



# LOVE GOD ABOVE ALL



## GRACE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

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# WELCOME TO GRACE!

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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...

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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...

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**Preaching Minister:** Pastor Sellnow

**Liturgist:** Pastor Jacobson

**Senior ushers:** 8:00 AM – Nick Lincoln  
10:30 AM – AJ McDunn

**Organist:** Rachel Kulhanek

**A/V Team:** 8:00 AM – Tracey Moreland / Alex Groth  
10:30 AM – Sam Jacobson

## ABOUT THE THEME

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*Not all love is good. It is self-destructive to love bad things. It is just as harmful to love good things in a bad order. For example, it would seem to be a good thing for a man to love his dog. But if he loves his dog more than he loves his wife, his "love" for both is disordered. For love to be healthy, it needs to be properly ordered.*

*Christians love the people whom God has placed into their lives. But when those people desire something that God does not desire, Christians love and serve God above all. Properly ordered love leads us to be faithful to God and his Word. We love God above all because he first loved us.*

## ORDER OF SERVICE

**Setting 3 (CW 188)**

### HYMN: FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT

CW 876

*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 189

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

CW 190

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.

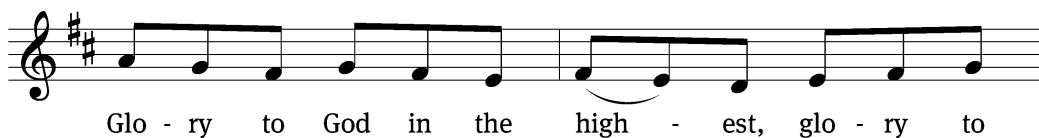
**Lord, have mercy.**


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

**Amen.**

## GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

CW 191






Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly



Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on



us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the



Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For



you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the



Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus



Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the

glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to

God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth,

and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

*Tune: William Gokelman; David Kauffman*

*Tune: © 2010, 2021 GFTSMUSIC Publishing Company, Inc., admin. Music Services. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 705990*

## SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God of all power and might, you are the giver of all that is good. Help us love you with all our heart, strengthen us in true faith, provide us with all we need, and keep us safe in your care; 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

*Exodus 32:15–29*

**When we hear Aaron's excuses, we recognize our own rationalizations.**

<sup>15</sup>Moses turned and went down the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant law in his hands. They were inscribed on both sides, front and back.

<sup>16</sup>The tablets were the work of God; the writing was the writing of God, engraved on the tablets.

<sup>17</sup>When Joshua heard the noise of the people shouting, he said to Moses, “There is the sound of war in the camp.”

<sup>18</sup>Moses replied:

“It is not the sound of victory,  
it is not the sound of defeat;  
it is the sound of singing that I hear.”

<sup>19</sup>When Moses approached the camp and saw the calf and the dancing, his anger burned and he threw the tablets out of his hands, breaking them to pieces at the foot of the mountain. <sup>20</sup>And he took the calf the people had made and burned it in the fire; then he ground it to powder, scattered it on the water and made the Israelites drink it.

<sup>21</sup>He said to Aaron, “What did these people do to you, that you led them into such great sin?”

<sup>22</sup>“Do not be angry, my lord,” Aaron answered. “You know how prone these people are to evil. <sup>23</sup>They said to me, ‘Make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don’t know what has happened to him.’ <sup>24</sup>So I told them, ‘Whoever has any gold jewelry, take it off.’ Then they gave me the gold, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf!”

<sup>25</sup>Moses saw that the people were running wild and that Aaron had let them get out of control and so become a laughingstock to their enemies. <sup>26</sup>So he stood at the entrance to the camp and said, “Whoever is for the LORD, come to me.” And all the Levites rallied to him.

