

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church
Sunday, September 18, 2022
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude: Be Thou My Vision

arr. Dan Chadburn

(intro "On Eagle's Wings arr. Carol Tornquist)

Welcome

From September 11 through October 9 we'll explore Jesus' and the Prophets' redefinition of "success." What if life is about more than just getting ahead? What if we are created for community, courage, and compassion?

Litany of Praise (Psalm 113)

Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the Lord!

Praise the name of the Lord!

Who is like the Lord our God, who sits enthroned on high,

But stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?

The Lord takes up the weak out of the dust

And lifts up the poor from the ashes,

Enthroning them with the rulers,

With the rulers of the people!

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days.

Amen.

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy and forgiveness,

we confess that sin still has a hold on us.

We have harmed your good creation.

We have failed to do justice,

love kindness, and walk humbly with you.

Turn us in a new direction.

Show us the path that leads to life.

Be our refuge and strength on the journey,

through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

Beloved of God, your sins are forgiven † and you are made whole.
 God points the way to new life in Christ, who meets us on the road.
 Journey now in God's abiding love through the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn: God Welcomes All

ACS 978

Piano – 2 times, Congregation- 2 times, High Voices – 1 time, Low Voices – 1 time, Congregation - 2 times (*feel free to try some harmony*)

God Welcomes All

God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;
 God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'God Welcomes All'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;' and 'God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.'

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949
 Music: AMEN THEMBA, South African traditional; transe. and arr. John L. Bell.
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Greeting

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

Kyrie – Setting 3

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**
 For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
 For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

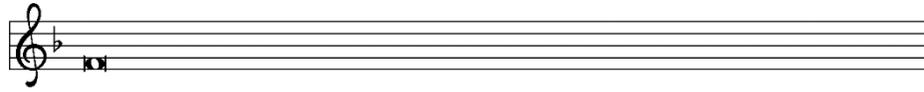
The image shows a musical score for 'Kyrie – Setting 3'. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef). The key signature is one flat (Bb), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.', 'For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.', 'Lord, have mer - cy.', and 'For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,'.



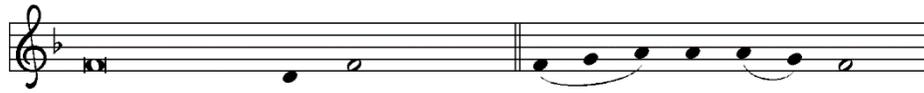
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



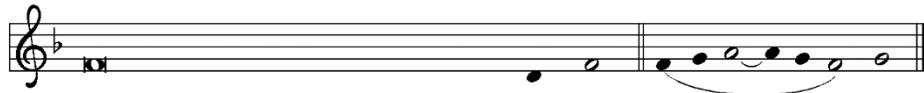
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

Prayer of the Day

God among us,

we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading: Amos 8:4-7

Amos was called by God to prophesy in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Peace and prosperity in Israel led to corrupt business practices and oppression of the poor. The prophet declares that God will not tolerate such a situation.

⁴Hear this, you that trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,

⁵saying, "When will the new moon be over
so that we may sell grain;

and the sabbath,

so that we may offer wheat for sale?

We will make the ephah small and the shekel great,

and practice deceit with false balances,

⁶buying the poor for silver

and the needy for a pair of sandals,

and selling the sweepings of the wheat."

⁷The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob:

Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia!

Alleluia!

Live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ;
strive side by side for the faith of the gospel.

Alleluia!

Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: Luke 16:1-13

¹Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ²So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ ³Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ ⁵So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ ⁷Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ ⁸And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰“Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

Message

Pastor Tim Maybee

Hymn of the Day: Let Just Flow like Streams

ELW 717

Let Justice Flow like Streams



1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar - kling wa - ter, pure,
2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,
3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,



en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure.
an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed.
and jus - tice, right, and peace per - vade this world our whole life through.

Text: Jane Parker Huber, b. 1926
Music: ST. THOMAS, Aaron Williams, 1731-1776
Text © 1984 Jane Parker Huber, admin. Westminster John Knox Press

Confession of Faith

Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith.

