglendale.org site with the "Click Here to Donate Online" button. A phone app is also available for

donations: install Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement. Search organizations for Grace Ev Lutheran Church. *Please use checking or savings account information rather than a credit or debit card to save the processing fees.*



FINANCIAL UPDATE: Need amounts are based on a goal of **\$947,436.00** by **6/30/2023**.

YTD 7/1/2023 through 7/16/2023:

Week ending 7/16/2023:

Weekly Need:	17,000.00		YTD Need:	53,500.00
Weekly Actual:	9,615.35		YTD Actual:	33,468.85
Weekly +/-:	-7,384.65		YTD +/-:	-20,031.15