

Testify About God's Grace

Second Sunday after Pentecost June 19, 2022

KING OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH | Golden Valley, Minnesota

Welcome to God's divine service among his saints in his house this morning. If you experience any kind of barrier to worship, please speak with an usher. There is a hearing assistance system available, there are activity bags for children, and the service is streamed live in the Fireside Room down the hall for small children.

Service of the Word

The readings for the Second Sunday after Pentecost show us that Jesus' words have the authority to push back and defeat the spiritual forces of evil. And his words have that power even when they don't come from his own mouth! Jesus puts his words on our lips and makes us his witnesses to tell how much God has done for us. That's good news for people unsure how to spread the gospel.

HYMN

From All that Dwell Below the Skies | #16

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- C: O almighty God, merciful Father: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you and justly deserved your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them, and sincerely repent of them, and I pray you—of your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ—to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P: I ask each of you, in the presence of God who searches the heart: Do you confess that you have sinned, and do you repent of your sins?

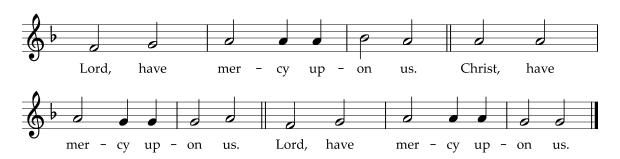
C: I do.

P: Do you believe that Jesus Christ has redeemed you from all your sins, and do you desire forgiveness in his name?

C: I do.

P: Upon this your confession, I announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the place and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Peace be with you! Amen.

HYMN (8:15) *Kyrie*



ANTHEM (10:00)

I Know That My Redeemer Lives | VBS students

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray for the spread of the gospel: Almighty and merciful God, you have made your loving purpose known to us through the good news of your salvation in Christ. Make us faithful witnesses to the truth, so that those who hear may believe and be united with all the saints in glory. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Jesus has brought freedom from eternal death to his people and has created faith in our hearts to receive that benefit. St. Paul urged Timothy, and us too, to be ready to give our testimony of the power of God.

³I thank God, whom I serve with a clean conscience as my ancestors did, as I constantly remember you in my prayers night and day. ⁴When I remember your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵I remember your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am convinced that it also lives in you.

⁶For this reason I am reminding you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷For God did not give us a timid spirit, but a spirit of power and love and sound judgment. ⁸So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Instead, join with me in suffering for the gospel while relying on the power of God. ⁹He saved us and called us with a holy calling, not because of our works, but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began, ¹⁰and it has now been revealed through the appearance of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

GOSPEL READING Luke 8:26–39

Jesus went into heathen territory and with his Word brought freedom to a pagan man on the Devil's own turf. This is a vivid picture of our own spiritual histories. We too should go home to our people and tell how much God has done for each of us, personally.

²⁶They sailed down to the region of the Gerasenes, which is across from Galilee. ²⁷When Jesus stepped ashore, a man from the town met him. He was possessed by demons and for a long time had not worn any clothes. He did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he cried out, fell down before him, and said with a loud voice, "What do I have to do with you, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don't torment me!" ²⁹For Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. In fact, the unclean spirit had seized him many times. He was kept under guard, and although he was bound with chains and shackles, he would break the restraints and was driven by the demon into deserted places.

³⁰Jesus asked him, "What is your name?"

He said, "Legion," because many demons had gone into him. ³¹They were begging Jesus that he would not order them to go into the abyss. ³²A herd of many pigs was feeding there on the mountain. The demons begged Jesus to let them go into the pigs, and he gave them permission. ³³The demons went out of the man and entered the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and drowned.

³⁴When those who were feeding the pigs saw what happened, they ran away and reported it in the town and in the countryside. ³⁵People went out to see what had happened. They came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting at Jesus' feet. He was clothed and in his right mind, and the people were afraid. ³⁶Those who saw it told them how the demon-possessed man was saved. ³⁷The whole crowd of people from the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, because they were gripped with great fear.

As Jesus got into the boat and started back, ³⁸the man from whom the demons had gone out begged to be with him. But Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹"Return to your home and tell how much God has done for you." Then he went through the whole town proclaiming what Jesus had done for him.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Creed is a summary of the faith of the whole church. The point of saying it together is to prepare disciples to be ready to speak the truth of the gospel not only during the Sunday service, but at all times, everywhere, and to everyone.

