



**Sunday, September 17, 2023**  
**9:30 AM Worship Service**

*The Sixteenth Sunday  
after Pentecost*



## Welcome and Invocation

**Gathering Song:** Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

LSB #790  
vs. 1-2, 5, 3-4

### ALL:

1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!  
Let all who hear  
Now to His temple draw near,  
Joining in glad adoration!

### WOMEN ONLY:

2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning  
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.  
Have you not seen  
All that is needful has been  
Sent by His gracious ordaining?

### MEN ONLY:

5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!  
Let the Amen  
Sound from His people again;  
Gladly forever adore Him!

### CHOIR:

3 Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you,  
Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.  
What need or grief  
Ever has failed of relief?  
Wings of His mercy did shade you.

**ALL:**

4 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;  
Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.

Ponder anew

What the Almighty can do

As with His love He befriends you.

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## **Confession & Absolution**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: **Amen.**

## **Share Grace**

### **First Reading**

**Psalm 103:1-12**

- 1 Praise the Lord, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
- 2 Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits
- 3 who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,
- 4 who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,
- 5 who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- 6 The Lord works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed.
- 7 He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel:
- 8 The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.
- 9 He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever;
- 10 he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

- 11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him;  
12 as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## **Second Reading**

**1 Corinthians 12:14-31**

- 14 Now the body is not made up of one part but of many.  
15 If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body.  
16 And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body.  
17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be?  
18 But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.  
19 If they were all one part, where would the body be?  
20 As it is, there are many parts, but one body.  
21 The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!"  
22 On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable,  
23 and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty,  
24 while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it,  
25 so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other.  
26 If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.  
27 Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.  
28 And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues.  
29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles?  
30 Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?  
31 But eagerly desire the greater gifts. And now I will show you the most excellent way.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Reading

Matthew 18:21-35

- 21 Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?"
- 22 Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.
- 23 "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants.
- 24 As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him.
- 25 Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.
- 26 "The servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.'
- 27 The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.
- 28 "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.
- 29 "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.'
- 30 "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt.
- 31 When the other servants saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed and went and told their master everything that had happened.
- 32 "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to.
- 33 Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?'
- 34 In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.
- 35 "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

## Series Song: Children of the Heavenly Father

LSB #725

vs. 1-4

Children of the heav'nly Father  
Safely in His bosom gather;  
Nestling bird nor star in heaven  
Such a refuge e'er was given.

God His own doth tend and nourish;  
In His holy courts they flourish.  
From all evil things He spares them;  
In His mighty arms He bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever  
From the Lord His children sever;  
Unto them His grace He showeth,  
And their sorrows all He knoweth.

Though He giveth or He taketh,  
God His children ne'er forsaketh;  
His the loving purpose solely  
To preserve them pure and holy.

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## Message: "Your Spiritual Gifts" - Pastor Steve Roth

### Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.  
And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
    From thence 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.

### Connection Points

### Offering

**Offering Song - Women's Choir: "Teach Me, O Lord"** *by Thomas Attwood*  
*Arranged by K.K.D.*

*Psalm 119:33*

Teach me, O Lord, the way of Thy statutes.  
I shall keep it, and I shall keep it unto the end.

### Communion

### Communion Songs: Come to the Table

**Verse:** Come to the table of mercy  
Prepared with the wine and the bread  
All who are hungry and thirsty  
Come and your souls will be fed

***Chorus:*** Come at the Lord's invitation  
Receive from His nail-scarred hand  
Eat of the bread of salvation  
Drink of the blood of the Lamb

***(Repeat Verse & Chorus)***

There's nothing my God cannot do (x4)

Songwriters: Claire Cloninger / Marty Nystrom - Come to the Table lyrics © Integrity's Hosanna! Music, Word Music, LLC

## As The Deer

As the deer panteth for the water  
So my soul longs after You  
You alone are my hearts desire  
And I long to worship You

***[Refrain]***

You alone are my strength, my shield  
To You alone may my spirit yield  
You alone are my hearts desire  
And I long to worship You

You're my friend and You're my brother  
Even though you are a King  
I love You more than any other  
So much more than anything

***[Refrain]***

Martin Nystrom - © 1984 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.)

