GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

1200 River Road, Teaneck, NJ 07666 (201) 836-0994 THE REV. MARGARET NIEDERER – PASTOR (201) 403-4341 + pegniederer@gmail.com AIZHAN SOLTANOVA – ORGANIST

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 28, 2025 10 AM



Consideration of and care for those in need (especially those "at our gate," visible to us, of whom we are aware) is an essential component of good stewardship. It is in the sharing of wealth that we avoid the snare of wealth. It is the one whom death could not hold—who comes to us risen from the dead—who can free us from the death grip of greed.

VISIT US AT:

WWW.GRACELUTHERANTEANECK.ORG

And on Facebook

Welcome to worship!

Masking is optional but recommended while indoors.

PRELUDE Land of Rest Sam Batt Owens

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please stand and face the baptismal font
near the entrance of the church.
All may make the sign of the cross as Pastor begins:

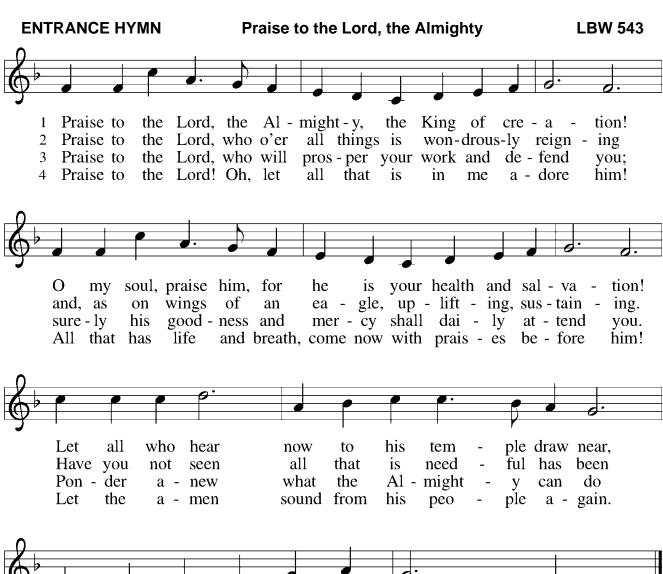
- P. Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love endures forever.
- C. Amen.
- P. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

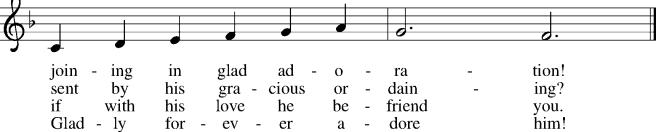
Silence is kept for reflection.

- P. Merciful God,
- C. we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way.
 Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table.
 When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life.
 Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors.
- P. Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of + Jesus, who is the Christ, your sins are forgiven.
You are free to love as God loves.

C. Amen.





Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, Part II, Stralsund, 1665

GREETING

- P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C. And also with you.

KYRIE



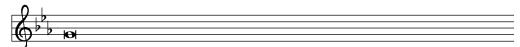
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.





For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

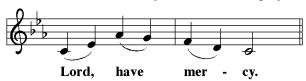




For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

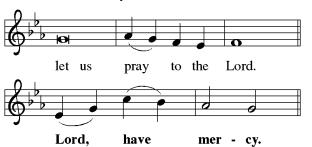


and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.





For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,





Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



HYMN OF PRAISE

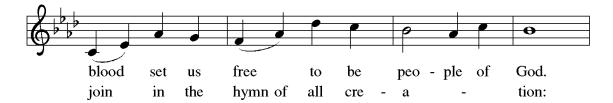
ELW Setting One



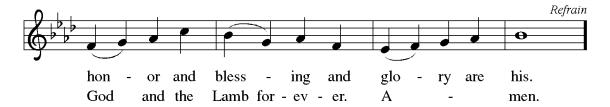


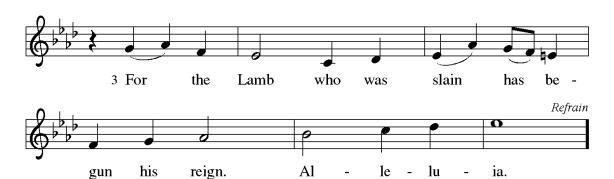


1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whos 2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and









PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P. The Lord be with you.
- C. And also with you.
- P. Let us pray.

