

PENTECOST 25

NOVEMBER 10, 2024

*Live Like You'll Live
Forever⁺*

LIVE A LIFE OF STARTLING GENEROSITY



GRACE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

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Glendale, Arizona 85301
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WELCOME TO GRACE!

We're glad you're here! May the Word of God bring you comfort in Christ alone. You can follow along with the service using this worship folder or using the screens above the chancel. If you're new here, below is some helpful information about our sanctuary and our worship...

- Please reserve the **BACK PEWS** for parents with **SMALL CHILDREN**.
- A **PARENT'S ROOM** with private changing area and restroom is available through the door at the back of the middle aisle. Windows from the room allow you to still watch the service and speakers allow you to hear as well. A volume control is available on the wall by the door.
- Ask an usher to receive an **AUDIO RECEIVER** and **HEADSET** if you need hearing assistance in the sanctuary or Fellowship Hall.
- **RESTROOMS** are available in the Narthex. Exit out of the north doors from the Sanctuary and go to the left. They are located in the alcove behind Luther's Seal.
- **LARGE PRINT** bulletins are available. See an usher to receive one.
- Visit our **WEBSITE** at <http://www.graceglendale.org> for additional information about our ministries and upcoming events.

CONTACT US...

Feel free to reach out directly to our office staff via email or telephone. Call 623-937-2010 and use the extension to the right.

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AT TODAY'S SERVICE...

Preaching Minister: Pastor Sellnow

Liturgist: Pastor Jacobson

Senior ushers: 8:00 AM – Jon Floerke
10:30 AM – Alan Borchardt

Pianist: Lara Johnson

A/V Team: 8:00 AM – Mark Breiling
10:30 AM – Paul Sullivan

ABOUT THE THEME

Perhaps you have heard the axiom, “Eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die.” In other words, while you still can, use what you have in order to enjoy life to the fullest. If this life is all there is, St. Paul agrees that would be a good philosophy. Paul wrote, “If the dead are not raised, ‘Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die’” (1 Corinthians 15:32). However, note the “if.” Paul was saying that the epicurean approach to life makes sense only if this life is all we have. But it isn’t. Jesus will raise us from the dead and take us to live in his home, a place of perfect comfort and beauty. Knowing that, we are set free from the need to live a self-indulgent life now. Instead, we can be generous people, using the wealth that God has given us to serve both him and others. We can live a life of startling generosity.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Setting 1 (CW 154)

HYMN: TAKE MY LIFE AND LET IT BE

CW 695

Please stand

INVOCATION

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

DECLARATION OF GRACE

CW 155

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,



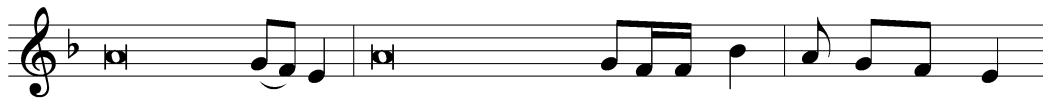
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



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;



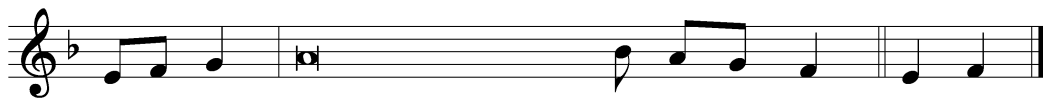
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer.



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.

SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in you. Grant us so firmly to believe in your Son Jesus that our faith may never be found wanting; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

FIRST READING

1 Kings 17:8–16

A widow generously offers up the last bit of food she has to serve the prophet Elijah while trusting God’s Word of promise

⁸Then the word of the LORD came to him: ⁹“Go at once to Zarephath in the region of Sidon and stay there. I have directed a widow there to supply you with food.” ¹⁰So he went to Zarephath. When he came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and asked, “Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?” ¹¹As she was going to get it, he called, “And bring me, please, a piece of bread.”

¹²“As surely as the LORD your God lives,” she replied, “I don’t have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die.”

¹³Elijah said to her, “Don’t be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small loaf of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son. ¹⁴For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the LORD sends rain on the land.’”

¹⁵She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family. ¹⁶For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the LORD spoken by Elijah.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ADULT CHOIR (8:00)

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

MEN’S CHORUS (10:30)

“Amazing Grace”

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 8:1–9

The believers in Macedonia demonstrate startling generosity in collecting an offering to help fellow Christians in need.

¹And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. ²In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. ³For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, ⁴they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord’s people. ⁵And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us. ⁶So we urged Titus, just as he had earlier made a beginning, to bring also to completion this act of grace on your part. ⁷But since you excel in

everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also excel in this grace of giving.

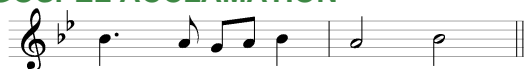
⁸I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. ⁹For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Corinthians 9:11



Refrain

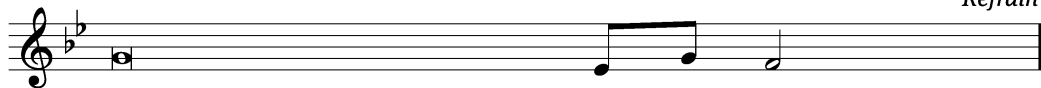


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



You will be enriched in ev - 'ry way



so that you can be generous on every oc - ca - sion.

Tune: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 705990

GOSPEL

Mark 12:38–44

Jesus points to a poor widow as an example of startling generosity.

