



SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 7, 2024

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF NORTHEAST MINNEAPOLIS

***Welcome to worship!** We are a congregation with a long history of loving God and serving our neighbors. We welcome and celebrate all of you, including race, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, age, and family.*

*We welcome you to share fellowship with us in your joys and struggles. If you hunger for a good meal, a bag of groceries, the bread of communion, an opportunity to serve your neighbors, or a welcoming church home, **there is a place for you at Grace!***

✠ When you see this symbol you're invited to stand as you are able.

We love to sing! When music and words are not printed in the bulletin, you can find the song in the red hymnal underneath the chairs at the page number listed.

Children belong in worship! We recognize that children aren't wired to "sit still" for an hour, so we welcome their quiet movement, joyous singing, and encourage their involvement in worship. Children of any age may pick out a book, toy, or art supplies in the Commons for use during the service.

Help love reach beyond these walls. You can give online at gracenempls.org/give or scan the code at the right. You can also place your offering in the plate as you come up for communion (envelopes are on the cart in the Commons).



All are welcome at Jesus' table to receive holy communion. We set the table with wheat bread, gluten-free crackers, white grape juice, and red wine.

Join us for fellowship time! All are invited to stay after worship for coffee, treats, and community connection in the Multi-Purpose Room.

Stay connected to what's happening at Grace: sign up for our weekly online newsletter, "The Scroll." Find the latest editions and the link to subscribe on our home page at gracenempls.org.

Two single-stall and wheelchair-accessible restrooms are just outside the sanctuary in the Commons, and another one is down the hallway across from the gym.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND GREETING

The grace of our savior Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

✠ HYMN

This Is My Song

#887

PRAYER FOR HEALING

Announcing God's approaching reign, Jesus healed many of sickness and sorrow. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us name our need for renewal.



Come, bring your bur - dens to God; come, bring your
bur - dens to God; come, bring your bur - dens to God, for
Je - sus will nev - er say no.

**Holy God, draw near to us,
for today some of us are lost or lonely,
some of us feel frightened or frenzied,
some of us are wearied by the changes and chances of life.
Show us the tender compassion of Christ,
who struggled like us, and mourned with us,
and bore grief and pain for us.
Send your Spirit to make our gathering a safe shelter,
where we can be real and released from shame,
trusting that you already know us and love us completely.**

Maker and mender of all,
hear the honest prayers of our hearts... *Let us pray in silence*

***Come, bring your burdens to God;
come, bring your burdens to God;
come, bring your burdens to God, for Jesus will never say no.***

ASSURANCE AND PEACE

God calls us beloved from the first day until the last,
and in Jesus Christ has found us and freed us.
As disciples of Jesus, let us continue the work of healing
for the sake of the wounded world. **Amen.**
The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with others as you are comfortable. When the hymn of praise begins, you may return to your seats and remain standing.

✠ HYMN OF PRAISE

I Depend Upon Your Faithfulness

C Em F C/E

I de - pend up - on your faith - ful - ness.

Dm G/B F/C C G/B

I can jour - ney on, for you are al - ways there.

Am Em F6

None com - pares with you, O bless - ed One;

C/G G F G C

O how great your faith - ful - ness.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 58:1-12

Shout loudly; don't hold back; raise your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their crime, to the house of Jacob their sins. They seek me day after day, desiring knowledge of my ways like a nation that acted righteously, that didn't abandon their God. They ask me for righteous judgments, wanting to be close to God.

“Why do we fast and you don't see; why afflict ourselves and you don't notice?” Yet on your fast day you do whatever you want and oppress all your workers. You quarrel and brawl, and then you fast; you hit each other violently with your fists. You shouldn't fast as you are doing today if you want to make your voice heard on high.

Is this the kind of fast I choose: a day of self-affliction, of bending one's head like a reed and of lying down in mourning clothing and ashes? Is this what you call a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Isn't this the fast I choose: releasing wicked restraints, untying the ropes of a yoke, setting free the mistreated, and breaking every yoke? Isn't it sharing your bread with the hungry and bringing the homeless poor into your house, covering the naked when you see them, and not hiding from your own family?

Then your light will break out like the dawn, and you will be healed quickly. Your own righteousness will walk before you, and the LORD's glory will be your rear guard. Then you will call, and the LORD will answer; you will cry for help, and God will say, "I'm here." If you remove the yoke from among you, the finger-pointing, the wicked speech; if you open your heart to the hungry, and provide abundantly for those who are afflicted, your light will shine in the darkness, and your gloom will be like the noon.

