

Following Jesus' teachings, Grace seeks to educate, lead, and partner with all people through discipleship to worship, service, and faith celebration.

16th Sunday After Pentecost

September 17, 2023 10:30am

Grace Lutheran Church, Davenport, Iowa

Pastor Stephanie Wood



Welcome! We are so happy you have joined us!

Prelude Music

Announcements

Opening Song *All the People Say Amen*

You are not alone if you are lonely
When you're feeling afraid, you're not the only
We are all the same in need of mercy
To be forgiven and be free
It's all you got to lean on
But thank God, it's all you need

Refrain

And all the people said Amen, whoa, oh-oh
And all the people said Amen
Give thanks to the Lord, for his love never ends
And all the people said Amen

If you're rich or poor, well, it don't matter
Weak or strong, we know love is what we're after
We're all broken, but we're all in this together
God knows we stumble and fall
And he so loved the world he sent his son to save us all *Refrain*

Blessed are the poor spirits who are torn apart
Blessed are the prosecuted and the pure in heart
Blessed are the people lonely for another start
For this is a kingdom, the kingdom of God (*Refrain - Repeat*)

Songwriters: Paul Greer Moak / Trevor Morgan / Matthew Maher
All the People Said Amen Lyrics © Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publ., Paul Moak Publishing

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light, and our salvation. **Amen.**

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

C: We give you thanks, holy and gracious God, for you created the waters of the earth: wide oceans, rushing streams, clear lakes, mighty rivers. You led your people through the sea and called them to life in covenant with you. Your Son was baptized in the river Jordan to begin his mission among us. You pour out your Holy Spirit to renew the face of the earth.

Through this water remind us of the gift of baptism. Renew us in your promise so that we may serve this world in all its need; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Almighty God, who gives us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Song *Soul on Fire*

God, I'm running for Your heart
I'm running for Your heart
Till I am a soul on fire
Lord, I'm longing for Your ways
I'm waiting for the day
When I am a soul on fire
Till I am a soul on fire

Lord, restore the joy I had
And I have one to bring me back
In this darkness, lead me through
Until all I see is You
Lord, let me burn for You again
Let me return to You again
And Lord, let me burn for You again
Let me return to You again

God, I'm running for Your heart
I'm running for Your heart
Till I am a soul on fire
I want to be
Till I am a soul on fire
Till I am a soul on fire

Publishing: © 2014 Songs From The Quarry (ASCAP) / Thankyou Music (PRS) / I Am Pilgrim Songs / Sony/ATV Tree Publishing (BMI) Writer(s): Mac Powell, Tai Anderson, David Carr, Mark Lee, Brenton Brown, Matt Maher

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.

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray. O Lord God,

C: merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Message

First Reading: Romans 12:9-21

Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give

them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

A: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:21-35

P: The Gospel according to Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason, the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So, the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured

until he would pay his entire debt. So, my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Song *Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)*

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Refrain

My chains are gone, I've been set free
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love, Amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures (*Refrain Repeat Twice*)

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God, who called me here below
Will be forever mine, will be forever mine
You are forever mine

Songwriters: Giglio Louie, John Newton, Chris Tomlin
© 2006 Rising Springs Music; Vamos Publishing; worshiptogether.com songs

Prayers of the People

- A: Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- A: Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

- A: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.
- C: 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.**

Peace

- A: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C: And also with you.**

Call to Offering

A: We believe in the God of justice and righteousness, and God believes in us to carry forth the mission of loving and caring for community. Let us now share our gifts and resources so that we may continue to walk humbly with God and with neighbors. *(The offering jar is at the welcome table. You may leave your offering now or after the service.)*

Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray. Steadfast One,

C: receive our gifts in the gladness we give them. Thank you for our abundance of resources to share so that every need is met. May we always give from wide open hearts and may what we give be used to bring a balm of justice. Amen.