O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C. Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

The prophet Amos announces that Israel's great wealth is a cause not for rejoicing but rather sorrow, because God's people have forgotten how to share their wealth with the poor. The wealthy will be the first to go into exile when judgment comes.

- A. A reading from Amos, the 6th Chapter.
 - ^{1a}Alas for those who are at ease in Zion, and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria.
 - ⁴Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory, and lounge on their couches, and eat lambs from the flock, and calves from the stall;
 - ⁵who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp, and like David improvise on instruments of music;
 - ⁶who drink wine from bowls, and anoint themselves with the finest oils, but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!
 - ⁷Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile, and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.
- A. The Word of God. The Word of life.
- C. Thanks be to God.



PSALM 146 READ RESPONSIVELY

¹Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

²I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

³Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help.

⁴When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.

⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the LORD their God;

⁶who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;

⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.
The LORD sets the captive free.

⁸The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

⁹The LORD cares for the stranger; the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!



SECOND READING 1 Timothy 6:6-19

Timothy is reminded of the confession he made at his baptism and of its implications for daily life. His priorities will be different from those of people who merely want to be rich.

A. A reading from 1st Timothy, the 6th Chapter.

⁶Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; ⁷for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; ⁸but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. ¹¹But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness.

¹²Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

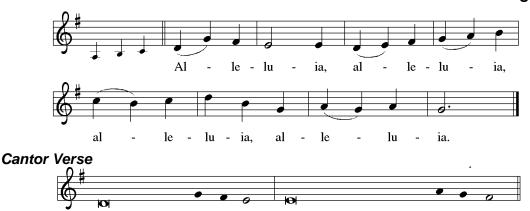
¹⁷As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

- A. The Word of God. The Word of life.
- C. Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW Setting One



Our Lord Jesus Christ, though he was rich, for your sakes became poor,* so that by his poverty you might become rich. (2 Cor. 8:9)

ALL REPEAT THE ALLELUIAS.

GOSPEL Luke 16:19-31

Jesus tells a parable in which the poor one is "lifted up" and the rich one is "sent away empty." Jesus makes it clear that this ethic of merciful reversal is not new but is as old as Moses and the prophets.

P. The Holy Gospel According to Luke, the 16th Chapter. **C. Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] 19"There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus. covered with sores, ²¹who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²²The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' ²⁵But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' 27He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house—²⁸ for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' ²⁹Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' 30He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' 31He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead."

- P. The Gospel of the Lord.
- C. Praise to you, O Christ

ALL REPEAT THE ALLELUIAS.

Silence for Meditation

Please stand.



Text: Martin Schalling, 1532–1608; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829–1878, alt. Music: HERZLICH LIEB, B. Schmid, *Orgeltabulatur-Buch*, 1577



A. Let us confess our faith with Christians throughout the world by using the Apostles' Creed.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day, he rose again;
He ascended into heaven.
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
And he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

The holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Amen.



PRAYERS FOR HEALING & RENEWAL

P We give you thanks, O God, source of life and health, for in Jesus you became flesh and came to know the depth of human suffering. You sent the disciples to heal those who were sick.

We ask that you bless us now as we remember our baptism that we may be healed, strengthened, and renewed by the power of your Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P The ministry of Jesus invites us to new life in God and with each other. As we mark our foreheads with the sign of the cross, we proclaim the good news that God desires us to be healthy and one in the body of Christ offering ourselves, whatever our sickness of spirit, mind, or body may be, to receive a sign of healing and wholeness in the name of the triune God.

In the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, may you be strengthened and filled with God's grace, that you may know the healing power of God's Spirit.

C Amen.

Remembering your baptism, make the sign of the cross on your forehead as Pastor says:

P Remember your baptism and receive the sign of forgiveness and healing in Christ Jesus by making the sign of the cross on your forehead.

C Amen.

