

10.18.2026

10:00 am



21st Sunday after Pentecost

*Sharing God's love so that all
are served and supported.*



Today's Worship Theme

In today's first reading, God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.



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Greeter: Dana Holden
Ushers: Bob & Joan Streightiff
Altar Guild: Elizabeth Smythe
Coffee Host: Gail Schuette

If you are visiting, please review the Welcome Pew Card in the hymnal holder.

✠ GATHER ✠

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

For up-to-date info, see the “Grace Happenings” Thursday e-newsletter and our website’s monthly calendar (also displayed in the Narthex & Fellowship Hall).



PRELUDE

“We Raise Our Hands to You, O Lord”

Edwin T. Childs

BLESSING OF THE QUILTS

We rise.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**
Please share a sign of Christ’s peace.

AND THE
peace of God,
WHICH TRANSCENDS
ALL UNDERSTANDING,
WILL GUARD YOUR HEARTS
AND YOUR MINDS IN
Christ Jesus.

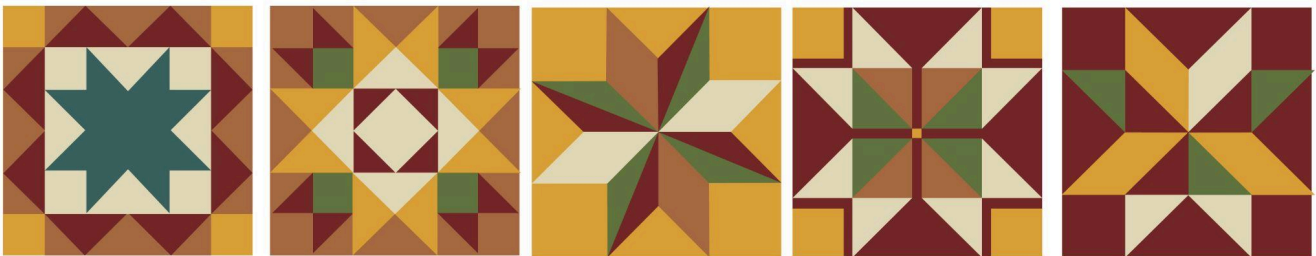
PHILIPPIANS 4:7, NIV

GATHERING HYMN *“God, You Wrap Your Love Around Us”*

*God, You Wrap Your Love Around Us
God, you wrap your love around us, like a blanket, soft and warm.
You give rest when we are weary, you protect us from the storm.
May each person who finds shelter in these blankets that we share
Also feel the joy and comfort of your love’s protecting care.*

*Jesus, you were once a baby, sought by those who would destroy.
Into Egypt you were carried – far from home, a little boy.
Were you wrapped up warm to travel,
safe from terror, free from harm?
Did you feel God’s strong protection, snuggled there in Mary’s arm?*

*May the women, men and children fleeing danger every day
Know, through us, your living presence;
you walk with them on their way.
Spirit, as you give them comfort, teach us here to freely give;
May we blanket this world over with your love, so all may live.*



GREETING

Assisting Minister: Jan Burgess

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Be seated.

✠ **WORD** ✠

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children may come forward for the Children's Message, then go upstairs for Children's Church & Music, and return for communion.

A READING FROM Isaiah 45:1-7

Lector: Nancy Mamlin

An earthly ruler as the instrument of God's will

¹ Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be closed: ²I will go before you and level the mountains; I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron; ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name; I give you a title, though you do not know me. ⁵I am the Lord, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, ⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other. ⁷I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the Lord do all these things.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 96:1-9 [10-13] *Read responsively.*

¹ Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

² Sing to the Lord, bless the name of the Lord; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.

³ Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

⁴ For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.

(CONT.)

⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O Lord, have made the heavens.

⁶Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.

⁷Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

⁸Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the Lord.

⁹Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the Lord, all the earth.

¹⁰Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity."

¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

¹²Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O Lord, for you come to judge the earth.

¹³You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

A READING FROM 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Thanksgiving for the church at Thessalonica

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit,

(CONT.)

⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹ For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

We rise.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 22:15-22

A teaching on giving to the emperor and to God

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁵ The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, “Whose head is this and whose title?” (CONT.)

²¹They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Be seated.

SERMON

Tyler Ruddy

We rise.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"We Give Thee But Thine Own"

ELW 685

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith. **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.**

We kneel.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each portion of the prayer ends with these words:
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Be seated.

OFFERING SONG

✠ **MEAL** ✠

"Take My Life and Let It Be"

Thomas Keesecker

*Take my life and let it be consecrated Lord, to thee;
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;
Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.*

(CONT.)

*Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;
Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.
Take my silver and my gold; not alone would I withhold;
Take my intellect and see every power thou shalt choose.*

*Take my will and make it thine, it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne.
Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;*

*Take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee.
Take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee.*

Thank you for partnering with Grace . Visit www.graceboone.org/donate, or place your gift in the Narthex collection box or mail it to 115 E. King St, Boone, NC 28607.



We rise.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are connected by slurs, indicating a continuous melody. The lyrics are written below the notes.