We are not alone,

we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,

who has come in Jesus,

the Word made flesh,

to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others

by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God's presence,

to live with respect in Creation,

to love and serve others,

to seek justice and resist evil,

to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,

our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

Prayers of Intercession

As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

A brief silence.

God our Savior, you keep your church in faith and truth. Bless the work and missions of China Service Ventures and our partner congregation in Magulilwa, Tanzania.

Enlighten all those who share your good news with the world. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Divine teacher, you instruct your children to be responsible stewards of your creation. Show us how best to care for the earth and its resources, and guide those who work to develop sustainable practices. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Ruler of the nations, you direct those in authority. Give leaders wisdom and compassion so that all may live in peace. Inspire public servants to follow the example of courageous leaders and safeguard the dignity of each person. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Helper of the needy, you lift up those who are oppressed. Breathe justice into economic and social systems that perpetuate poverty and hunger. Sustain food ministries, clothing banks, and emergency shelters, especially Neighbors Inc. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Sustainer and giver of life, you bless this congregation with abundance. Instruct us in the proper and faithful use of wealth and resources, that we share generously. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of glory, you gather your saints around your throne. Keep us thankful for the witness of those who have gone before us, and bring us with them to the heavenly feast that has no end. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering

Offering Song: We Are an Offering

ELW 692

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering, we are an offering.

Offering Prayer

Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all.

Amen.

Holy Communion

3. So, we thank You for the wine and for the bread; For we see the life You gave and the blood You shed. And we remember Your wondrous love, You gave Your body, You shed Your blood; And we remember Your wondrous love, You gave Your body, You shed Your blood.

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Lord's Prayer

L: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as 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

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church practices open communion. Whether you are a member of AGLC or not, you are invited to the table that is set by Christ for you.

P: Christ invites you to his table. Come, taste and see that the Lord is good.

Distribution

P: The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The wine used in worship is alcohol-free. Gluten-free bread options are available upon request.

Communion Song(s):

Change My Heart, O God

ELW 801

Look Who Gathers At Christ's Table Verses 1,3,4

ACS 977

Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table



1 Look who gath - ers at Christ's ta - ble! Hear the sto - ries
2 Clouds of light sur - round the ta - ble; an - cient fol - low -
3 Their sad sto - ries are re - peat - ed in a thou - sand
4 Bring your joy and bring your sad - ness, and pre - pare to



that they bring. Some are weep - ing; some are laugh - ing;
ers ap - pear, saints con - fess - ing how they wres - tled
dif - f'rent ways, but they share one thing in com - mon:
be sur - prised by the host whose hands are wound - ed,



some have songs they want to sing. Oth - ers ask why they're in -
with their guilt, their doubt and fear. Pe - ter tells of his de -
they all end in thanks and praise for the host who has in -
who will o - pen wide your eyes when he bless - es bread and



vit - ed, bur - dened by the wrong they've done. Christ in - sists they
ny - ing Christ was ev - er in his sight; Paul re - lates his
vit - ed north and south and east and west to con - verge a -
breaks it— truth and man - na from a - bove!— and then pass - es



all are wel - come. There is room for ev - 'ry - one.
fruit - less ef - ferts to ob - lit - er - ate the light.
round this ta - ble, where all life is fed and blest.
wine that wa - kens in your heart the taste of love.

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945
Music: COPELAND, Michael Corzine, b. 1947
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Music © 2000 Michael Corzine, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Take My Life That I May Be Verses 1,3-5 (6 if time permits)

ELW 685

Prayer after Communion

God of the abundant table,

you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

Benediction

God, who gives life to all things
and frees us from despair,
bless you with truth and peace.

And may the holy Trinity, † one God,
guide you always in faith, hope, and love.

Amen.

Sending Hymn: Rise Up, O Saints of God!

ELW 669

Rise Up, O Saints of God!



- 1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
- 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
- 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;
- 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
- 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936
Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893
Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Dismissal

L: Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: The Glorious Song

Lani Smith