<sup>27</sup>Then he said to them, “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘Each man strap a sword to his side. Go back and forth through the camp from one end to the other, each killing his brother and friend and neighbor.’” <sup>28</sup>The Levites did as Moses commanded, and that day about three thousand of the people died. <sup>29</sup>Then Moses said, “You have been set apart to the LORD today, for you were against your own sons and brothers, and he has blessed you this day.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY SALVATION**

*Psalm 27C*

*Music and lyrics can be found in the gray Psalter in the pews or on the screens.*

## SECOND READING

1 Timothy 6:11–16

### St. Paul describes the good fight of faith.

<sup>11</sup>But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. <sup>12</sup>Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. <sup>13</sup>In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you <sup>14</sup>to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup>which God will bring about in his own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, <sup>16</sup>who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

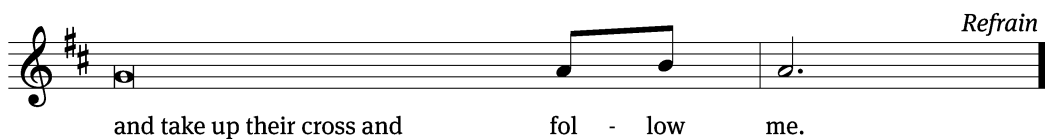
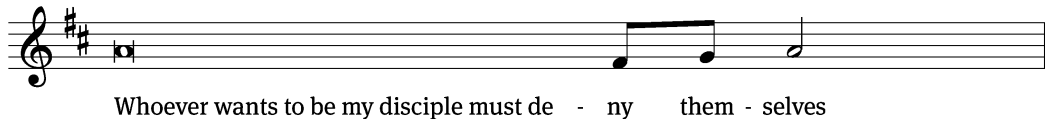
Mark 8:34



*Refrain*



*Tone*



## GOSPEL

Matthew 10:34–42

**Jesus calls us to love him above all.**

<sup>34</sup>“Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. <sup>35</sup>For I have come to turn

“ ‘a man against his father,  
a daughter against her mother,  
a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—

<sup>36</sup>a man’s enemies will be the members of his own household.’

<sup>37</sup>“Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.

<sup>38</sup>Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me.

<sup>39</sup>Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

<sup>40</sup>“Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. <sup>41</sup>Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person’s reward. <sup>42</sup>And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.”

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: COME, FOLLOW ME, THE SAVIOR SPAKE**

CW 702

## SERMON

1 Timothy 6:11-16

***FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT***

*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**

Loving God and Lord, you created the universe that surrounds us and the globe on which we live. You control all things through your Son, who sits at your right hand in glory.

**Comfort us with the promise of your eternal presence.**

Give your Word power as it works in our hearts and minds. Clear away our confusion, and demolish our doubts. Send your Spirit to strengthen both our confidence in your promises and our desire to live according to your will.

**Take away our love of sinning, and restore us each day by your grace.**

The signs of the times warn us that the end of time is near. Protect us from scoffers who sneer at your truth. Spare us and Christians around the world from all forms of hate and persecution.

**Give us courage to carry the cross with patience and joy.**

Instill in the hearts of our children a desire to follow you as they prepare for future days. Help them distinguish between what is passing and what is eternal, between instant thrills and lasting joy. Encourage more young people to prepare for service in the public ministry of the gospel.

**Mold us and move us to be good examples for our youth.**

Hold in your care, Lord, those who are experiencing physical or emotional pain and all who are afflicted by disease or facing death. Pour out your compassion on the grieving, and comfort the mourners who miss someone they loved.

**Move us to pray for these brothers and sisters and to help when we can.**

*Special Intercessions*

Whether we pray together or alone, you have promised to hear and answer us. Give us patience to accept your blessings in whatever way you send them. In your love and wisdom, prepare us for the day when you will take us to be with you forever.

**Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

## OFFERINGS OF LOVE TO OUR LORD

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

## HYMN: LET US EVER WALK WITH JESUS

CW 704

*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: O CHURCH, ARISE

CW 870

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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# Grace Groups

Gathering Together Around God's Word

## FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT

*1 Timothy 6:11-16*

In his teaching on the First Commandment (You shall have no other gods) Martin Luther noted in the Large Catechism that we make gods for ourselves all the time. He observed that a god is anything we expect all good from or take refuge in in times of distress. How does this biblical truth reveal our own idolatry? What are some of the gods you look to for good or for refuge rather than the true God?

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St. Paul tells Timothy to flee and to fight. When should we be spiritual runners and when should we stand our ground and fight? Give some examples from your own life.

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Agree/Disagree: We can live blameless lives while we wait for Jesus to return.

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How does knowing your calling change how you view your purpose in life?

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