



September 22, 2024 - Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

As We Gather

The church on earth is here not by chance but by God's design. Our service today centers around the theme, "Why is the Church on earth?" In answering that question we will direct our thoughts to five functions of the Church: Worship, Discipleship, Fellowship, Service, and Mission. People at times use other words for these functions, but, no matter what name is used for them, these functions get us to the heart of why God has placed His Church on this earth. As followers of Christ and members of Grace Lutheran Church, we look forward to growing in our understanding of these functions as we live out our calling in this community.

Welcome

Hymn: LSB 646 "Church of God, Elect and Glorious"

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Eternal God, You have called us into Your Kingdom to show forth Your praise and to lives of service; today we come before you in our worship with joyful hearts knowing that You love us:

People: **We praise You, O God.**

Pastor: For the fellowship we have with You through faith in Christ, and for the fellowship we have with one another as followers of Christ:

People: **We praise and thank You, O God.**

Pastor: For bringing us together today to think about why You established Your Church on earth and about how we can strengthen our ministry together as followers of Christ:

People: **We praise and thank You, O God.**

Pastor: For the opportunity to be assured that You forgive all our sins for the sake of Jesus and to publicly confess our faith in Christ:

People: **We praise and thank You, O God. Amen.**

Confession of Sins

Pastor: Christ came not to be served but to serve and to give Himself for us on the cross.

People: **Under His cross, we are called to give ourselves in love for others.**

Pastor: As followers of Christ, He sends us into our everyday callings to serve Him by loving our neighbor.

People: **As unique individuals created by God, we are called in every walk of life to be Christ's man, Christ's woman, Christ's child, each in our own calling.**

Pastor: Yet, even as we say it, our words accuse us,
People: for we know we have often failed to live the life God calls us to live as His dear children.

(Moment of silence for personal confession and reflection.)

All: O Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your punishment now and forever. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.

Pastor: Hear God's own promise as from Christ Himself and receive the forgiveness He won for you by His passion, death, and resurrection. By the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I, a called and ordained servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, You call us to seek You by repentance and faith in Your Son. As He now seeks us by His presence in Word in this worship service, so grant us the faith that hears His voice and follows Him; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Why Is The Church On Earth?

Introduction:

WORSHIP

Scripture Reading: Psalm 95:1-7; Matthew 4:10

Meditation

Hymn: LSB 791 "All People That on Earth Do Dwell"

The 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.

DISCIPLESHIP

Scripture Reading: Psalm 119:105; Ephesians 4:11-16

Meditation

Hymn: LSB “Renew Me, O Eternal Light”

FELLOWSHIP

Scripture Reading: Psalm 133:1-3; Acts 2:42

Meditation

Hymn: LSB 649 “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

SERVICE

Scripture Reading: Acts 6:1-6; Matthew 25:34-40

Meditation

Hymn: LSB 857 “Lord Help Us Walk Your Servant Way”

MISSION

Scripture Reading: Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8

Meditation

Hymn: LSB 837 “Lift High the Cross”

Offerings

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

We give thanks to You, merciful God, that You have not forsaken Your creation but continue to restore it and provide for the daily needs of people. Cause the Word of Your Gospel to be proclaimed throughout the world, for the salvation of many. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Bless Your Church here on earth and empower congregations to faithfully fulfill the functions of Worship, Discipleship, Fellowship, Ministry, and Mission in the communities where You have established them. Grant to all Your people grace to hear and receive Your Holy Word, gladly serving You all the days of their life. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Help us always to seek You and Your righteousness that we may live each day in true repentance and faith, looking for our final inheritance of eternal life in Your kingdom.
Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Hear our prayers for all who are in sorrow, need, or illness, [*especially . . .*], and all others who we name in our hearts (*moment of silence*). Give to each of them Your healing grace and strength, and provide for their needs day by day. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

(Other petitions including the Family for the Week will be included here.)

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who also taught us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

All: 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.

Benediction

Pastor: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be and abide with you all.

People: Amen.

