



## August 31, 2025 – Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

### AS WE GATHER

What is an Advent and a Lenten hymn doing in our service this morning? Read over these words from the hymns: From LSB 331, “The everlasting Son incarnate deigns to be, Himself a servant’s form puts on to set His servants free” (stanza 2); and from LSB 430, “My song is love unknown, my Savior’s love to me, love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be. Oh, who am I that for my sake my Lord would take frail flesh and die? He came from His blest throne salvation to bestow; but men made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would know. But, oh, my friend, my friend indeed, who at my need His life did spend!” (stanzas 1-2). Did you notice a theme reading through those verses? The theme is Christ’s humility. He is the everlasting Son of God. And yet, He deigns to become incarnate – to take on frail human flesh. And not only so, but in that frail human flesh, He humbles Himself to the point of death on the cross (see Philippians 2:8). At *our need*, Jesus spent His life on that cross. In our Gospel reading this morning, Jesus says, “For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted” (Luke 14:11). Jesus is the one who humbled Himself to the point of death. And yet, God highly exalted Jesus (see Philippians 2:9), raising Him from the dead, and seating Jesus at His own right hand. Jesus did this for us. Seeking to live more and more like our Lord, we take huge comfort in this reality *and* humble ourselves for service towards the neighbor.

**HYMN**      *LSB 331, “The Advent of Our King”*

### INVOCATION

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

**People:**      **Amen.**

### OPENING SENTENCES    *Psalm 149:1–4*

**Pastor:**      Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,

**People:**      **His praise in the assembly of the godly!**

**Pastor:**      Let Israel be glad in his Maker;

**People:**      **let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!**

**Pastor:**      Let them praise His name with dancing, making melody to Him with tambourine and lyre!

**People:**      **For the LORD takes pleasure in His people; He adorns the humble with salvation.**

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**Pastor:**      It is good and right that we should make confession of our sins. The section on confession in Luther’s catechism instructs us with these words: “Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.” We humble ourselves, then, before God, and confess our sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness. We do so first by taking a moment of silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination of our sins.

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

**People:** O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your present 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 sinner.

Pastor: God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.

**People:** Amen.

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

**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.

**PSALM** *Psalms 131*

Pastor: O LORD, my heart is not lifted up; my eyes are not raised too high;

**People:** I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me.

Pastor: But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; like a weaned child is my soul within me.

**People:** O Israel, hope in the LORD from this time forth and forevermore.

**All:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. 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.

O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by Your Holy Spirit to follow the example of Your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**    *Proverbs 25:2–10*    *(Guidelines for a blessed life)*

<sup>2</sup> It is the glory of God to conceal things, but the glory of kings is to search things out. <sup>3</sup> As the heavens for height, and the earth for depth, so the heart of kings is unsearchable. <sup>4</sup> Take away the dross from the silver, and the smith has material for a vessel; <sup>5</sup> take away the wicked from the presence of the king, and his throne will be established in righteousness. <sup>6</sup> Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great, <sup>7</sup> for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble. What your eyes have seen <sup>8</sup> do not hastily bring into court, for what will you do in the end, when your neighbor puts you to shame? <sup>9</sup> Argue your case with your neighbor himself, and do not reveal another's secret, <sup>10</sup> lest he who hears you bring shame upon you, and your ill repute have no end.

Pastor:            This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:            Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE**    *Philippians 2:1-11*    *(Jesus humbled Himself to the point of death.)*

<sup>1</sup> So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, <sup>2</sup> complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup> Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup> And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup> Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Pastor:            This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:            Thanks be to God.**

**VERSE**    *Luke 14:11*

**People:            Alleluia. Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted. Alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL**    *Luke 14:1–14*    *(Jesus teaches about humble living.)*

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

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

<sup>1</sup> One Sabbath, when he went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. <sup>2</sup> And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. <sup>3</sup> And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?" <sup>4</sup> But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. <sup>5</sup> And he said to them, "Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?" <sup>6</sup> And they could not reply to these things. <sup>7</sup> Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, <sup>8</sup> "When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, <sup>9</sup> and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this person,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup> But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. <sup>11</sup> For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." <sup>12</sup> He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or

your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. <sup>13</sup> But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, <sup>14</sup> and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.”

**Pastor:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**HYMN OF THE DAY**      *LSB 430, “My Song Is Love Unknown”*

**SERMON**      *“The Humility of Jesus for You”*

### **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.

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**Pastor:** God, our Savior, wants all people to come to know the truth. Let us pray for ourselves and for the church everywhere, that we may persevere in grace, and for all people, that we may share with them the joy we have in the unity of Christ.