Blessing

P: The God of glory, † Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Closing Song *Old Church Choir*

There's revival, and it's spreading
Like a wildfire in my heart
A Sunday morning, hallelujah
And it's lasting all week long
Can you hear it?
Can you feel it?

It's the rhythm of a gospel song
Oh, once you choose it, you can lose it
There ain't nothing there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy

I got an Old Church Choir singing in my soul
I've got a sweet salvation and it's beautiful

I've got a heart overflowing 'cause I've been restored
There ain't nothing gonna steal my joy
No, there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy

When the valleys, that I wander
Turn to mountains that I can't climb
Oh, You are with me, never leave me
Oh, 'cause there ain't nothing
There ain't nothing gonna steal my joy

I got an Old Church Choir singing in my soul
I've got a sweet salvation and it's beautiful
I've got a heart overflowing 'cause I've been restored
There ain't nothing gonna steal my joy
No, there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy

Clap your hands and stomp your feet
Till you find that gospel beat
'Cause it's all you'll ever need
All you'll ever need (*Repeat*)

I've got an old church choir, singing in my soul
I got a sweet salvation, and it's beautiful

I've got an Old Church Choir singing in my soul
I've got a sweet salvation and it's beautiful
I've got a heart overflowing 'cause I've been restored
There ain't nothing gonna steal my joy
No there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy

Oh, there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy

Sending

P: Go in peace. God is at work in you.

C: Thanks be to God!

Interested in Joining Grace?

Please contact the church office office@gracewelcomesyou.org, for information about joining Grace Lutheran Church. All are welcome and we would be overjoyed to have you engaged in the worship, ministries, and congregational life at Grace.

Do You Receive the Weekly Update?

Every Thursday we email out the Weekly Update with current announcements, links, birthdays, anniversaries, Synod/ELCA updates, and more. If you would like to be added to our email list, please contact Annie in the church office.

Sparkhouse Magazines

We encourage children and families to take home a copy of Sparkhouse and enjoy the pictures and stories. We currently deliver these to our LIFT families. Feel free to pick one up for grandchildren, extended family, and friends, as well.



Junior Bible Study - Begins September 24

Beginning Next Sunday, September 24, we will offer a time for kids to learn about Jesus in a way that engages their excitement and curiosity. At both the 8:30am and 10:30am worship services, kids will have 20 minutes to join the fun and talk about Bible stories in their own space set apart from the worship service. Join us for laughter and learning. See Pastor Kirsten if you would like to volunteer or have questions.

Serving in Worship

Director of Outreach & Youth Ministry	Pastor Kirsten Lee
Assisting Minister	Bill McCullough
Greeters	Elizabeth & Dave Linde
Ushers	Mark Jepson, Adolfo Alejo
Sound System	Russ Finkler
Prayers	Connie Lannan
Altar Guild	Mike Keller
Heart & Voice Choir Director	Sally Meier
Organist	Susan Senn
Pianist	Kathi Parrish
Musician	Dan Haugen



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Grace Lutheran Church


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WEEKLY CALENDAR

Worship with
Communion 

Healing
worship 

Service of
the Word 

Sunday, September 17 †

FALL BLOCK PARTY!

10:30am Outdoor Worship
11:30am Block Party Activities to 1:30pm

Monday, September 18

10:30am Staff Meeting - PBH
4:30pm Centering Prayer via Zoom
6:00pm Sweet Arts Club
6:30pm Deborah Circle

Tuesday, September 19

9:00am Naomi Circle - Narthex
10:00am Pastor's Text Study - PBH
11:45am Member Text Study - PBH

Wednesday, September 20

5:30pm Grief Support Group - PBH
6:00pm Confirmation Class (tentative)
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 21

2:00pm Pastor Stephanie at Luther Manor

Friday, September 22

11:00am Council/Committee Reports Due

Saturday, September 23

Grace Notes Deadline

Sunday, September 24

Blessing of the Pets

Jr Bible Study Starts

8:30am Healing Worship
10:30am Healing Worship

Monday, September 25

Pastors at Theological Conference in Ames

10:30am Staff Meeting - PBH
4:30pm Centering Prayer via Zoom
7:00pm Council Meeting

Tuesday, September 26

Pastors at Theological Conference in Ames

11:45am Member Text Study - PBH

You Can Watch Us Online and Follow us on Facebook!

