

October 10, 2021, 8:30 am
20th Sunday After Pentecost



Grace Alone

The story of God's grace in Scripture was a life-transforming revelation for Martin Luther. In our own lives and in the lives of people everywhere, the Gospel proclamation of God's unmerited love and claim of us all as daughters and sons is an invitation to live freely as the people we were created to be. "Grace alone" becomes a foundation stone of Christian faith, testifying to God's goodness, and God's promise fulfilled in us.



20th Sunday after Pentecost October 10, 2021, 8:30 am

CALL TO WORSHIP

Kyrie #157

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world,
for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

For your people here who have come to give you praise,
for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, and defend us, O God. **Amen.**

WELCOME

LITANY

God's Word incarnate has made his home with us,
revealing to us the fulness of the Creator.

Thanks and praise be to the Father for the gift of the Son.

It is through this gift of grace that we are set free from the burden of sin,
and receive the blessing of eternity with God.

Not by our own will nor action, but by God's grace alone are we saved.

Our Gospel invitation is simply to live in gratitude for that grace,
to share it as freely as we have received it.

**Heavenly Father, give us glad and generous hearts to proclaim your grace
and goodness in all that we say and do. Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

“God Loved the World”

#323

- 1 God loved the world so that he gave
his only Son the lost to save,
that all who would in him believe
should everlasting life receive.
- 2 Christ Jesus is the ground of faith,
who was made flesh and suffered death;
all who confide in Christ alone
are built on this chief cornerstone.
- 3 If you are ill, if death draws near,
this truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus rescues us from death;
that is the firmest ground of faith.
- 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son
forgives all sins that you have done,
and justified by Jesus' blood,
your baptism grants the highest good.
- 5 All glory to the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To you, O blessed Trinity,
be praise now and eternally!

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

Creating God, in ultimate compassion and love, you give us the gift of your Son. Help us simply to receive this gift of grace and the gift of life that flows to us through him. **Amen.**

JEREMIAH 31:2-6

² Thus says the Lord: The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness; when Israel sought for rest, ³ the Lord appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you. ⁴ Again I will build you, and you shall be built, O virgin Israel! Again you shall take your tambourines, and go forth in the dance of the merry-makers. ⁵ Again you shall plant vineyards on the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant, and shall enjoy the fruit. ⁶ For there shall be a day when sentinels will call in the hill country of Ephraim: "Come, let us go up to Zion, to the Lord our God."

And the Word was with God. **And the Word was God.**

PSALM 106:1-8

¹ Praise the Lord! O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever.

² Who can utter the mighty doings of the Lord, or declare all his praise?

³ Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times.

**⁴ Remember me, O Lord, when you show favor to your people;
help me when you deliver them;**

⁵ that I may see the prosperity of your chosen ones, that I may rejoice
in the gladness of your nation, that I may glory in your heritage.

**⁶ Both we and our ancestors have sinned;
we have committed iniquity, have done wickedly.**

⁷ Our ancestors, when they were in Egypt, did not consider your wonderful works;
they did not remember the abundance of your steadfast love,
but rebelled against the Most High at the Red Sea.

**⁸ Yet he saved them for his name's sake,
so that he might make known his mighty power.**

EPHESIANS 2:1-10

You were dead through the trespasses and sins ² in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³ All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴ But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵ even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — by grace you have been saved —

⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God — ⁹ not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

And the Word was with God. **And the Word was God.**

Please stand as you are able for the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Come, Holy Spirit, Descend”

**Come, Holy Spirit, descend on us, descend on us.
We gather here in Jesus’ name.**

**Come, God of Grace, descend on us, descend on us.
We gather here in Jesus’ name.**

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

JOHN 1:9-18

⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

TIME OF REFLECTION

SONG OF THE DAY

“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me” #623

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood,
from thy riven side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure;
cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.</p> <p>2 Not the labors of my hands
can fulfill thy law's demands;
could my zeal no respite know,
could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone;
thou must save, and thou alone.</p> | <p>3 Nothing in my hand I bring;
simply to thy cross I cling.
Naked, come to thee for dress;
helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the fountain fly;
wash me, Savior, or I die.</p> <p>4 While I draw this fleeting breath,
when mine eyelids close in death,
when I soar to worlds unknown,
see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee.</p> |
|---|--|