## Take My Life and Let It Be

**LSB #783**  
**vs. 1-6**

Take my life and let it be  
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;  
Take my moments and my days,  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move  
At the impulse of Thy love;  
Take my feet and let them be  
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice and let me sing  
Always, only for my King;  
Take my lips and let them be  
Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold,  
Not a mite would I withhold;  
Take my intellect and use  
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it Thine,  
It shall be no longer mine;  
Take my heart, it is Thine own,  
It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord,  
I pour at Thy feet its treasure store;  
Take myself, and I will be  
Ever, only, all for Thee.

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## Prayers of the Church

### Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

## Ways to Follow Jesus

### Benediction

P: "May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing His will, and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." (*Hebrews 13:20–21*) Go in peace. You are God's gifted people!

C: Thanks be to God!

### Sending Song: Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

**LSB #803**  
**vs. 1-3**

Joyful, joyful we adore Thee,  
God of glory, Lord of love!  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee,  
Praising Thee, their sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,  
Drive the gloom of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness,  
Fill us with the light of day.



All Thy works with joy surround Thee,  
Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around Thee,  
Center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain  
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,  
Ever blessing, ever blest,  
Wellspring of the joy of living,  
Ocean-depth of happy rest!  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
Fountainhead of love divine:  
Joyful, we Thy heav'n inherit!  
Joyful, we by grace are Thine!

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### COMMUNION NOTES

At this time the common cup will not be used. A traveling tray will be available for those who desire it.

#### **We ask ourselves questions of examination:**

- Do I believe that I am a sinner and am I sorry for my sins?
- Do I believe that Jesus is my Savior and that through faith in Him my sins are forgiven?
- Do I believe that in this meal I receive the true Body and Blood of Jesus, for the forgiveness of my sins, not just a symbol of it?
- Do I intend, with the help of God, to live a Christian life?

***We welcome to the altar all who answer yes to these questions and believe as we do.***

**Those who have never communed with us before** are asked to speak to the Pastor or Elder before the service. If you're not ready to participate in the Lord's Supper with us, please feel free to come forward.

Folding of your arms will indicate to the Pastors your desire to receive a blessing.

But God has put the body  
together, giving greater honor  
to the parts that lacked it, so  
that there should be no  
division in the body, but that  
its parts should have equal  
concern for each other.

1 cor 12:24-25

### NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER 2023 ISSUE

Please submit your newsletter  
articles by Thursday, Sept. 21 to  
Jenna Del Cristo:  
[jdelcristo@grace.lc](mailto:jdelcristo@grace.lc).

### Women's Prayer Gathering

"For when two or more are gathered in my name, I am there among them." *Matthew 18:20*

Women of Grace - come join us and invite others for a prayer gathering on **Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 - 11:00 am**. Come expecting worship, prayer, discussion, and a light breakfast.

Register by Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, and bring your Bible and a journal! For additional





## ~ Sundays @ 10:45 a.m. ~

- ♦ Life Groups - Gym
- ♦ Jim Runzheimer's Bible Class - Fireside Room
- ♦ Grace Youth (Grades 9-12) - Youth Shed
- ♦ Grace Youth (Grades 6-8) - Meeting Room 4
- ♦ Grace Kids (preschool 3's - grade 6)  
- Preschool Wing Classrooms
- ♦ Babies/Toddlers - Nursery

## ELDERS AND THEIR ASSIGNED MEMBERS

Ernie Owens	A-B
Hank Jacobs	C-E
David Swille	F-H
Mike Kennedy	I-L
Mike Curtis	M-O
Ernie Owens	P-R
Joe Masterson	S
Jim Schmidt	T-Z

**Head Elder:**  
Joe Masterson



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817.274.1626 online @ grace.lc