YouTube: [Grace Lutheran Davenport](https://www.youtube.com/GraceLutheranDavenport) Facebook: [facebook.com/GraceWelcomesYou](https://www.facebook.com/GraceWelcomesYou)

Your offerings support and nurture ministries at Grace along with support for local and global organizations. Online giving is available at bit.ly/GraceGivingOnline.

Looking Ahead

- **September 24** Jr Bible Study Starts
- **September 24** Blessing of the Pets
- **September 29** Serve Dinner @ Hope at the Brick House
- **October 1** Crop Hunger Walk
- **October 1 & 8** LWR Quilt Display
- **October 7** Walk to End Alzheimer's
- **October 8** LWR Quilt Blessing
- **October 9** Pray & Play
- **October 15** IFF GermanFest
- **October 21** LWR Quilts Ingathering in Cedar Rapids
- **October 29** Reformation Sunday
- **October 29** Commitment Sunday
- **November 19** Service of Thanksgiving

Scan for our digital
Weekly Update



Compassion Bags - Thank You!

Thank you to all Grace members who made monetary donations to help purchase items for the "Compassion Bags". Without all this support we would not be able to complete this project to help others in our community! Also, thank you to the following individuals/organizations that made donations of specific items:

- Debbie Alejo for partnering with Dr. Ben Lloyd of [Great River Dentistry](https://www.greatriverdentistry.com) for the donation of toothpaste
- Ruth McAndrews for coordinating with the organization [Underwear Because We Care](https://www.underwearbecausewecare.org) for the donation of [Bombas](https://www.bombas.com) socks.
- Kathy Shriver for coordinating with Rob and Steve Shriver of [Eco Lips](https://www.ecolips.com) for the donation of lip balm.
- Hollie Swain for coordinating with Dr. Grunder, of [Today's Dentistry](https://www.todaydentistry.com) for the donation of toothbrushes.

Blessing of the Pets | September 24

Next Sunday bring your furry, scaly, and feathered friends for a Blessing of the Pets! You can bring your pets to worship in the sanctuary with you (mindful of their behaviors), bring a photo, or a stuffed animal. Remembering St. Francis of Assisi (patron saint of animals and the environment) we give thanks for God's creation and our furry companions.

Hope at the Brick House | September 29

Our next dinner service at Hope at the Brick House is Friday, September 29. Plan to arrive at 5:15pm, and we are done by 6:30pm. A sign-up board is in the Narthex. If you have any questions please contact Karen Jewel at 563-323-0322 or kcjewel21@gmail.com.

Adult Education | October 1, 8, 15

Adult Education returns! On October 1, 8, and 15, Paul Lewellan will lead an adult bible study on **Doubt**. Each session will look at doubters both biblical and modern, examine the nature of doubt, and discuss how doubt affects you. Bring your coffee and treats and join us in PB Hall after the 8:30am service.

Crop Walk | October 1

Location: Caxton Bldg, 1701 River Dr, Moline

Check-in: 1-2pm (Walkers may begin after check-in)

Did you Know? \$17 gives chickens to a family providing a constant supply of eggs (protein), helping children become stronger and healthier; \$30 will equip a household with a daily supply of fresh, clean water for drinking, washing, and cooking; and \$75 provides a weeks worth of groceries for a refugee family in the U.S. **For details and to sign up go to** www.crophungerwalk.org/quadcities. For questions about walking with the team from Grace contact Debbie Alejo 563-386-2779, Laura Toland 563-343-2557, or Gloria Underwood 563-370-4075. We are collecting peanut butter and jelly in the narthex.