PROFESSION OF FAITH

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 OF THE PEOPLE

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

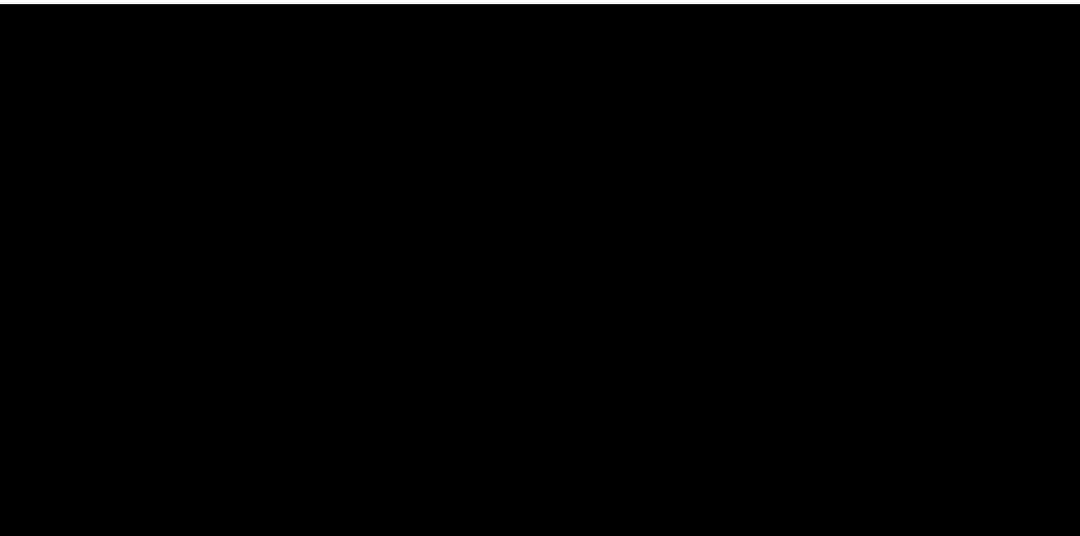
“Amazing Grace”

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God, blessing flows from you like a river. You fill our hearts with your goodness and our lives with good things. Open our hearts and our hands to be channels of that river, that blessing might flow through us and out to all who are searching, to all who are needful, to all who long for wholeness and peace. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

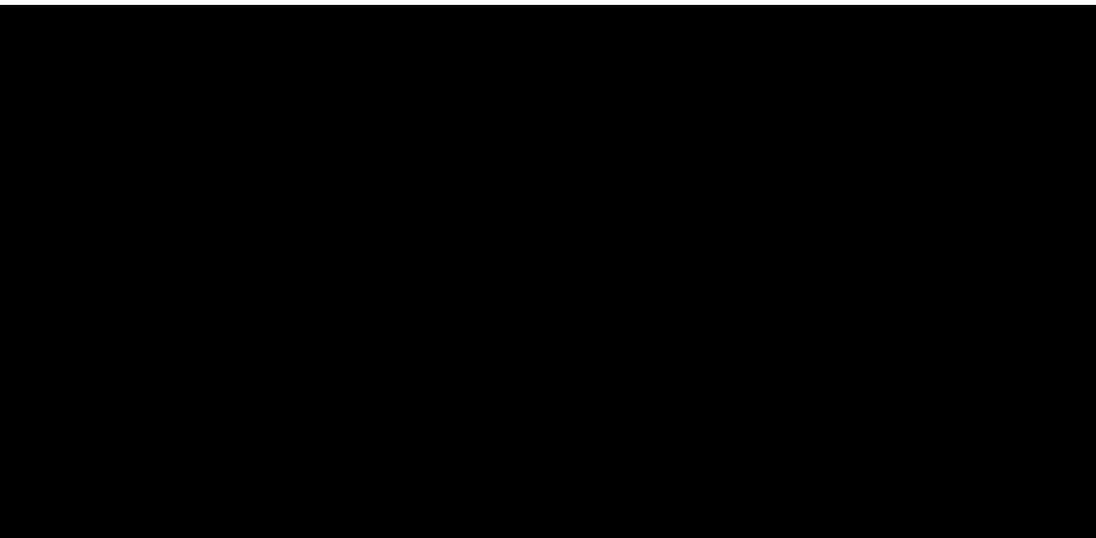
W. P. Sterneman III



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

W. P. Sterneman III



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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.



All are welcome to celebrate communion at Abiding Love. Hold out your hands to receive the bread. Take a cup of wine or grape juice from the tray. Children and adults not communing are welcome to receive a blessing. Please follow the direction of the ushers.

COMMUNION SONG

"We Come to the Hungry Feast" #479

- 1 We come to the hungry feast
hungry for a word of peace.
To hungry hearts unsatisfied
the love of God is not denied.
We come, we come to the hungry feast.
- 2 We come to the hungry feast
hungry for a world released
from hungry people of ev'ry kind,
the poor in body, poor in mind.
We come, we come to the hungry feast.
- 3 We come to the hungry feast
hungry that the hunger cease,
and knowing, though we eat our fill,
the hunger will stay with us; still
we come, we come to the hungry feast.

