

THE CHRISTIAN ANSWERS DOUBT WITH FAITH

PENTECOST 11
August 13, 2023



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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{Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod}
5600 W. Palmar Avenue
Glendale, AZ 85301
Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 AM
623-937-2010

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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.*
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THE SERVICE: Service of Word and Prayer

HYMN: ETERNAL FATHER, STRONG TO SAVE

CW 805 sts. 1-4

Eternal Father, strong to save,
whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain
o'er which our traffic runs amain,
by mountain pass or valley low,
wherever, Lord, thy people go,
protect them by thy guarding hand
from ev'ry peril on the land.

O Spirit, whom the Father sent
to spread abroad the firmament,
O Wind of heaven, by thy might
save all who dare the eagle's flight,

and keep them by thy watchful care
from ev'ry peril in the air.

O Trinity of love and pow'r,
our people shield in danger's hour;
from rock and tempest, fire and foe,
protect them wheresoe'er they go;
thus evermore shall rise to thee
glad praise from air and land and sea.

Text: William Whiting, 1825–1878, alt.

Text (sts. 1, 4): Public domain

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(Stand)

RESPONSES

I rejoiced with those who said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord Almighty!
Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.

The Lord is near to all who call on him,
to all who call on him in truth.

TIME OF THE CHURCH

Teach me, Lord, the way of your decrees,
that I may follow it to the end.

Your word is a lamp for my feet,
a light on my path.

Faith comes from hearing the message,
and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

PRAYER

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure

hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

(Be seated)

FIRST READING

The Lord works in the word.

1 Kings 19:9–18

⁹There he went into a cave and spent the night. And the word of the LORD came to him: “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁰He replied, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.” ¹¹The LORD said, “Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.” Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. ¹²After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. Then a voice said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁴He replied, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.” ¹⁵The LORD said to him, “Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. ¹⁶Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. ¹⁷Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any who escape the sword of Jehu. ¹⁸Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and whose mouths have not kissed him.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: SURELY IT IS GOD WHO SAVES ME

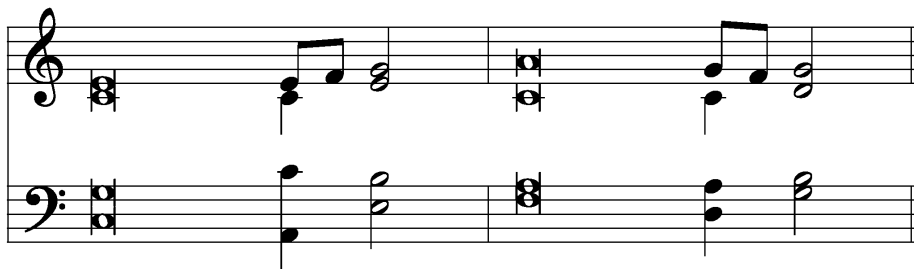
Psalm 73B

Refrain



Sure - ly, it is God who saves me, I will trust in him and
not be a - fraid, for the LORD is my strong-hold and my
sure de-fense, and he will be my Sav - ior.

Tone



I am always / with you;
you hold me by my / right hand.
You guide me with your / counsel,
and afterward you will take me into / glory.
Whom have I in / heav'n but you?
And earth has nothing I desire be- / sides you.
My flesh and my / heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion for- / ever.

**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: The Draft Proposed Book of Common Prayer

Tune: Jack Noble White

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SECOND READING

Romans 8:28–39

God works for our good

²⁸And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified. ³¹What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.” ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

Matthew 14:22–33

God’s word and works strengthens faith.

²²Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. ²³After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, ²⁴and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. ²⁵Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. ²⁶When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear.

²⁷But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." ²⁸"Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." ²⁹"Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" ³²And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. ³³Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

HYMN: BE STILL, MY SOUL

CW 847

Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side;
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
leave to your God to order and provide;
in ev'ry change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'nly friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul; your God will undertake
to guide the future as he has the past;
your hope, your confidence, let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
his voice who ruled them while he lived below.

Be still, my soul; when dearest friends depart
and all is darkened in the vale of tears,
then you will better know his love, his heart,
who comes to soothe your sorrows and your fears.
Be still, my soul; your Jesus can repay
from his own fullness all he takes away.

Be still, my soul; the hour is hast'ning on
when we shall be forever with the Lord,
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,

sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

*Text: tr. Jane L Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.; Catharina A. von Schlegel, 1697–1752, abr.
Text: Public domain*

SERMON.....Romans 8:28-39

WHEN WE DON'T KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON

1. We know God is working for our good.
2. We know nothing separates us from Jesus.

(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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERINGS OF LOVE TO OUR LORD

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

HYMN: IF GOD HIMSELF BE FOR ME

CW 819

If God himself be for me,
I may a host defy;
for when I pray, before me
my foes, confounded, fly.
If Christ, my head and master,
befriend me from above,

what foe or what disaster
can drive me from his love?

This I believe, yea rather,
of this I make my boast,
that God is my dear Father,
the friend who loves me most,
and that, whate'er betide me,
my Savior is at hand
thro' stormy seas to guide me
and bring me safe to land.

I build on this foundation,
that Jesus and his blood
alone are my salvation,
my true, eternal good.
Without him all that pleases
is valueless on earth;
the gifts I have from Jesus
alone have priceless worth.

