



August 17, 2025 – Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

AS WE GATHER

Each of God's people has a special life story. The book of Jeremiah contains the messages of a prophet whose calling to speak the Word of the Lord brought him great distress and many difficulties. Known as the "weeping prophet," Jeremiah lived out his life faithfully in challenging historical times. Places associated with him and his life can still be seen by travelers to Jerusalem, including the cave pit where he was imprisoned and the grotto where, according to tradition, he wrote the book of Lamentations. God gave Jeremiah the ability to carry out his mission, saying: "Behold, I make you this day a fortified city . . . and iron pillar" and promised him: "I am with you . . . to deliver you" (Jeremiah 1:18–19). God's working through faithful people in each generation brings us the treasure of His Word proclaimed faithfully to this day. That transmitted sacred Word merits our most careful and thoughtful listening!

HYMN *LSB 655, "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"*

INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalms 119:89–94*

Pastor: Forever, O LORD, Your word is firmly fixed in the heavens.

People: **Your faithfulness endures to all generations; You have established the earth, and it stands fast.**

Pastor: By Your appointment they stand this day, for all things are Your servants.

People: **If Your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction.**

Pastor: I will never forget Your precepts, for by them You have given me life.

People: **I am Yours; save me, for I have sought Your precepts.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: We take a moment of silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Pastor: Let us now confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

People: **Gracious God, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We are by nature sinful and unclean. Daily we do things we ought not do and do not live up to our calling as Your people. We are not always careful listeners to Your Word and take for granted those who faithfully proclaim it to us. We know that we justly deserve Your punishment in this life and for eternity. But trusting in Your mercy, we come to You for forgiveness. Our trust is solely in the merits of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Grant us remission of all our sins and lead us to renewed lives that reflect Your goodness and love.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you, and for His sake God forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

PSALM *Psalms 119:81-88*

Pastor: My soul longs for your salvation; I hope in your word.

People: **My eyes long for your promise; I ask, "When will you comfort me?"**

Pastor: For I have become like a wineskin in the smoke, yet I have not forgotten your statutes.

People: **How long must your servant endure? When will you judge those who persecute me?**

Pastor: The insolent have dug pitfalls for me; they do not live according to your law.

People: **All your commandments are sure; they persecute me with falsehood; help me!**

Pastor: They have almost made an end of me on earth, but I have not forsaken your precepts.

People: **In your steadfast love give me life, that I may keep the testimonies of your mouth.**

KYRIE

Pastor: Lord, have mercy.

People: **Christ, have mercy.**

Pastor: Lord, have mercy.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE *Glory to God in the Highest (Music and words in hymnal, LSB 204).*

All: **1. To God on high be glory and peace to all the earth; Goodwill from God in heaven proclaimed at Jesus' birth! We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name, we sing – our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.**

2. To You, O sole begotten, the Father's Son, we pray; O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away. Have mercy on us, Jesus; receive our heartfelt cry, where You in pow'r are seated at God's right hand on high.

3. For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord. Forever and forever, be worshipped and adored; You with the Holy Spirit alone are Lord Most High, in God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

Merciful Lord, cleanse and defend Your church by the sacrifice of Christ. United with Him in Holy Baptism, give us grace to receive with thanksgiving the fruits of His redeeming work and daily follow in His way; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Jeremiah 23:16–29 (The prophets bring words of warning from God.)*

¹⁶ Thus says the Lord of hosts: “Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the Lord. ¹⁷ They say continually to those who despise the word of the Lord, ‘It shall be well with you’; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, ‘No disaster shall come upon you.’ ” ¹⁸ For who among them has stood in the council of the Lord to see and to hear his word, or who has paid attention to his word and listened? ¹⁹ Behold, the storm of the Lord! Wrath has gone forth, a whirling tempest; it will burst upon the head of the wicked. ²⁰ The anger of the Lord will not turn back until he has executed and accomplished the intents of his heart. In the latter days you will understand it clearly. ²¹ “I did not send the prophets, yet they ran; I did not speak to them, yet they prophesied. ²² But if they had stood in my council, then they would have proclaimed my words to my people, and they would have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their deeds. ²³ “Am I a God at hand, declares the Lord, and not a God far away? ²⁴ Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the Lord. ²⁵ I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, ‘I have dreamed, I have dreamed!’ ²⁶ How long shall there be lies in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart, ²⁷ who think to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, even as their fathers forgot my name for Baal? ²⁸ Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? declares the Lord. ²⁹ Is not my word like fire, declares the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