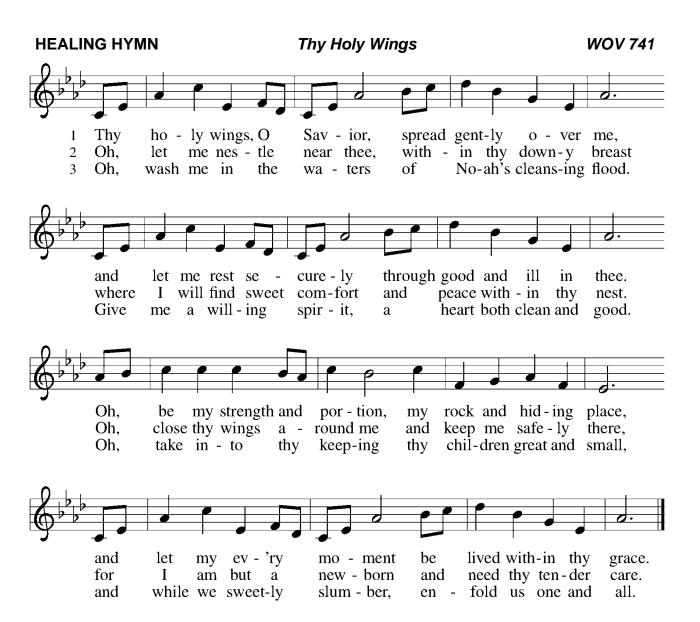
P. Let us pray.

God of mercy, source of all healing, we give you thanks for your gifts of strength and life, and especially for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ, the health and salvation of the world.

Help us by your Holy Spirit to feel your healing power in our lives and experience your eternal love through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.





Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite Music: BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR, Swedish folk tune

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Janet Thalmann

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church, that it would remain faithful to the gospel, always striving to serve the needs of those who are oppressed and rejecting the complacency that comes from wealth. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for our partners in ministry here in Teaneck, in the Meadowlands Cluster, the Northern Mission District, the New Jersey Synod, Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the wider Christian Community, our friends from the Light and Peace Mission in Haiti, and people of faith everywhere as they live out their calling to serve. Continue to guide and strengthen them as they strive to reveal your love. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for creation, that the nations work together to protect and restore the earth, preserving the beauty of the planet for future generations and honoring the gift of your creation. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those in positions of authority, that they govern with justice and compassion, recognizing the dignity of all people and working to promote peace and prosperity for all. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for people in any need, especially those we pray for in silence or aloud (*pause*). Give them your assurance and courage when the path forward is not clear. Liberate us from all that binds us, lift us up when we are bowed down, and show us your love. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation, that we would be strengthened to build a world where all can thrive. Incite us to advocate for fair wages and just policies, and guide us in building a community of mutual support. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We remember in thanksgiving the faithful departed. Inspire us by their example to love and serve our neighbors, and bring us to eternal life. God of grace, **receive our prayer**.

- P. We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.
- C. Amen.

PEACE Please stay at your seat as you share a sign of peace.

- P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C. And also with you.

OFFERING

Please place your offering in the plate located on the table at the back of the sanctuary before or after Worship.

Please be seated.

OFFERTORY HYMN Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service ELW 712

- 1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
- 2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
- 3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi sion, till your love's re veal-ing light
- 4 Called by wor ship to your ser vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer-cy's per - fect deed: still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead. in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up - on our quick-ened sight, to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a - lone, but heart; As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul, mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear, hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part. by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole. stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share. that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844

Text © Oxford University Press

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Please stand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A. Let us pray.

Lord of the harvest,

we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P. The Lord be with you.

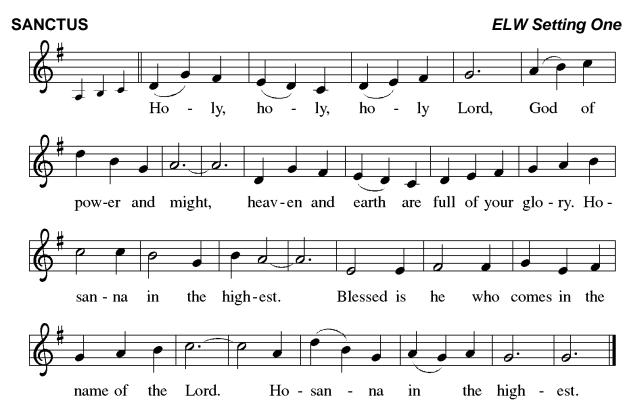
P. Lift up your hearts.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord.

- C. And also with you.
- C. We lift them to the Lord.
- C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE PREFACE

P. It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Please kneel or be seated.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P. Holy mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, Blessed and broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, And gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, Shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the mystery of faith;

C. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P. Pour out upon us and this bread and cup the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory now and forever.

C. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we say the prayer Jesus has taught us:
- C. Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, Now and forever. Amen.

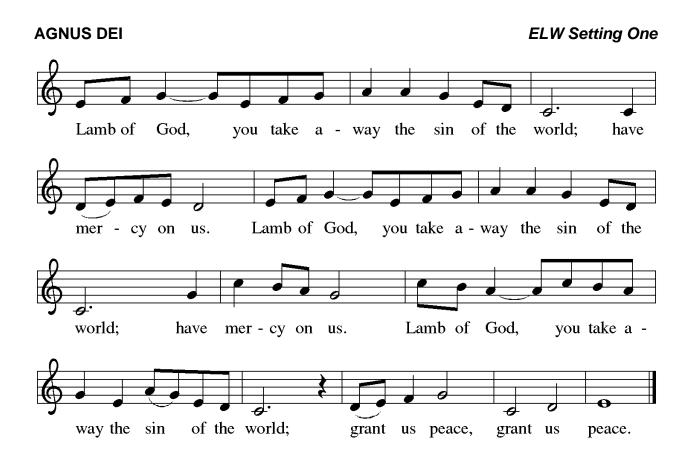
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Christ invites you to this table.

Come, taste and see.

Come to the table where all are welcome.







CONTINUOUS COMMUNION

Please come forward for Communion, beginning with those in the back pews, from alternating sides, leaving adequate space between you and the person in front of you.

Masking is optional but recommended as you come forward to receive the wafer & cup until you step away from the communion tray.

A tray with individual cups is located in front of each pew section.

The center contains purple grape juice.

White wine is in the remainder of the tray.

After use, please deposit cup in receptacle at the end of pew section.

Baptized Christians who recognize the presence of Christ in the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life, are welcome to receive communion. If you have not yet been baptized or have never before received Holy Communion, you may come forward to receive a blessing. Fold your arms across your chest to let the Pastor know you wish to receive a blessing.

Please stand.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING:

- P. May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

ELW 204



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom-is - es and lead your peo-ple forth in joy with



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A. Let us pray:

O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C. Amen.

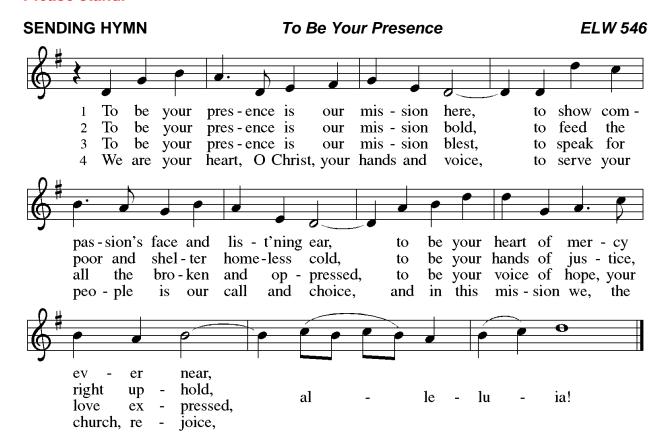
BLESSING

- P. The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, + bless you now and forever.
- C. Amen.

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand.



Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939
Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924
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DISMISSAL

- A. Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
- C. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Fuge in A minor from "Eight short preludes and fugues" J.S. Bach

OUR SPECIAL THANKS TODAY TO

Aizhan Soltanova, Organist Kaitlin Shinholster, Greeter Julie Buckingham, Liturgical Cantor Lynn Buckingham, Liturgist & Reader Janet Thalmann, Prayers of Intercession Sue Papera & Erika Ilgenfritz, Altar Guild



After Mass Today

Refreshments in the Memorial Room



September Birthdays

Bill, Donna, Julie, Zulema, Brendan, Jack Wishing everyone with a birthday this month many blessings!!! May God's face shine upon you all the days of your lives!



In Memorial Room at Grace Wednesday, October 1st, at 1:30 PM



Via Zoom Thursday, October 2nd, at Noon

Biblical Understanding of Prayer & The Early Christian Traditions Connection link & readings will be emailed.