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; 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."

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
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.

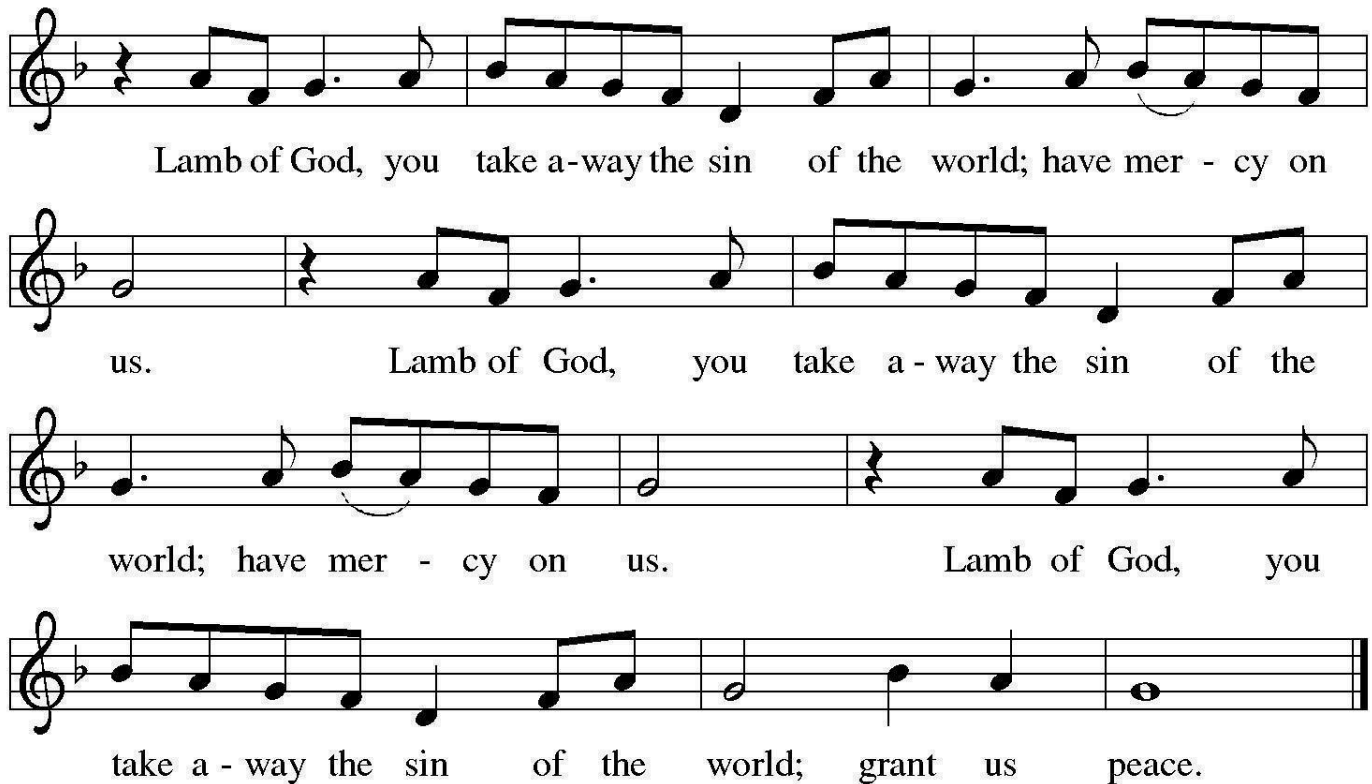
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Communion Assistant: Kristie Evans

Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come! **Thanks be to God!**

Please be seated. This is the Lord's Table; all are welcome! Receive communion at the head of the aisle: bread (gluten-, nut-, soy- & dairy-free) and then wine (grape juice is available). Alert an usher if you require the sacrament to be brought to you. After receiving communion, you are invited to kneel at your pew for prayer. On the first and third Sundays, healing prayers are offered in the Chapel.

COMMUNION SONG



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

ELW 656

"How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord"

ELW 580

We rise.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

✠ SENDING ✠

BLESSING

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

ELW 705

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good"

Walter L. Pelz

CHANCEL FLOWERS

Are given to the glory of God
and in celebration of
Ransom Harkey's birthday
by Beth Reavis.

SANCTUARY LAMP

Is burning to the glory of God
and in thanksgiving for
our Grace Quilters
by Jan & Andy Burgess.

READINGS FOR OCTOBER 25

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 | Psalm 1 | 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 | Matt. 22:34-46

GIVING REPORT

Giving September 1, 2026 through September 30, 2026

September Giving	September Budgeted Giving	Year to Date Giving	Year to Date Budgeted Giving
\$19,338.00	\$35,000.00	\$19,338.00	\$35,000.00

**If purchasing a quilt from the pews
today, note there is a suggested
minimum donation of \$75.**

**For quilts displayed at the front of
the church, there is a suggested
minimum donation of \$100.
Proceeds go directly to LWR!**

You may pay by check.

(payable to Grace Lutheran Church)

OR

Online by using this QR code.