DUET *“Feed My Lambs” Darlene Lampe and Kathy Holle*

EPISTLE *Hebrews 11:17–31; 12:1–3 (Running the Christian race.)*

¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, ¹⁸ of whom it was said, “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” ¹⁹ He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. ²⁰ By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau. ²¹ By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff. ²² By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones. ²³ By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king’s edict. ²⁴ By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, ²⁵ choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. ²⁶ He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. ²⁷ By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible. ²⁸ By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them. ²⁹ By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies. ... ¹ Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE *Jeremiah 23:28b*

People: **Alleluia. Let him who has my word speak my word faithfully. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 12:49–53 (Jesus speaks of His purpose of being on earth.)*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁴⁹ “I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! ⁵⁰ I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! ⁵¹ Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. ⁵² For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. ⁵³ They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY *LSB 589, “Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens”*

SERMON *“Who do you listen to?”*

CREED *Nicene Creed*

People: **I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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 pray for the church, that God's people may live confidently and would joyfully share the message of salvation in word and deed. And, remembering those who in each generation have faithfully spoken the Word of the Lord, we pray for His servants who today bring us the eternal message from our God through the faithful preaching of Law and Gospel in our midst. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: We pray for the nations of the world, that the presence of Christ be experienced everywhere around the globe and that the Gospel message have free course in every land. And we pray for the gift of peace in the world and in our communities. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for our land and for all people who are involved in the growing, processing, and distribution of food. Grant that there be a blessing of seasonal summer weather so that we may rejoice in the harvests that are now beginning and will continue through the coming months. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for our families and for those who share in our Christian fellowship and join with us in worship. Help us to never take them for granted that we may encourage all to share joyfully in our work together to the glory of God. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for those with special concerns and needs this day, including those who are hospitalized or in care facilities, those who are grieving at this time, the unemployed and underemployed, and the chronically ill and shut-in, [*especially...*]. Help us to bring Your blessing to situations of need in all places. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: God of the ages, we thank You for all those faithful people whose words and actions have guided us in the past, especially remembering those sisters and brothers in the faith no longer with us on earth, who now share in Your eternal presence. By the working of Your Holy Spirit, direct us to follow the leading of Jesus, our Great Shepherd, throughout our lives until that day when we stand in Your glorious presence in heaven.

People: Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN *LSB 782, stanzas 1-3, "Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings"*

THE COMMUNION CONFESSION

Pastor: The Lord's Supper is God's gift for Christians who are properly taught. In communion, we want people to receive Christ's body and blood for their good. This means that as you come to the Lord's Table you affirm with each communicant that Jesus is your Savior and Lord; and with Lutheran Christians you confess:

People: I recognize and confess that I am a sinner. I repent of my sins and ask God's forgiveness. I believe Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from sin, Satan, and death. I believe that the risen Christ is truly present in the Sacrament and, that under the form of bread and wine, I receive His true body and blood for the forgiveness of my sin and the strengthening of my faith and life.

(Augsburg Confession-Article X)

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and proper that we should give thanks to You, Lord our God, for You have come to redeem Your fallen creation. Through the saving work of Jesus Christ, we are granted all good things by You in countless ways. We rejoice that the Good News of salvation has reached us and that the message of God's grace continues to be proclaimed and shared. Through the working of Your Holy Spirit, bestow upon us Your peace and abiding joy now and forever. Together with the blessed saints, with angels and archangels and with all that rejoice in the courts of heaven we praise Your glorious name.

People: Amen.

SANCTUS *Holy, Holy, Holy (Music and words in hymnal, LSB 208)*

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored; heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name. Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord; truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Send us Your Holy Spirit, the Spirit who brings to life the power of Jesus Christ. Bless us, Your children, that all we who partake of Christ's holy body and of His precious blood may be filled with Your heavenly peace and joy, so that, clinging to Christ our Lord, we may live in the hope of an eternity gathered around Your heavenly table.

