



October 12, 2025 – Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

AS WE GATHER

What makes you afraid? What causes you distress? In our Old Testament reading, Jacob is told by messengers that his brother Esau is coming to meet him with four hundred men. Jacob remembers the way he treated his brother – how he cheated Esau out of his birthright and his blessing. He therefore is afraid that Esau will come and attack him, his children, and his children's mothers (see Genesis 32:11). But in the midst of that fear, Jacob prays: "But **you said**, 'I will surely do you good, and make your offspring as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude'" (Genesis 32:12). Then, when he wrestles with his Divine opponent, he refuses to let go until the man blesses him. In other words, though Jacob is afraid and distressed, he clings to God and His promise. Truly, God has made great and wonderful promises to us that we can and will cling to in times of fear and distress. May the Holy Spirit grant us to ever cling to His promises.

WELCOME

HYMN *LSB 735, "Have No Fear, Little Flock"*

INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES (PSALM 56)

Pastor: Be gracious to me, O God, for man tramples on me; all day long an attacker oppresses me;

People: **my enemies trample on me all day long, for many attack me proudly.**

Pastor: When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.

People: **In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?**

Pastor: All day long they injure my cause; all their thoughts are against me for evil.

People: **They stir up strife, they lurk; they watch my steps, as they have waited for my life.**

Pastor: For their crime will they escape? In wrath cast down the peoples, O God!

People: **You have kept count of my tossings; put my tears in your bottle. Are they not in your book?**

Pastor: Then my enemies will turn back in the day when I call. This I know, that God is for me.

People: **In God, whose word I praise, in the Lord, whose word I praise,**

Pastor: in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can man do to me?

People: **I must perform my vows to you, O God; I will render thank offerings to you.**

Pastor: For you have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from falling,

People: **that I may walk before God in the light of life.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Holy and gracious God,

People: I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ, I ask forgiveness. Deliver me, O Lord, according to Your mercy and steadfast love and restore me that I may rest in Your peace. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake 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.

Pastor: May He who began this good work in you bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Peace be with you.

People: And also with you.

HYMN LSB 770, “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. O Lord, almighty and everlasting God, You have commanded us to pray and have promised to hear us. Mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may direct and govern our hearts in all things that we may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of Your name; through 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 Genesis 32:3-12, 22–30

³ And Jacob sent messengers before him to Esau his brother in the land of Seir, the country of Edom, ⁴ instructing them, “Thus you shall say to my lord Esau: Thus says your servant Jacob, ‘I have sojourned with Laban and stayed until now. ⁵ I have oxen, donkeys, flocks, male servants, and female servants. I have sent to tell my lord, in order that I may find favor in your sight.’” ⁶ And the messengers returned to Jacob, saying, “We came to your brother Esau, and he is coming to meet you, and there are four hundred men with him.” ⁷ Then Jacob was greatly afraid and distressed. He divided the people who were with him, and the flocks and herds and camels, into two camps, ⁸ thinking, “If Esau comes to the one camp and attacks it, then the camp that is left will escape.” ⁹ And Jacob said, “O God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, O Lord who said to me, ‘Return to your country and to your kindred, that I may do you good,’” ¹⁰ I am not worthy of the least of all the deeds of steadfast love and all the faithfulness that you have shown to your servant, for with only my staff I crossed this Jordan, and now I have become two camps. ¹¹ Please deliver me from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau, for I fear him, that he may come and attack me, the mothers with the children. ¹² But you said, ‘I will surely do you good, and make your offspring as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude.’”... ²² The same night he arose and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. ²⁴ And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob’s hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, “Let me go, for the day has broken.” But Jacob said, “I will not let you go unless you bless

me.”²⁷ And he said to him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Jacob.”²⁸ Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed.”²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, “Please tell me your name.” But he said, “Why is it that you ask my name?” And there he blessed him.³⁰ So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, “For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered.”

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR *“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”*

EPISTLE *2 Timothy 2:1–13*

¹ You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus,² and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.³ Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.⁴ No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him.⁵ An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules.⁶ It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops.⁷ Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.⁸ Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel,⁹ for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound!¹⁰ Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.¹¹ The saying is trustworthy, for: If we have died with him, we will also live with him;¹² if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us;¹³ if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE *2 Timothy 2:8*

All: **Alleluia. Remember Christ Jesus, risen from the dead. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 18:1–8*

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

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

¹ And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.² He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man.³ And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Give me justice against my adversary.’⁴ For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, ‘Though I neither fear God nor respect man,⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.’”⁶ And the Lord said, “Hear what the unrighteous judge says.⁷ And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them?⁸ I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY *LSB 728, “How Firm a Foundation”*

SERMON *“God, You Said...”*

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

OFFERTORY *LSB 781, stanzas 1-2*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, and confident that You will hear and answer us, O Lord.