³⁸As he taught, Jesus said, **“Watch out for the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, ³⁹and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets. ⁴⁰They devour widows’ houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. These men will be punished most severely.”**

⁴¹Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich

people threw in large amounts. ⁴²But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.

⁴³Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. ⁴⁴They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.”

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

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

At this time, children are invited to the front of the church to hear a special children's message from the Pastor.

HYMN OF THE DAY: ALL DEPENDS ON OUR POSSESSING

CW 807

SERMON

Mark 12:38-44

STARTLING STEWARDSHIP

1. A frightening example
2. A faithful example

Please 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.

Please be seated

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERINGS OF LOVE TO OUR LORD

Please complete the "Welcome to Grace" register in your pew at this time.

HYMN: WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN

CW 750

Please 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.

HYMN: GRACIOUS GOD, YOU SEND GREAT BLESSINGS

CW 752

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS:

Flowers are donated by Greg & Sandy Henneman for Greg's 77th birthday.

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Worship: 8:00 AM – 128 – 10:30 AM – 145

Communion: 8:00 AM – 105 – 10:30 AM – 103

Sunday School: Adults: 95 – Bible Basics: 15 – Children: 27

Midweek Bible Class: Tue: 19 Wed: 12 Fri: 9

HOSPITALIZED OR RECUPERATING AT HOME:

Don Bollmeier – 12610 W Flower St, Avondale, AZ 85392-6374

Carol Bottcher – 8611 N 67th Ave Apt 158, Glendale, AZ 85302-4318

Dorothy Favorite – 1928 W Orangewood Ave Apt 14, Phoenix, AZ 85021-7843

Annette Hartzell – 14182 W Mountain Laurel Trl, Surprise, AZ 85374-3830

Brenda Hepper – 5516 W John Cabot Rd, Glendale, AZ 85308-1276

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The November issue of *Forward in Christ* and Bible-reading and activity calendars are in the Narthex and south entrance to the church.
2. There was no cleaning crew that cleaned the church on November 9. The team scheduled for November 16 is led by Rebekah Frear, with Jason & Aiden Frear; Candi & Tom Allen; Eric, Kristi, Olaf, Gracee & Laila Dahl; Mike & Annalise Vallee; and Matt & Jada Wightman.
3. We can use more cookie donations for Sunday Fellowship time.

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 collection plate.

SCRIPTURAL THANKSGIVING, CHRISTMAS & GREETING CARDS... are available for purchase before Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall. The price per box varies this year. Proceeds support the ministry of Grace Ladies' Aid.

2025 SCRIPTURAL CALENDARS HAVE ARRIVED... there are 25 available at \$9.00 each in the back of the Fellowship Hall with the cards. Great for gifts!

FIRST SEASON OF GRACE GROUPS ENDS THIS WEEK... Thank you to all of our members who participated in our first “season” of Grace Groups. We are thankful for so many taking time during the week to gather to discuss the sermon, study God’s Word, and share life together in Christian community. This is the final week of our initial 10-week season. We will begin our next 10-week gathering in the New Year and will be sharing information about existing and new groups in the coming weeks. In the meantime, please note that the Grace Group questions will continue to appear in the bulletin each week for those who want to continue making use of them on their own in between seasons of formal meetings with your Grace Group.

THIS WEEK AT GRACE:

TODAY : WORSHIP, 8:00 & 10:30 AM

Bible Class & Sunday School, 9:30 AM

Ladies Aid Meeting, 11:30 AM

MON - LES Veteran's Day Program, 2:15 PM (FH)

Handbells, 6:15 PM

Boy Pioneers, 6:30 PM

Choir Practice, 7:00 PM

TUE - LES School Picture Day

Bible Class, 2:00 PM

ALL MEETING NIGHT

WED - Bible Class, 7:00 PM (FH)

THU - School Board, 6:30 PM

Council Reports / Newsletter Articles Due

FRI - Bible Class, 10:00 AM

SUN - COMMUNION WORSHIP, 8:00 & 10:30 AM

Bible Class & Sunday School, 9:30 AM

(FH = in Fellowship Hall)

OTHER EVENTS COMING UP...

GRANDPARENTS' DAY AT SCHOOL – NOVEMBER 27

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP, 9 AM, NOVEMBER 28... Grades PS-8th will sing.

FINANCIAL UPDATE:

Need amounts are based on a goal of **\$968,775.00 by 6/30/2025.**

Week ending 11/03/2024:

Weekly Need:	21,000.00
Weekly Actual:	16,146.75
Weekly +/-:	-4,853.25

YTD 7/1/2024 through 11/03/2024:

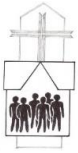
YTD Need:	328,500.00
YTD Actual:	269,725.63
YTD +/-:	-58,774.37

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 and 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.*





Grace Groups

Gathering Together Around God's Word

STARTLING STEWARDSHIP

Mark 12:38-44

What are some good or bad ways you've heard money or stewardship in general talked about in church in the past? Why does this topic cause distress for some?

What was so startling about the stewardship of the teachers of the law?

What was not surprising about those who gave large gifts to the temple? Why is this kind of giving always easier? Why is this kind of giving always dangerous?

What was so startling about the stewardship of the widow that Jesus commends?

Why does a proper understanding of the gospel (the good news of what Jesus has done to save us from sin, death, and hell) change our approach to stewardship?

Jot down and/or discuss how this section of God's Word will make you rethink both your attitude and your actions when it comes to your own financial stewardship of God's blessings in your life.