- P: Let us confess our holy faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:
- C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN (8:15) ANTHEM (10:00) O that I Had a Thousand Voices | #443 Marvelous Things | VBS students

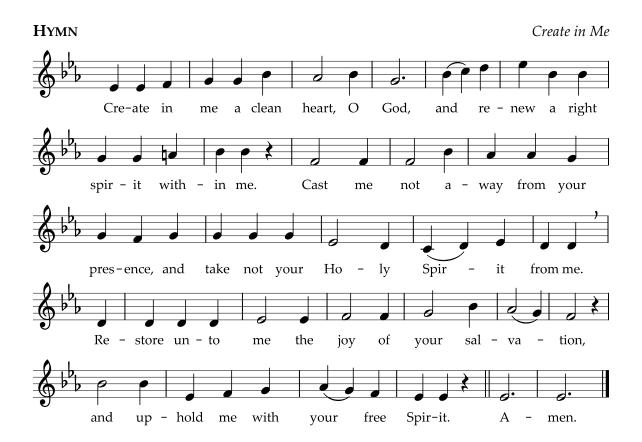
SERMON Isaiah 43:8–13

The primary evidence Yahweh offers to establish his identity as the true God and all idols as worthless is that no other god can do what he can do. He not only predicted Israel's freedom from Babylon; he made it happen. He invites his people to be witnesses of his identity and power.

⁸Bring out the people who are blind, though they have eyes, and the people who are deaf, though they have ears. ⁹Let all the nations be gathered together, and let peoples be assembled. Who among them has declared this? Who has made known to us the former things? Let them produce their witnesses to show that they were right, so that people can hear and say, "This is truth."

¹⁰You are my witnesses, declares the LORD. You are my servant, whom I have chosen, so that you may know me and believe in me, so that you will understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, and after me there will not be another. ¹¹I, yes I, am the LORD, and apart from me there is no savior. ¹²I myself declared it. I brought salvation, and I announced it. It was not some strange god among you.

You are my witnesses, declares the LORD, and I am God. ¹³Indeed, from the first day, I am he. There is no one who can deliver anyone from my hand. I act, and who can reverse it?



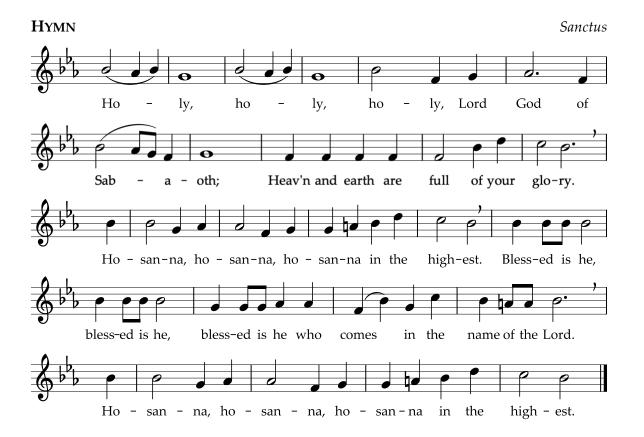
OFFERING AND PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Service of the Sacrament

The Lord's Supper is a public declaration of horizontal unity between all of the people gathered at the communion rail; therefore King of Grace practices membership communion. Ask a pastor for more information about our doctrine and membership or visit <u>kingofgracelutheran.com/about-us</u>.

P: Let us pray: It is truly, good, right, and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. Above all, we praise you for the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. He is the Passover Lamb, which was offered for us and has taken away the sins of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has restored to

us everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we praise and worship your glorious name, forever praising you and saying:



LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

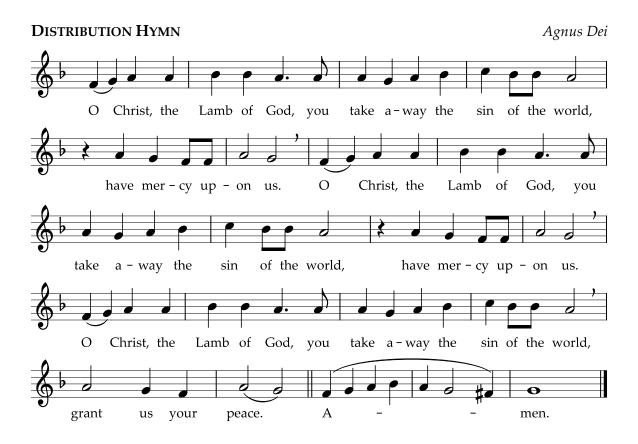
And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

CONSECRATION, DISTRIBUTION, AND RECEPTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink of it all of you; this cup is the New Testament in my blood, which is shed for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."