COMMUNION SONG

“United at the Table” #498

Refrain

United at the table:
all our joy is joined in song.
United in the faith:
all our joy to God belongs.

- 1 We will praise God, we will sing
alleluias with hymns and with psalmody;
we will praise God for the love
that sustains us eternally. *Refrain*
- 2 We will praise God, we will feast
at the bountiful table of life and grace;
we will praise God and give thanks
for communion with ev'ry race. *Refrain*
- 3 We will praise God, we will play
alleluias with rhythm and instruments;
we will praise God for the love
that invites all creation to dance. *Refrain*

COMMUNION PRAYER

God of life, send us now into your world. Send us now to the lost and afraid. Send us to heal and to restore, to bring relief and to labor for justice. For we have been fed by the grace of your table, and we have gifts to share. Amen.

BLESSING

- 1 God of grace and God of glory,
on your people pour your pow'r;
crown your ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

- 2 Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn the Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days,

- 3 Cure your children's warring madness;
bend our pride to your control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.

- 4 Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of your salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving you whom we adore,
serving you whom we adore.

PROCLAIMING OUR MISSION AND SHARING GOD'S PEACE

We go forth together, **sharing God's love!**

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP IN THE SEASON OF PENTECOST



Always Reforming!

October 17 - *Faith Alone*
October 24 - *Christ Alone*
October 31 - *Semper Reformanda*

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Holiday Market: November 6

EXCITING NEWS Abiding Love's Holiday Market will be held on November 6, 2021, 9:00 am till 3:00 pm in the Fetter Activity Center. Shop for handmade gifts, holiday décor, and baked goods. Take a break and have some coffee or tea and a homemade sweet treat in our Café! Mark your calendar now, and we'll see you on November 6!

Holiday Market Raffle Tickets

Two quilts and an advent calendar will be raffled at the November 6 Holiday Market. Tickets are one for \$5 or 5 tickets for \$20, on sale before and after worship, October 10, 17, 24, and 31. You will indicate which of the items you prefer when you buy your tickets. Proceeds from the Holiday Market and raffle will benefit High School Senior Scholarship fund, Women of Abiding Love ministry activities such as Lutheran World Relief, New Life Children's Center, and the Travis County Community Center in Oak Hill.

Setting and Safety Measures for Indoor Worship

Abiding Love will gather for worship onsite Sundays, 8:30 & 11:00 am. The CDC has warned that individuals who are fully vaccinated can still be infected by the Delta variant and pass it on to others. The Abiding Love Council emphasizes the need to protect everyone by masking, maintaining social distance, and frequent hand-washing and sanitizing. Masks are recommended for all attending, regardless of risk or vaccination status. We encourage those not able to worship in person to join in a livestream service at 8:30 am, available at abidinglove.org.

SERVING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2021

Preaching and Presiding Minister: Rev. Brad Highum
Altar Guild:(8:30) Beverly Sones, Di Brophy (11:00) Denise Alaimo, Barbara Tiedt
Assisting Minister:(8:30) Dale Sump (11:00) Reggie Kikta
Communion Assistants:(8:30) Shelley Reidel (11:00) Bill Hatcher
Lector:(8:30) Pat Dove (11:00) Nan Hatcher
Music Leaders: (8:30) Susanna Lee (11:00) Mixed Blessings
Sound: (11:00) Cathy Cox
Ushers:(8:30) Don Ewald, Paul Mettke (11:00) Kurt Armstrong, Steve Essinger

ABIDING LOVE CALENDAR

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10

8:30 & 11:00 am Worship with Communion (Sanctuary)
9:45 am Faith Formation for All Ages
12:30 pm Reyes Baptism

MONDAY, OCTOBER 11

11:00 am ALLC Food Pantry
6:00 pm Bread For All Food Pantry
7:00 pm AA (Music Room)
7:00 pm Troop 555 (AC)
7:00 pm Children's Outreach Ministries (Zoom)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12

10:30 am Tuesday Bible Study (Sanctuary)
12:00 pm LGBTQ+ Documentary Study (Zoom)
7:00 pm Al-Anon (Music Room)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13

9:00 am Naomi Circle (Classroom)
10:00 am Staff Meeting (Classroom)
11:30 am Games Day (Narthex)
1:00 pm Sew Bee It Quilting (Classroom)
6:00 pm Music Rehearsals (Music Room and Sanctuary)
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14

10:00 am Quilters (Upstairs Commons)
6:00 pm Lion's Club (Classroom)
6:30 pm Stress Coping (MS Room)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17

8:30 & 11:00 am Worship with Communion (Sanctuary)
9:45 am Faith Formation for All Ages