For the church, the gathering of God’s people; for the clergy of the church that the Holy Spirit confirm them in their apostolic mission; for all Christians, that persevering in grace, we may proclaim the kingdom of heaven in our lives, let us pray to the Lord:

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

**Pastor:** For all public servants, that they zealously promote justice and the common good; for industrial workers, that their productivity provide blessing for all; for favorable weather, that we may give thanks for a good harvest, let us pray to the Lord:

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

**Pastor:** For the homeless and the hungry; for the physically and mentally ill and the aged and infirm, that we cherish Christ in them and surround them with our care, [*especially . . .*], and that each of us would be graced with holy humility that we may find our joy in humble service in Jesus’ name in every situation, let us pray to the Lord:

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

**Pastor:** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of our missionaries, missionary teachers, medical personnel, and all Christian aid workers, that their work be unhindered and be a continuing source of blessings in Jesus’ name, let us pray to the Lord:

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

**Pastor:** Be merciful, Lord God, and hear our prayers; grant Your Holy Spirit to plead for us and guide Your church into all truth and holiness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

**People:** Amen.

### **OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**      *(Music and words in hymnal, LSB 159-160)*

**People:**      What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?  
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,  
In the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

**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.

**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 685, "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"*

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 3.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS for Week of August 31, 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](mailto:daniel.heitshusen@gmail.com)    Pastor's Day Off; Friday**



**Family for the Week:**      Dortehea Dennis & Homebound Families  
Trinity, Freistatt - Rev. Jake Sletten

**Prayers of Peace and Comfort:** Family of Deborah Knotts (our cleaning lady) on her passing.  
The family of Nancy Keegan, who went to be with the Lord.

**Prayers of Thanksgiving**

**Prayers for Health and Healing:** Jeeper Meyer – health and healing from cancer  
Jan Fisher – (daughter of Bill & Joanne Michel – health and healing from Shingles)



**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)

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)

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)

Ruth Stoddard – (health & healing)  
 Larry Swart – (friend of Bill Munden – health and healing from cancer)  
 June Winger – (Sharon Barlow's mother – health & healing)

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## THIS WEEK

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>August 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>9:00 am - Happy Half Hour</b> <b>9:30 am - Fellowship</b> <b>10:00 am - Service</b> <b>Pot Luck after Church</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>September 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Labor Day – No Braille or LWML</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>September 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00 am - Happy Half Hour</b> <b>9:30 am - Fellowship</b> <b>10:00 am – Service with Communion</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>September 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Braille – 9:00 am and 1:00 pm</b> <b>LWML – 1:30 pm (see below for details)</b>

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**Birthdays:** Sept. 6-Emily Ernest; Sept. 7-Faith Wright  
**Anniversaries:** None

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<b>August</b>		<b>Ushers</b>
<b>Greeters</b>		<b>31: Doug Goodman</b>
<b>31: Bill &amp; Joanne Michel</b>	<b>September</b>	
<b>07-Stan &amp; Sharon Crandall</b>		<b>07: Charlie Chambers</b>

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**LWML will meet on September 8, 2025**, at 1:30 pm in Trinity Chapel. Our speaker will be Cindy Gulick from the Barry Lawrence County Library. Please join us for this very interesting program. There will be a short business meeting to follow.

**Confirmation parent meeting:** Parents of confirmation aged children, there will be a confirmation parent meeting on September 2, 2025, at 5:00 pm here at Grace Lutheran Church. Your children are welcome to join you for this meeting as we discuss the purpose of confirmation, expectations, curriculum, and set a time for confirmation class.

**Synod Convention:** The convention of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod will be held in Phoenix, AZ, from July 18-23, 2026. We need to nominate a lay person to be put into the running to be a lay delegate to the convention. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else, please see Pastor Heitshusen.

**Circuit Forum:** Related to the convention, on September 28, 2025, the Southwest Circuit will meet at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Carthage, MO, at 4:00 pm for a worship service and to vote on pastoral and lay delegates for the Synod convention. If you would like to join Pastor Heitshusen for this service and to vote, please let Pastor Heitshusen know as soon as possible. All are welcome to come.

**Wednesday Bible Study:** Our Wednesday evening Bible class will begin on Wednesday, September 10, at 5:30 pm. We welcome any feedback you may have about the timing, and in our first session we will discuss whether that time will work moving forward.

**September Fish Fry:** **September 20<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm on the church grounds.** A flyer is on the bulletin board.