PRAYER

P: Let us pray: We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through these life-giving gifts. And we ask you that out of your mercy you would strengthen us through them in faith toward you and in eager love toward one another. Through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

RITE OF FAREWELL AND GODSPEED

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.



Announcements

Send announcements to <u>bulletin@kog-els.org</u>.

FAREWELL TO PASTOR WIECHMANN

Thank you, Pastor Wiechmann, for ten years of faithful service to the saints at King of Grace. We pray for blessing on your new ministry at Peace and on your family in Mankato, MN.

CHRISTIAN FUNERAL FOR VERONIKA WERNER

Our Lord called Veronika Werner to transfer to the Church Triumphant on June 15th. Her funeral service will be on Fri, 6/24, at 12:00 noon with visitation an hour prior. Blessed be her memory in our midst.

INSTALLATION AT ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

You are invited to join the members of St. John Lutheran Church in St. Paul to welcome Pastor Tim Otto as their new pastor. The installation service is today, Sunday, 6/19, at 4:00 pm.

INSTALLATION AT ABIDING SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

You are invited to join the members of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church in Elk River to welcome Pastor Preston Heuer as their new pastor. The installation service is today, 6/19, at 4:00 pm.

INSTALLATION AT KING OF GRACE

Vicar Kerr and the King of Grace members who will serve on our boards and committees this year will be installed for service at King of Grace next Sunday, 6/26.

SYNOD CONVENTION

Our Evangelical Lutheran Synod will hold its annual convention next week, 6/27–6/30 at our college campus, Bethany Lutheran College, in Mankato. Tim Larson and Ned Silber will serve as our voting delegates from King of Grace. The convention will review the past year's activities of boards and committees and plan for future work of the synod.

SYNOD SUNDAY EVENTS

You are invited to the events of Synod Sunday, 6/26, at our Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato.

- 4:00 pm Festival seminary anniversary service, with installation of the new president of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary: the Rev. Timothy Hartwig
- 5:30 pm dinner in the college cafeteria (free will donation)
- 7:00 pm ELS Historical Society program, "When the Christian Is Called to Arms: A brief history of how the ELS has prepared and supported her members in the military service"

APOLOGETICS CONFERENCE

Attend sessions in person in Mankato or watch the livestream sessions on Wed, 6/29, and Thu, 6/30, concerning "Biblical Identities in an Age of Wokism and Transhumanism." Find more information at <<u>blc.edu/apologetics2022</u>>.

THANK YOU

The Robbinsdale City Band thanks King of Grace for the use of the fellowship hall as a practice space this past winter and spring. Deb Anderson plays in the band and several band members expressly stated their appreciation for our church's community support.

Serving in Worship

Preacher Rev. Ben Wiechmann	LiturgistRev. Aaron Ferkenstad
OrganistKaren Merseth	Pianist (Monday)Emily Bredeson
Counters today	Gerry Reason, Lon Rogness
Counters next Sunday	Jerry & Beth Hoem, Deb Anderson
Ushers today (8:15)	Bruce Christensen, Ryan McDowell
Ushers today (10:00)Be	n Langworthy, Randy Voelker, Steve Novak
Ushers next Sunday (8:15)	Randy Gauger, Adam Knebel
Ushers next Sunday (10:00)	Lon Rogness
Video team today	Katherine Guillaume
Video team next Sunday	Xavier Luxford
Altar guild	Linda Browning, Arlene Fuller

Altar flowers

Our congregation gave the altar flowers this week in honor of the Wiechmann Family. We are thankful for the 10 years Pastor Wiechmann has served our church community.

Attendance last week: 255 worshiped on Sunday and 11 worshiped on Monday.

Offerings last week:

Average Needed Per Sunday: \$17,368 Average Needed Year to Date: \$851,032 Received Last Week: \$21,628 Received Year to Date: \$814,313

Calendar

Monday	6:30 pm	Communion service
	8:20 pm	Men's softball game @ Centennial Park
Tuesday	9:30 am	Bible study
Friday	12:00 noon	Veronika Werner funeral
Saturday	8:30 am	Men's Bible study
	8:30 am	Women's coffee and crafts
Sunday	8:15 & 10:00 am	Worship service



King of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church and School
Golden Valley, MN
6000 Duluth Street | 763-546-3131 | www.kingofgracelutheran.com
Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod
Pastors: Aaron Ferkenstad and Ben Wiechmann | Principal: Allen Labitzky