People: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: 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.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI *Lamb of God* (Music and words in hymnal, LSB 210)

All: O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, and grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

LSB 623, "Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray"

LSB 629, "What Is This Bread"

LSB 576, "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

HYMN *LSB 632, "O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee"*

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

Grant, O Lord, that what we have received with our lips we may keep with pure hearts, and that through the gift imparted to us in this present life we may hereafter receive life everlasting; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

HYMN *LSB 830, "Spread the Reign of God the Lord"*



ANNOUNCEMENTS for Week of August 17, 2025

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

Church: 417-678-3603 Pastor Daniel Heitshusen

Cell: 832-727-3135 daniel.heitshusen@gmail.com

Pastor in Office Monday; Pastor's Day Off; Tuesday and Wednesday (

Family for the Week: Charlie & Edee Chambers
Grace, Aurora - served by Rev. Daniel Heitshusen

Prayers of Peace and Comfort: Family of Deborah Knotts (our cleaning lady) on her passing

Prayers of Thanksgiving: for successful delivery of Vada (Cathy Munden's great granddaughter)

Prayers for Health and Healing: additional prayers of health and healing for Zana Haley and baby Veda due to complications

Complete Prayer List:

Temporary

Carol Bresnick – (friend of Cathy Munden – health and healing)
Pat Bricco – (friend of Grace – health and healing)
Treaa Bussey – (friend of Pam Bowling – health and healing)
Glenda Enlow – (health and healing)
Pastor Hagen – (Health and healing)

Zana Haley and baby Veda – (Cathy Munden's granddaughter)
Ervin Jung – (cousin of Kathy Holle – health and healing)
Bill Parsons – (Joanne Michel's brother – health and healing)
Suzanne Parsons – (friend of Sue Doss – health and healing)
Billy Schmells – (friend of Cheryl Lile – health and healing)

Long Term

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)
Doug Bernard – (Cathy Munden's cousin – health and healing)
Jill Bode – (niece of Rachel Sanford – health & healing, cancer)
Kathy Browne – (friend of Kathy Holle – health and healing)
Jackie Clark – (Micki Gettman's friend – healing from a broken-hip)
Dorthea Dennis – (health and healing)
Steve Doss – (friend of Harold Lampe – health & healing)
Lois Gaddy – (friend of Gwen Lampe – health and healing)
Gary Gardner – (health and healing)

Betty Gordon – (Health and healing)
Pastor Gary Griffin – (health & healing from cancer)
Vicki Heppard – (relative of Gladys Bauer – health & healing cancer)
Robbie Krueger – (friend of Kathy Holle)
Marybeth Lamp – (friend of Pam Bowling – health and healing)
Pat Michel – (Bill Michel's Sister-In-Law – health & healing)
Margaret Seburn – (cousin of Joanne Michel – health and healing)
Ruth Stoddard – (health & healing)
Larry Swart – (friend of Bill Munden – health and healing from cancer)
June Winger – (Sharon Barlow's mother – health & healing)

THIS WEEK

Sunday	August 17th	9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am – Service with Communion
Monday	August 18th	Braille – 9:00 am and 1:00 pm Ladies Bible study @ Freistatt – 1:30 pm Pastor in Office
Tues. & Wed.	August 19th & 20th	Pastor Off
Thurs. & Friday	August 21st & 22nd	Pastor at New Church Workers Conference
Sunday	August 24th	9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am – Service
Monday	August 25th	Braille – 9:00 am and 1:00 pm

Birthdays: Gladys Bauer-Aug. 17th; Glenda Enlow-Aug. 18; Brandon Black-Aug. 21st

Anniversaries: None

August

Greeters

17: Stan & Sharon Crandall

24: Edith Chambers & Sue Doss

31: Bill & Joanne Michel

Ushers

17: Bill Michel

24: Matt Miller

31: Doug Goodman



Free Will Offering August 24 (next Sunday): It's time to celebrate! Next Sunday, congregations throughout Missouri will be praying for and supporting *Tomorrow's Teachers & Preachers* with a special offering. Funds collected will be added to the Missouri District Church Worker Student Aid Endowment. For more than 40 years, this endowment has been a blessing to college and seminary students from our state who are preparing for vocations within the church. To all of you who support this effort, thank you for your forward-thinking ways and caring for generations to come. It's truly an investment with an eternal impact!

*People of Grace, thank you for all of the gifts you generously gave Rachel, Hannah, and me in the pantry shower. Thank you for the office supplies, house items, everyday essentials, gift cards, and everything else that you generously gave to us. It means a lot to us to have received so much love and support already. We are already blessed to be part of God's people here at Grace.
From, The Heitshusen Family*

A Note from Amy Boettcher – wife of a previous Pastor Mark Boettcher at Grace (1985-2002)

With thanksgiving, the congregation of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Tilsit, Missouri, is planning to recognize Mark and would like to invite you to the event. A flyer is on the bulletin board with details.