ADMIN STAFF

Pastor Stephanie Wood

pastorstephanie@gracewelcomesyou.org

Pastor Kirsten Lee

Director of Outreach & Youth Ministry

pastorkirsten@gracewelcomesyou.org

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COUNCIL

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President

Personnel Committee Chairperson

Kevin Miller

Vice President

Children, Youth, & Family Ministry

Janice Gibbs

Secretary

Children, Youth, & Family Ministry

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Finance Committee

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Finance Committee

Mark Jepson

Finance Committee

Blood Drive Coordinator

Cindy Lee

Outreach & Welcome Ministry

Memorial Committee

Grief Support Group Coordinator

Jim Bayles

Property

Laura Toland

Worship & Music Ministry

Walk to End Alzheimer's | October 7



Location: Vibrant Arena, Moline

8am Register, **9am** Opening Ceremonies, **9:30am** Walk Begins
Held annually in more than 600 communities nationwide, the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's® is the world's largest fundraiser for Alzheimer's care, support, and research. While there is no fee to register for the walk, all participants are encouraged to raise critical funds that allow the Alzheimer's Association to provide 24/7 care and support and advance research toward methods of prevention, treatment and, ultimately, a cure. Go to act.alz.org for information about registering, walking, donating, and more.

Shoe Boxes Needed

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD! The Jr. Bible School kids will be making guitars out of shoeboxes on Sunday, October 1. The next Sunday, October 8, they will play during the church services at 8:30am and 10:30am. Make sure your child is present on these dates so they can participate. Afterwards, they will take their guitars home to "make a joyful noise" at home! **Please bring your shoebox donations to Pat Bell Hall by October 1.** Questions? Contact Sally Haugen at 563-514-9335.

IFF GermanFest | October 15

We will not be rescheduling the picnic at Miss Effies but . . . **Join us for GermanFest on Sunday, October 15, at Noon!** There will be good food, conversation, activities, and more! We will meet at the GIFT building/room (2172 ~ 56th Ave, Bettendorf). Bring your own drink (beer, etc. is okay). We will be in contact with you about what to bring for the meal. So, gentlemen, dig out your suspenders and knee socks and ladies your petticoats and aprons and be ready for a good time. Oh, and if you play the accordion, please let us know! Your hosts are Marilyn Schreiber, Janice Gibbs, Kathy Shriver, and Jane and Ken Krumwiede. Please RSVP to Kathy at kdshriver51@gmail.com or 563-332-9390.

Grief Support Group | September 20

The Grace Grief Support Group meets again the first and third Wednesdays of the month starting in September 5:30pm in Pat Bell Hall. Please join us! Anyone is welcome at any time, and please be assured our conversations will be kept in confidence. Questions? Contact Cindy Lee 563-370-5386.

Centering Prayer Mondays 4:30pm via Zoom

In the Christian tradition, Contemplative Prayer is considered to be the pure gift of God. It is the opening of mind and heart--our whole being to God, the Ultimate Mystery, beyond thoughts, words, and emotions. Cheryl Kritsch facilitates the group which meets via Zoom every Monday (except holidays) at 4:30pm (link emailed in the Weekly Update). Please contact Cheryl with any questions at 563-343-0135.

No Tai Chi

Tai Chi class is on hiatus while the instructor is traveling. Classes resume Tues, October 3.

Iowa Synods RAGBRAI Update - Wow!

Thanks to the individuals, congregations and organizations who partnered with the Iowa Bishops in their goal of raising \$50k for ELCA World Hunger. The team officially surpassed their goal and have raised ****\$92,596**** - Thank you!



St. Mark Preschool

St. Mark Preschool is now accepting enrollments for their fall preschool program. They offer 3-year-old and PreK programming with the option of three-day (M/W/F) or five-day (M-F). We participate in the CACFP food program which allows us to provide meals free of charge to you, as well as accept Childcare Assistance. For more info, please email Becky at rdankertstmarkpreschool@gmail.com.