People: 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.

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 809, "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"*

CLOSING

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

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ANNOUNCEMENTS for Week of October 12, 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's Day Off; Friday

Family for the Week: **Katelyn Foley**
 St. John's, Purdy - Pastor Schnackenberg

Prayers of Peace and Comfort:

Prayers of Thanksgiving

Prayers for Health and Healing:

LC Stalcup – (relative of Gladys Bauer - health and healing)

Jeannie Bennett - (relative of Teri Ediger - health and healing)

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)
Joyce Campbell – (friend of Wanda Thompson–health and healing)
Jason Ernest – (Emily Ernest's father – health and healing from surgery)
Bonny Gray – (Sister of Cunthia Swoyer[Wolf]–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)
Jeeper Meyer – health and healing from cancer)
Suzanne Parsons – (friend of Sue Doss – health and healing)
Joe Pennington – (brother-in-law of Bill Michel – health and healing)
Billy Schmells – (friend of Cheryl Lile – health and healing)
Tim Tucek– (relative of Gladys Bauer – peace and comfort)
Dayton Wheeler – (grandson of Wanda Thompson – surgery)
Jacquelyn Zimmer – (friend of Edee Chambers – health and healing)

Long Term

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)
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)
Steve Doss – (friend of Harold Lampe – health & healing)
Glenda Enlow – (health and 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)
Robbie Krueger – (friend of Kathy Holle)
Marybeth Lamp – (friend of Pam Bowling – health and healing)
Mitzie Lorenz – (friend of Harold Lampe – peace and comfort)
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	October 12th	9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am – Service
Monday	October 13th	Braille – 9:00 am and 1:00 pm Ladies Bible Study at Freistatt - 1:30 pm
Wednesday	October 15th	Bible Study - 5:30 pm
Thursday	October 16^h	Elders - 9:30 am Council - 11:00 am Confirmation Class – 5:30 pm
Saturday	October 18th	German Meal at Freistatt - 5:30 pm
Sunday	October 19th	9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am – Service with Communion
Monday	October 20th	Braille – 9:00 am and 1:00 pm Ladies Bible Study at Freistatt - 1:30 pm

Birthdays: Bobby Jones-Oct. 14

October

12-Cheryl Lile & Gladys Bauer
19-Cathy Munden & Teri Ediger
26-Bill & Joanne Michel

12-Charlie Chambers
19-Bill Michel
26-David Lampe



The **LWML Mite Box** is in the Narthex. Donations fund the mission grants that are approved at District and National Conventions.

The **LWML Fall Gathering** will be held on Saturday, November 1, beginning at 9:30 am in the gymnasium at Trinity School in Freistatt. If you would like to attend, please let Edith know by October 18th. Additional information is on the flyer in the Narthex. If you have any questions, ask Edith.

The ingathering for the **LWML Fall Gathering** is for the benefit of “For The Kids”, an association in Aurora to help foster/adoptive families. They would like to have new socks and underwear for children, any size, and toiletries for children. There is additional information in the Narthex along with a collection basket.

Authentic German Meal - presented by Trinity Lutheran Church in Freistatt – Saturday, October 18, with pre-purchased tickets only. The meal and take-out service is from the Fellowship Hall. Adults \$18 and Kids \$9. Tickets needed to be purchased by October 6. Tickets will be very limited on the day of the event.

Confirmation: Confirmation class began on October 9, 2025, at 5:30 pm. Meetings are at Grace. Parents are welcome to attend.

Confirmation Volunteers: Studies show that children are more likely to stay in the faith if they have 5 adults (that are not their parents) who invest in them and their lives. Pastor Heitshusen is seeking to facilitate this sort of intergenerational connection. To do so, he is seeking volunteers to come and sit in on confirmation class. You would not need to come every week; he will put together a schedule to accommodate everyone's schedule. If you are interested, please speak to Pastor Heitshusen.

We are collecting for “Dawggie Bags” food collection. The collection box is in the Narthex. If you have questions, please ask Pam Bowling.

Use Your Tax Dollars to Support Lutheran Education

Taxpayers to the state of Missouri—both individuals and businesses—have the unique opportunity to direct up to 50% of their state taxes to Lutheran Education. The tax credit program, MOScholars, allows the Missouri District to convert tax dollars into scholarships for qualifying students attending LCMS schools throughout the state (including Freistatt!!). Reserving these tax credits is easy and can be completed online in a matter of minutes. Head to <https://mo.lcms.org/mo-scholars/> to learn more about MOScholars and get the process started. Questions can be directed to Leah Sieveking at 314-590-6211 or leah.sieveking@mo.lcms.org. Thank you for your participation in MOScholars through the Missouri District!