

God wants a church that is willing to say hard things

Pentecost 15
September 10, 2023



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rev. Mark R. Jacobson, x321
pastorjacobson@graceglendale.org
Office Manager, Debbie, x322
officemanager@graceglendale.org

{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: Service of Word and Prayer

HYMN: 839 ROCK OF AGES, CLEFT FOR ME

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood,
from thy riven side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure:
cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands
can fulfill thy law's demands;
could my zeal no respite know,
could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone;
thou must save and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring,
simply to thy cross I cling;
naked, come to thee for dress,
helpless, look to thee for grace;

foul, I to the fountain fly;
wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,
when mine eyelids close in death,
when I soar to worlds unknown,
see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–1778, alt.

Text: Public domain

(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

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning.
May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being
strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the

blessed hope of everlasting life; 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

Ezekiel 33:7–11

You are a watchman.

⁷“Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. ⁸When I say to the wicked, ‘You wicked person, you will surely die,’ and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. ⁹But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.

¹⁰“Son of man, say to the Israelites, ‘This is what you are saying: “Our offenses and sins weigh us down, and we are wasting away because of them. How then can we live?” ’ ¹¹Say to them, ‘As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?’

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

JUNIOR CHOIR: COME CHRISTIANS, JOIN TO SING (8:00)

ADULT CHOIR: LET THE WORD OF CHRIST DWELL IN YOU (10:30)

SECOND READING

Galatians 2:11–16

In love Paul opposes Peter.

¹¹When Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. ¹²For before certain men came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he began to draw back and separate himself from the Gentiles because he was afraid of those who belonged to the circumcision group. ¹³The other Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, so that by their hypocrisy even Barnabas was led astray.

¹⁴When I saw that they were not acting in line with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in front of them all, “You are a Jew, yet you live like a Gentile and not like a Jew. How is it, then, that you force Gentiles to follow Jewish customs?”

¹⁵“We who are Jews by birth and not sinful Gentiles ¹⁶know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:15–20

The goal is to win them over.

¹⁵“If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. ¹⁶But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ ¹⁷If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

¹⁸“Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

¹⁹“Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

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

HYMN: 654 JESUS SINNERS DOES RECEIVE

Jesus sinners does receive;
oh, may all this saying ponder
who in sin’s delusions live
and from God and heaven wander.
Here is hope for all who grieve:
Jesus sinners does receive.

We deserve but grief and shame,
yet his words, rich grace revealing,
pardon, peace, and life proclaim;
here their ills have perfect healing
who with humble hearts believe:
Jesus sinners does receive.

Sheep that from the fold did stray
are not by the Lord forsaken;
weary souls who lost their way
are by Christ, the Shepherd, taken
in his arms that they may live:
Jesus sinners does receive.

I, a sinner, come to you
with a penitent confession.
Savior, show me mercy, too;
grant for all my sins remission.
Let these words my soul relieve:
Jesus sinners does receive.

Oh, how blest it is to know,
were as scarlet my transgression,
it shall be as white as snow
by your blood and bitter passion,
for these words I do believe:
Jesus sinners does receive.

Now my conscience is at peace,
from the law I stand acquitted.
Christ has purchased my release
and my ev'ry sin remitted.
Naught remains my soul to grieve:
Jesus sinners does receive.

Jesus sinners does receive,
even I have been forgiven.
And when I this earth must leave,

I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to him I cleave:
Jesus sinners does receive.

*Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756, abr.
Text: Public domain*

THE CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

Galatians 2:11-16

The Gospel is Worth Fighting Over

1. The Only Word That Saves.
2. The Only Word That Endures.

(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

Lord, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy;
in your faithfulness and righteousness, come to my relief.

Spare us, Lord, from the lies of the devil and the attacks of our
conscience. Comfort and save us in your patient compassion.
Have mercy on us, Jesus.

Guide us, Lord, to the wisdom of your Word and the power of your
promises. Take away our confusion and doubt.
Have mercy on us, Jesus.

Hear us, Lord, when we come to you in prayer. Make us confident to take you at your word and to follow you in faith.

Have mercy on us, Jesus.

Amen.

Special Intercessions

Empower us, Lord, to walk in your ways and live in your truth. Fill us with your love, that we may love you and one another.

Have mercy on us, Jesus.

OFFERINGS OF LOVE TO OUR LORD

Please fill out the “Welcome to Grace” register in your pew.

3RD GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION

HYMN: 559 IF YOUR BELOVED SON, O GOD

If your beloved Son, O God,
had not to earth descended
and in our mortal flesh and blood
had not sin's power ended,
then this poor, wretched soul of mine
in hell eternally would pine
because of my transgression.

But now I find sweet peace and rest;
despair no more reigns o'er me.
No more am I by sin oppressed,
for Christ has borne sin for me.
Upon the cross for me he died
that, reconciled, I might abide
with you, my God, forever.

