



August 9, 2026 – Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

AS WE GATHER

The Old Testament book of Job opens by introducing us to Job, who was “blameless and upright” and “who feared God and turned away from evil” (Job 1:1). He is incredibly wealthy, and everything seems to be going well for him. But then, Satan is permitted to take everything from Job. Job experiences incredible suffering. The reader naturally wants to ask the question, “Why?” “Why does Job suffer in this way? Why does God permit Satan to do this?” But the book of Job never answers that question. Our reading for today is from Job 38. In chapters 38-41, God finally answers Job directly. But God never tells Job why he suffered; God never explains what happened in the first two chapters of the book. Instead, God questions Job. God asks Job to explain things he could not possibly begin to comprehend. In some ways, you could summarize God’s response with, “I am God, you are not.” While God never tells Job (or us) why he suffers, God does nevertheless answer our suffering by sending His Son to suffer for our sake. And one day, He will end all suffering.

WELCOME

HYMN *LSB 761, “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”*

OPENING VERSICLES

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

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: This is the day which the Lord has made;

People: **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Pastor: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

People: **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

Pastor: Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;

People: **I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.**

Pastor: Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.

People: **Teach me Your paths.**

Pastor: Sanctify us in Your truth.

People: **Your Word is truth.**

Pastor: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

People: **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: I will go to the altar of God,

People: **to God my exceeding joy.**

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: **who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: When we examine our hearts and consciences,
People: we find nothing in us but sin and death, from which we are incapable of delivering ourselves.

Pastor: Therefore, let us confess our sins to God our Father, imploring Him for the sake of His Son Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. We take a moment of silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,
People: I, a poor, miserable sinner; confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. 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: God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.
People: Amen.

Pastor: Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?
People: Yes.

Pastor: Let it be done for you as you believe. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

HYMN *LSB 849, "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what You want done; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
People: Amen.

CATECHISM *The Ninth Commandment (Exodus 20:17a; LSB 322)*

Pastor: What is the ninth commandment?
People: You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

Pastor: What does this mean?
People: We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, or get it in a way which only appears right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Job 38:1–18*

¹ Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind and said: ² "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? ³ Dress for action like a man; I will question you, and you make it known to me. ⁴ "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. ⁵

Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? ⁶ On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, ⁷ when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy? ⁸ “Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, ⁹ when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, ¹⁰ and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors, ¹¹ and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed’? ¹² “Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, ¹³ that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it? ¹⁴ It is changed like clay under the seal, and its features stand out like a garment. ¹⁵ From the wicked their light is withheld, and their uplifted arm is broken. ¹⁶ “Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep? ¹⁷ Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness? ¹⁸ Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalms 18:1–6*

Pastor: I love you, O LORD, my strength.

People: The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Pastor: I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.

People: The cords of death encompassed me; the torrents of destruction assailed me;

Pastor: the cords of Sheol entangled me; the snares of death confronted me.

People: In my distress I called upon the LORD; to my God I cried for help. From his temple he heard my voice, and my cry to him reached his ears.

EPISTLE READING *Romans 10:5–17*

⁵ For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. ⁶ But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹ because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹ For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³ For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” ¹⁴ How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵ And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” ¹⁶ But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?” ¹⁷ So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING *Matthew 14:22–33*

Pastor: The holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the fourteenth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

²² Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." ²⁸ And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹ He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. ³⁰ But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³² And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

RESPONSORY

Pastor: Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

People: **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

Pastor: Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

People: **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

Pastor: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

People: **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

HYMN *LSB 801, "How Great Thou Art"*

SERMON *"God's Response to Suffering"*

APOSTLE'S CREED

All: 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.

OFFERING

HYMN *LSB 752, "Be Still, My Soul"*

PRAYER

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord:

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For ... let us pray to the Lord:

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:
People: **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
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.**

COLLECT FOR THE WORD

Pastor: Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
People: **Amen.**

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

Pastor: We pray together:
People: **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

BLESSING

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
People: **Amen.**

HYMN *LSB 686, "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"*

CLOSING

Pastor: Go in peace and serve your neighbor.
People: **Thanks be to God!**

Next Week's Readings: August 16, 2026 – Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 Psalm 67
Romans 11:17-24 Matthew 15:21-28

Service adapted from Prayer and Preaching (LSB 260-267) and Corporate Confession and Absolution (LSB 290-291)



Church
News

ANNOUNCEMENTS for Week of August 9, 2026

Grace Lutheran Church 1120 S. Park Ave. Aurora, MO
Church: 417-678-3603 Pastor Daniel Heitshusen
Cell: 832-727-3135 pastor@gracelutheranaurora.com

Family for the Week: Harold & Vonnie Suelter Family
Peace, Shell Knob

Prayers of Peace and Comfort: Jim Gordon Family on Betty's passing

Prayers of Thanksgiving:

Prayers for Health and Healing:

Complete Prayer List:

Temporary

Ardella – (health and healing)
Tammy Ardrey – (cousin of Kathy Holle – health and healing)
Bruce Banks – (friend of Teri Ediger)
Rick Bauer – (Gladys' son – health and healing)
Becky – (Cheryl Lile's friend – fighting an infection)
Jeannie Bennett – (relative of Teri Ediger – health and healing)
Blazi – (friend of Jaycee & Ty – health and healing)
Tresa Bussey – (friend of Pam Bowling – (health and healing)
Joyce Campbell – (friend of Wanda Thompson–health and healing)
Sharon Crandall – (health & healing)
Teri Ediger – (health and healing from surgery)
Kyle and family – (grandson to Cathy Munden, son of Teri)
McGee family – (health and healing)
Amy Garoutte (Upcoming surgery)

Glenda – (Teri Ediger's step–mother – health and healing)
Tessie Holle – (cousin of Kathy Holle)
Family of Jamie – (friend of Jaycee & Ty – health and healing)
Janet – (Darlene Lampe's son–in–law's mother)
Aaron (grandson of Bill & Joanne)
Beverly Lofton – (friend of Cathy Munden – health and healing)
Family of Eldrid Holle (Kathy Holle's uncle)
Bill Parsons – (Joanne Michel's brother – health and healing)
Rebecca – (Kathy Holle's relative – health and healing from cancer)
Emma S. – (recovery after hospital stay)
William (Ardella's son)
Tim Tucek– (relative of Gladys Bauer – peace and comfort)
Baby Vada – (Cathy Munden's great grandchild – health and healing)
Dayton Wheeler – (grandson of Wanda Thompson – surgery)

Long Term

Gladys Bauer – (health and healing)
Doug Bernard – (Cathy Munden's cousin – health and healing)
Jill Bode – (niece of Rachel Sanford – health & healing, cancer)
Rev. Johannes Brann – (health and healing/peace and comfort)
Rev. Brian and Jessica Chisamore – (health and healing for Jessica)
Pat Bricco – (friend of Grace – health and healing)
Kathy Browne – (friend of Kathy Holle – health and healing)
Mary Ann Campbell – (friend of Harold Lampe – peace and comfort)
Jackie Clark – (Micki Gettman's friend – healing from a broken–hip)
Dorthea Dennis – (health and healing)
Glenda Enlow – (health and healing)
Lois Gaddy – (friend of Gwen Lampe – health and healing)
Gary Gardner – (health and healing)

Pastor Gary Griffin – (health & healing from cancer)
Zana Haley and baby Veda – (Cathy Munden's granddaughter)
Marybeth Lamp – (friend of Pam Bowling – health and healing)
Mitzie Lorenz – (friend of Harold Lampe – peace and comfort)
Jeeper Meyer – (health and healing from cancer)
Pat Michel – (Bill Michel's sister–In–Law – health & healing)
Suzanne Parsons – (friend of Sue Doss – health and healing)
Margaret Seburn – (cousin of Joanne Michel – health and healing)
LC Stalcup – (relative of Gladys Bauer – health and healing)
Ruth Stoddard – (health & healing)
Larry Swart – (friend of Bill Munden – health and healing from cancer)
Bill Thompson – (health and healing)
June Winger – (Sharon Barlow's mother – health & healing)

WEEK		
Sunday	Aug. 9th	9:00 am - Happy Half Hour, Bible Study 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am – Service
Monday	Aug. 10th	Braille - 9:00 am & 1:00 pm
Friday	Aug. 14th	Pastor Day Off
Saturday	Aug. 15th	Pizza Game Night – 6:00 pm
Sunday	Aug. 16th	AT GRACE IN AURORA: 9:00 am - Happy Half Hour, Bible Study 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am – Service with Communion
Monday	Aug. 17th	Braille - 9:00 am & 1:00 pm

Birthdays: Aug. 10th-Linda Myers & Abbey Davis; Aug. 14th-Matt Miller; Aug. 16th-Nancy Hoaglan & Simon Granderson; Aug.17th-Gladys Bauer
Anniversaries: Aug. 10th-David & Nancy Hoaglan

August

Greeters

8/09: Cheryl Lile & Gladys Bauer

8/16: Charlie & Edee Chambers

8/23 Emily Ernest & Matthew Springer

8/30: Bill & Joanne Michel

Ushers

09: David Lampe

16: Bill Michel

23: Matthew Springer

30: Doug Goodman



NO Joint Service! We will NOT have a joint worship service at Trinity on August 16. We WILL meet here at Grace just like normal!

Sunday Bible Class - Why do we begin the service with confession? Why does Pastor say "in the stead and by the command of Christ..."? Why do we have four Scripture readings every Sunday? Are they connected to each other? Is there any Biblical basis for why we do the things we do on Sunday morning? We will seek to answer these questions (and more) in our Sunday morning Bible class. If you've ever wondered why we worship the way we do, then come and join us!

Wednesday Bible Class - We will re-start our Wednesday Bible class on Wednesday, September 9 (the Wednesday after Labor Day). There have been some questions about whether it will remain in the evening (6 pm) or be moved to the morning (10 am). If you normally attend or would like to attend the Wednesday Bible class, please write your preferred time on one of the cards in the pew in front of you. Please hand the card to Pastor on your way out of church this morning.