PRAYERS

Joan Costello (Jackie's mother-in-law & Kaitlin's & Lindsay's grandmother); Doris Baumann, Dale Lambson, and Family; Darla Lambson (leukemia); Brad Gohmann (cancer): Zulema's friends and family: Donald Lazlear and his family, Katie and Surella Borowski; Rose Davis (cancer); Marc & Bella Yaffe and Leslyn Cooke; Susan Bethke (Lynn's cousin undergoing chemo and other treatment for a brain tumor); Marion Soohoo (Will's Mother-in-law recovering from surgery); Sue Papera's friends and family: Arlene Rizzo (cancer) and Arlene's family; Chris Palmer (health concerns); Caleb (mental health issues); Jenny L. (health issues); Carol Mulvaney (breast cancer); Michael Mulvaney (prostate cancer); Edward Foley (back surgery); Janet's family and friends: Janet Thalmann; Paul Thalmann; Beverly Philip (severe dementia), Kathy O'Brien, Bert Maltz (health concerns), Michele Rusciano; Al & Mark Crovatto; Anita Bontekoe (health concerns), Hana Kim (health concerns); Ben Bontekoe (health concerns); Fred Lewis (health concerns); Mary Ellen's family and friends: Susan Beever; Dominick Capalba (6 year old with brain cancer); Patty Fitzgerald (terminal lung cancer); Kay Roseen's family: Jessica and Casey O'Neil (Kay Roseen's daughter and son-in-law who work for the State Department); Marcia & Chuck Hendron (Kay's parents - memory care); John Steffen (Lorli's brother with health concerns); Tammy (Lorli's niece with an immune disorder); Judy Letwink (Lorli's nephew's Mother-in-law recovering from a stroke); Betty Ann Lindhurst (Lorli's friend with health issues); Gisela N. (Lorli's friend with bladder cancer); Erika Ilgenfritz (health concerns); James Ilgenfritz (Erika's son); Friends of the congregation: Arouss Darpinian (health concerns); Chris Niederer (Pastor's son with immune system disorder); Nancy Barbee (Pastor's friend with lung cancer); Dennis Keohane (Catherine's uncle); Willi Lewis' Aunt Kelly (health concerns); Donna Maxwell (recovering from hip surgery); James Mingo (Donna's grandson with health concerns); Mary Sue Kaplow (health concerns): Gail Storero (recovering from shoulder surgery): (baby) Chris (Ruth DiCicco's daughter) & Bob Wheeler; Jeanne H. (Lorli's sister with health issues); Krystyna Kirsch; Alison (Ali) Krasnow & Family; the hostages in Gaza; Christians under persecution and all experiencing violence, captivity, or war: the people of Haiti, Israel, Gaza, Palestine, Syria, Lebanon, Ukraine, Russia, Afghanistan, Sudan, and organizations and individuals who are providing resources, care, and relief for refugees; front line workers, medical researchers; health care workers; national and regional relief workers and firefighters and all affected by natural disasters and wildfires.

Let Lynn or Pastor know of changes needed on the prayer list.



Shoe Collection

(ends Oct 24th) To assist global need. See Sue Papera for details.

COMMEMORATIONS FOR THE WEEK

Michael and All Angels Monday, September 29, 2025

Michael the archangel, captain of the heavenly hosts, is remembered on this day along with the other angels and archangels. The word "angel" means messenger, and in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, these beings have a fully spiritual nature and no physical body.

Jerome, translator, teacher, died 420 Tuesday, September 30, 2025

Jerome was a biblical scholar and translator, but rather than translating the original Hebrew and Greek scriptures into classical Latin, he worked in the commonly-spoken Latin of the day, creating a version called the Vulgate.

Francis of Assisi, renewer of the church, died 1226 Saturday, October 4, 2025

Born into the family of a wealthy merchant, Francis gave up his inheritance to serve poor people. He formed the Order of Friars Minor (called Franciscans), who took on poverty and the task of preaching "using words if necessary." Francis had a spirit of gratitude for all of God's creation.

Theodor Fliedner, renewer of society, died 1864 Saturday, October 4, 2025

Fliedner helped to bring about a revival of the ministry of deaconesses among Lutherans. He was influenced in this by Moravian deaconesses he had met. The motherhouse he founded in Kaiserswerth, Germany, inspired many around the world to take up this ministry.

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