Hymn: LSB 644 "The Church's One Foundation"



ANNOUNCEMENTS for Week of September 22, 2024

Grace Lutheran Church 1120 S. Park Ave. Aurora, MO

Church: 417-678-3603 Pastor Ken Lampe Cell: 417-366-3597

pastor@gracelutheranaurora.com

Family for the Week: Harold & Gwen Lampe Family
Immanuel, Lockwood - Rev. Kyle Fittje

Prayers of Peace and Comfort:

Prayers for Health and Healing:

Bill Thompson – (health and healing)

Jane Goodman – (health and healing)

Complete Prayer List:

Temporary

Diana Bauer – (daughter-in-law of Gladys Bauer - health & healing)
Jami Bauer – (relative of Gladys Bauer - peace and comfort)
Rick Bauer – (Gladys Bauer's son – health and healing from surgery)
Kathy Browne – (friend of Kathy Holle – health and healing)

Tabitha Packwood - (health & healing)
Billy Parsons – (Joanne Michel's brother – recovery from surgery)
Debbie Porter – (friend of Harold Lampe – recovery from frostbite)
Ernest Ramm – (Cheryl Lile's uncle – health and healing from stroke)

Jackie Clark – (Micki Gettman's friend – healing from a broken-hip)
 Jan Fisher – (daughter of Bill & Joanne Michel - health and healing)
 Lois Gaddy - (friend of Gwen Lampe – health and healing from cancer)
 Ron Hicks – (friend of Glenda Enlow – health and healing)
 Wendy Koenig – (friend of Heidi Costello – health and healing)
 Jim Troyke – (health and healing from heart issues)
 Gary Lampe– (Pastor's brother - health and healing)
 Randy Owensby – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)

Roxie Sage – (Mother of Sandra Whalen – health and healing)
 Billy Schmells – (friend of Cheryl Lile – health and healing)
 Diane Smith – (Health and healing from eye problems)
 Larry Swart – (friend of Bill Munden – health and healing)
 Marybeth Lamp – (friend of Pam Bowling – health and healing)
 Randy Wallace – (brother-in-law of Micki Gettman – health & healing)
 Thomas Williams – (Ruth Stoddard's friend – health and healing)

Long Term

Bob & Barbara Steinberg - (health and healing)
 Jill Bode – (niece of Rachel Sanford – health and healing, cancer)
 Dorothea Dennis – (health and healing & peace and comfort)
 Steve Doss – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)
 Gary Gardner – (health and healing)
 Pastor Gary Griffin – (health and healing from cancer)
 Betty Gordon – (health and healing)
 Vicki Heppard – (relative of Gladys Bauer – health & healing cancer)
 Steve Hilton – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing, cancer)

Sheryl Holle – (Kathy Holle's cousin – health and healing, cancer)
 Marty Jones – (Bobby Jones' mother - health and healing)
 Pat Michel – (Bill Michel's Sister-In-Law – health and healing)
 Larry Moennig – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)
 Margaret Seburn - (cousin of Joanne Michel - health and healing)
 Ruth Stoddard – (health and healing)
 Kooper Tutten – (Jeeper Meyer's Great-grandson - health & healing)
 June Winger – (Sharon Barlow's mother – health and healing)

THIS WEEK

Sunday	Sept. 22nd	9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am - Service
Monday	Sept. 23rd	Braille – 9:00 am & 1:30 pm
Wednesday	Sept. 25th	Pastor in Office Bible Study – 7:00 pm
Thursday	Sept. 26th	Pastor in Office
Sunday	Sept. 29th	9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am - Service Pot Luck after Service
Monday	Sept. 30th	Braille – 9:00 am & 1:30 pm

Birthdays: Vaughn Bowling-Sept. 24
Anniversaries: None

September

GREETERS:
22-Charlie & Edee Chambers
 29-Bill & Joanne Michel

USHERS:
22-Bill Michel
 29-Matt Miller



Portals of Prayer for October-December are available. If anyone would like a large print version, please see Pastor Ken.

Pastor Troyke Update: Jim & Alice Troyke
Mission Ridge, Apt. B206
4349 S. Kansas Ave.
Springfield, MO 65810

Jim's cell: 417-527-9919
Alice's cell: 417-536-6434

The **Future Teachers & Preachers freewill collection** for district was \$272.51.
 Thank you for your generosity of giving!

Our Mid-Week Bible Study resumed on Wednesday, September 11, at 7:00 p.m. The title for the course is: *The Case for Heaven (and Hell)*. One of the goals from our Planning Session this spring was to help or equip people to defend our faith in today's culture. This five session course can help us in this regard. Each lesson will begin with a video introduction by Lee Strobel. The course will seek to help us get beyond misconceptions about heaven and hell and into what the Bible really says about the afterlife that awaits us. Everyone is invited to attend whether you are new to Bible Study or a long-time student of the Scriptures.