**Pastor Doug Widger**, Lead Shepherd  
**Pastor Steve Roth**, Community Care  
**Dr. Serena Pace**, DCE, Director of Ministries  
**Ms. Jennifer Chavez**, Director of Early Education  
**Rev. Dr. Russell Hildebrandt**, Pastor Emeritus

## THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

### Sunday, September 17, 2023

- 9:30 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary
- 10:45 AM Life Groups
- 10:45 AM Jim Runzheimer's Bible Class  
- Fireside Room

### Tuesday, September 19, 2023

- 6:30 PM Embrace Legacy - Library
- 7:30 PM Community Basketball - Gym

### Wednesday, September 20, 2023

- 2:00 PM **Book Club:** We will have our September meeting on at Mary Thiede's home. **Meet at the church at 1:30 p.m. and we will drive over together.** We will discuss the books that we have read this summer. Anyone who enjoys reading novels please come and join us.



Need more info? Call Ruth Brown at 817-274-8600.

- 6:30 PM ESL Classes
- 6:30 PM Embrace Grace Group - Meeting Room 2
- 6:30 PM Joybells Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal - Music Room

### Thursday, September 21, 2023: *Newsletter Submissions due!*

- 3:00 PM Braille (WWFF Braille Group) - Braille Room: MR1
- 7:00 PM Braille (Shepherd of Life Group) - Braille Room: MR1
- 7:00 PM Board of Elders Meeting - Library

### Friday & Saturday, September 22 - 23, 2023

#### FOR: Grades 6-8

Meeting at church on Fri., Sept. 22 at 4:30 pm; returning to church on Sat., Sept. 23 at 8:45 pm.

**\$65 per person + \$15 for dinner on the way to camp - Pay registration via PushPay to the 'RECESS Middle School Retreat' fund.**  
Includes: lodging, meals on Saturday (continental breakfast, lunch and dinner), T-shirt, and all activities.

**Registration deadline was Wednesday, Sept. 6, 2023**



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## Sermon Series & Life Groups

**GIFTED** – that is what we are! Called out and special people – creatures living under a generous creator. We are given many amazing gifts, including eternal life! We use these gifts to serve Him! This Fall we'll explore seven of these gifts together in our Sunday

morning messages, small groups at 10:45 am in the Gym, and home study. Visit [grace.lc/gifted](http://grace.lc/gifted) to access the study online, or pick up a printed copy in the Lobby/Narthex. Join us for this "ALL IN" time of learning, fellowship, and growth.

Each week we will anchor in a Bible passage and then expand out from that single passage to some related passages which help us explore a certain area of our giftedness from the Almighty Creator. Over the course of seven weeks, we will begin to understand, believe, remember and do ministry because of these gifts. Our topics are as follows:

Week 1-Sept. 10: Ephesians 2:8-10 – *The Gift of Grace*  
Week 2-Sept. 17: Romans 12:3-8 – *Your Spiritual Gifts*  
Week 3-Sept. 24: Genesis 39:4-6, 19-23

– *Wow, God's Gifted Me*

Week 4-Oct. 1: Matthew 25:14-30 – *Your Bag of Gifts*  
Week 5-Oct. 8: 2 Corinthians 9:7

– *Gifted for Generosity*

Week 6-Oct. 15: Philippians 2:14-18 – *Gifted for Love*  
Week 7-Oct. 22: 1 Peter 1:3-9 – *Gifted for His Glory*

- Pastor Doug Widger

## Soccer Ministry

Our soccer ministry is looking for volunteers to help coach our new team - FC Grace!

No prior coaching experience is necessary, just a willingness to learn and a desire to help our players develop their skills both on and off the field.

[Contact the church office](#) to get involved.



### Special Meetings - Sanctuary Renovation

- Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> – *Congregational Meeting*  
Lunch at 12:00 pm (following Life Groups),  
Meeting at 12:30 pm. in the Gym
- Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> – *Special Voters' Meeting*  
12:00 pm in the Gym (following Life Groups)