I trust in him with all my heart;
now all my sorrow ceases.
His words abiding peace impart;

his blood from guilt releases.
Free grace through him I now obtain;
he washes me from ev'ry stain,
and pure I stand before him.

All righteousness by works is vain;
the law brings condemnation.
True righteousness by faith I gain;
Christ's work is my salvation.
His death, that perfect sacrifice,
has paid the all-sufficient price;
in him my hope is anchored.

My guilt, O Father, you have laid
on Christ, your Son, my Savior.
Lord Jesus, you my debt have paid
and gained for me God's favor.
O Holy Spirit, fount of grace,
the good in me to you I trace;
in faith and hope preserve me.

*Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941; (sts. 1–4): Johann Heermann, 1585–1647, abr.; (st. 5): Neu-
vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, Braunschweig, 1661*

Text: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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

Amen.

HYMN: 926 LEAD ME, LORD

Lead me, Lord,
lead me in thy righteousness;
make thy way plain before my face.
For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only,
that makest me dwell in safety.

Text: Psalm 4:8; 5:8

Text: Public domain

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House.
Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.

Worship attendance: 8:00 AM – 144 10:30 AM – 135

Communion 8:00 AM – 119 10:30 AM – 112

Adult Bible Class: 91 Sunday School: 11

Tuesday Bible Class: 20 Wednesday Bible Class: 9

Senior Ushers – 8:00 AM: Eoghan Hill 10:30 AM: Tristan McDunn 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

Maria Pitney – 10915 W Thunderbird Blvd, Sun City, AZ 85351
(Hospitalized in WA)

THIS WEEK AT GRACE:

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

MON - Boy Pioneers, 6:30p, Adult Choir, 7p

TUE - Bible Class, 2p; All Meeting Night, 6p

WED - Public School Confirmation, 6:30p, Bible Class, 7p

FRI - Bible Class, 10a

SUN- **Communion, 8 & 10:30a**, Bible Class & Sunday School, 9:30a

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. *Forward in Christ* and February Bible-reading and 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 September 16 will be captained by Monica Assaker with Amanda Brenner, James and Christine Brenner, John and Lynn Graft, and Andy and Cody Graft

DIVINE CALL... Grace has extended a Divine Call to Pastor Joel Heckendorf, who is currently serving at Light of the Valley, Lutheran Church in Reno, NV. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

ABC - Adult Breakfast and Coffee Group... ABC is a group of Grace members who meet for breakfast and devotion two Wednesdays each month. All are welcome. Sign up using the contact information below or the registration sheet. located on the table in the narthex. Please join us at Brother’s Restaurant, 8466 W Peoria Ave 85305 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, 9/20. To sign up by phone, text, or email, or for more information contact: Pat Walker at 480-717- 0131 or patwalker1950@gmail.com.

2023 ALTAR FLOWER SIGN-UP SHEETS...Please sign up for altar flower donations by filling out the Altar Flower binder in the narthex. Altar bouquets cost \$35 each. Enclose payment in a pink envelope (checks payable to Grace Ladies Aid) and place it in the plate.

2023 SCRIPTURAL GREETING CARDS are available for purchase after the first service, in the fellowship hall. They are available as singles and by the box.

FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH...You may register for the Foundations of Faith (Bible Information Class) online at www.graceglendale.org or fill out a sheet and place it in the box in the narthex.

FULL SLATE OF FALL BIBLE CLASSES ... Classes began last Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday. The Splendid Task of the Gospel Ministry starts today! Check out all the offerings below. Choose one or all!

Sunday Morning 9:30-10:15a: The Splendid Task of the Gospel Ministry *a study of the Apostle Paul's first and second letters to Timothy, the evangelist.*

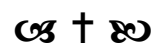
Tuesday Afternoon 2-3p: Seek the Kingdom *a Bible study on an assortment of practical lessons on how we can live our Christian faith as we seek the kingdom.*

Wednesday Evening 7-8p: The Book of Malachi *Study God's last call of repentance to his Old Testament people and be reminded of your need to be ready for the coming Savior.*

Friday Morning 10-11a: YOUR CHOICE *an assortment of different Bible lessons as directed by the members of the class.*

INSTALLATION...Pastor Clark will be installed as pastor at Redeemer Lutheran Church on September 10 in a 4p worship service. The address of the church is 8845 N. Silverbell Road, Tucson, AZ 85743. You are invited to attend.

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 **\$947,436.00** by **6/30/2024**.

Week ending 9/3/2023:		YTD 7/1/2021 through 9/3/2023:	
Weekly Need:	19,500.00	YTD Need:	173,900.00
Weekly Actual:	76,363.65	YTD Actual:	196,436.46
Weekly +/-:	+56,863.65	YTD +/-:	+22,536.46