He canceled my offenses,
delivered me from death;
he is the Lord who cleanses
my soul from sin through faith.
In him I can be cheerful,
courageous on my way;
in him I am not fearful
of God's great Judgment Day.

Now no one can condemn me
or set my hope aside;
now hell no more can claim me,
its fury I deride.
No sentence now reproves me,
no guilt destroys my peace,
for Christ, my Savior, loves me
and shields me with his grace.

No danger, thirst, or hunger,
no pain or poverty,
no earthly tyrant's anger
shall ever vanquish me.
Though earth should break asunder,
you are my Savior true;
no fire or sword or thunder
shall sever me from you.

My heart for joy is springing
and can no more be sad;
my soul is filled with singing,
sees only sunshine glad.
The sun that cheers my spirit
is Jesus Christ, my King;
the heav'n I shall inherit
makes me rejoice and sing.

*Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr.; (sts. 1, 4–5, 7): tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-book, 1907;
(sts. 2–3, 6): tr. Richard Massie, 1800–1887
Text: Public domain*

PRAYER & 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 almighty and merciful Lord—the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit—bless us and keep us.
Amen.

HYMN: LORD, TAKE MY HAND AND LEAD ME

CW 849

Lord, take my hand and lead me
upon life's way;
direct, protect, and feed me

from day to day.
Without your grace and favor
I go astray;
so take my hand, O Savior,
and lead the way.

Lord, when the tempest rages,
I need not fear;
for you, the Rock of Ages,
are always near.
Close by your side abiding,
I fear no foe,
for when your hand is guiding,
in peace I go.

Lord, when the shadows lengthen
and night has come,
I know that you will strengthen
my steps toward home.
Then nothing can impede me,
O blessed Friend;
so take my hand and lead me
unto the end.

Text: tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978; Julie K. Hausmann, 1825–1901

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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ALTAR FLOWERS were donated by Sara Cortez in memory of her father, Ed Junas, and by Joan Allen in memory of her husband and mother.

Worship attendance: 8:00 AM – 133; 10:30 AM – 171
Communion attendance: 8:00 AM – 105; 10:30 AM – 128
Sunday School attendance: Adults – 77; Children – 21
Senior ushers – 8:00 AM: Jon Floerke 10:30 AM: John Sullivan
Pianist: Stacey Hill

HOSPITALIZED OR RECUPERATING AT HOME:

Sandra Lederer – Goldwater Asst. Living, 24215 N 55th Avenue, Glendale, AZ 85310

Vern Busby – St. Joseph's Hospital, 350 W Thomas Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85013

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Wally Wahlberg was called home to his eternal glory, on August 8. His memorial service will be held Saturday, August 26th at 11:00 am with lunch following the service. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to Grace Lutheran School or Wisconsin Lutheran College (Attn: Betty Wahlberg Music Scholarship). Blessed are those who die in the Lord.

THIS WEEK AT GRACE:

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

MON - LES School Opening Worship, 6:00 PM; Choir Practice, 7:00 PM

WED - First Day of School (LES)

THU - Worship Planning Committee, 6:30 PM

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

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. *Forward in Christ* and August 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 August 19th will be captained by Konrad and Ruth Lincoln with Brady and Justine Cherney, Christie Hutchinson, Nick Lincoln, Mike and Christine, and Mike Natale.

40th ANNIVERSARY IN MINISTRY... We will recognize a special milestone for Pastor Clark who has been blessed with 40 years in the public ministry, including 32 years served here at Grace. A special celebration will be held

Sunday, August 27 with dinner at 12:00 pm and a program to follow. We will also say farewell, as he leaves for his next congregation in Tucson, with his final sermon at Grace preached at the 8:00 am and 10:30 am services. Mark your calendars and plan to attend!

GRACE TRIP TO ISRAEL 2023 PICTURES, August 27. Pastor Clark will be showing pictures of the trip he led to Israel and Jordan last April. The pictures will be shown during the Bible Class time in the church.

THANK YOU for the donations made to the art department. Your support and donations will make for a successful year. Stop by Room 1 anytime to see the artwork on display!

PRE-CALL SURVEY... You should have received an email with a link to a pre-call survey. Your feedback is required to help us call our next pastor. If you didn't receive the email, contact Debbie Petersen to make sure we have your updated email address. If you don't have a computer at home, see Jon Scheel between services in the back of the Fellowship Hall and he will help you out.


WELS YOUTH NIGHT is Saturday, August 26, 6-9p at Cross of Glory Lutheran Church. Our keynote speaker is Dr. Joel Hahnke. He will speak with the teens about gender identity and God's Word. Watch for more information to come!

CALLING ALL COLLEGE STUDENTS... Please make sure to register through WELS Campus Ministry before classes start. Doing so, allows the synod to serve you while you are gone and gives you access to free Meditations and Forward in Christ. Blessings on your year!

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.

SCRIPTURAL CARDS are available for purchase in the fellowship hall after the first service this morning. Greeting cards can be purchased singly and by the box.

DONATE FROM YOUR SMARTPHONE! Scan  this image using your phone's QR code reader! Contact Debbie at ext. 322 if you have any questions or 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 **\$873,142.00** by **6/30/2022**.

Week ending 8/6/2023:

YTD 7/1/2021 through 8/6/2023:

Weekly Need:	19,500.00		YTD Need:	104,200.00
Weekly Actual:	21,331.10		YTD Actual:	79,148.49
Weekly +/-:	+1,831.10		YTD +/-:	-25,051.51