The LORD will guide you continually and provide for you, even in parched places. God will rescue your bones. You will be like a watered garden, like a spring of water that won't run dry. They will rebuild ancient ruins on your account; the foundations of generations past you will restore. You will be called Mender of Broken Walls, Restorer of Livable Streets.

This is the word of life.
Thanks be to God.



✠ GOSPEL CHANT *Let us rise to bless Jesus, speaking to us in the Gospel!*



Blessed be the name! Blessed be the name! Blessed be the name, Jesus' name!



Blessed be the name! Blessed be the name! Blessed be the name, Jesus' name!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Blessed be the name, Jesus' name!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Blessed be the name, Jesus' name!

✠ GOSPEL READING *Mark 5:1-20*

A reading from the Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus and his disciples came to the other side of the lake, to the region of the Gerasenes. As soon as Jesus got out of the boat, a man possessed by an evil spirit came out of the tombs. This man lived among the tombs, and no one was ever strong enough to restrain him, even with a chain. He had been secured many times with leg irons and chains, but he broke the chains and smashed the leg irons. No one was tough enough to control him. Night and day in the tombs and the hills, he would howl and cut himself with stones.

When he saw Jesus from far away, he ran and knelt before him, shouting, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Swear to God that you won't torture me!" He said this because Jesus had already commanded him, "Unclean spirit, come out of the man!"

Jesus asked, "What is your name?" The man responded, "Legion is my name, because we are many." They pleaded

with Jesus not to send them out of that region. A large herd of pigs was feeding on the hillside. “Send us into the pigs!” they begged. “Let us go into the pigs!” Jesus gave them permission, so the unclean spirits left the man and went into the pigs. Then the herd of about two thousand pigs rushed down the cliff into the lake and drowned.

Those who tended the pigs ran away and told the story in the city and in the countryside. People came to see what had happened. They came to Jesus and saw the man who used to be demon-possessed. They saw the very man who had been filled with many demons sitting there fully dressed and completely sane, and they were filled with awe. Those who had actually seen what had happened to the demon-possessed man told the others about the pigs. Then they pleaded with Jesus to leave their region.

While Jesus was climbing into the boat, the one who had been demon-possessed pleaded with Jesus to let him come along as one of his disciples. But Jesus wouldn’t allow it. “Go home to your own people,” Jesus said, “and tell them what the Lord has done for you and how God has shown you mercy.” The man went away and began to proclaim in the Ten Cities all that Jesus had done for him, and everyone was amazed.

This is the Good News.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Jae Bates, guest preacher

Jae (he/him) is a queer, transgender Korean pastor, free-range preacher, teacher, and cross-cultural skills coach. Jae grew up in Hopkins, moved out to Washington state for seven years, and recently returned home and now lives in St. Paul with his fiancé and dog. A graduate of Luther Seminary, Jae’s work is rooted in the liberating work of Jesus Christ & a vision of flourishing life for all.

✠ HYMN

I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me

#860

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

To the storm Jesus said, "Peace, be still!" For creation, the world, and all in distress, let us pray, "Hear us, O God," and call upon Jesus' peace, singing:



Calm to the waves. Calm to the wind. Je - sus whis-pers, "Peace, be still."



Balm to our hearts. Fears at an end. In still-ness, hear his voice.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Let us offer our lives to God. You can give online at gracenempls.org/give or scan the code at the right. You can also place your offering in the plate as you come up for communion.



✠ COMMUNION: SINGING THE STORY

#638



1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his love.

Refrain



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

With the disciples, Jesus broke bread.
Blessing the Maker, these words he said:
"This is my body, given for you.
Eat and remember each time you do." *Refrain*

Later he lifted a cup of wine:
“This is my promise of love divine.
Sins are forgiven, my life is in you.
Drink and remember each time you do.” *Refrain*

✠ COMMUNION: PRAYER

Holy God, with creation we raise a song of praise
and with all the saints we bless your faithfulness....

*We give thanks for God's faithfulness, especially in Jesus Christ,
and pray for God's Spirit to bless this meal.*

Through your Son, in your Spirit,
with all your people, we give you thanks and praise,
holy and living God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray...

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.**

COMMUNION: SHARING THE MEAL

Come to the joyful feast which Christ has prepared.

Taste and see that the Lord is good. **Amen.**

All are welcome at the Lord's table. If you wish to receive, ushers will invite you forward. The pastor will place a piece of bread or a gluten-free cracker in your cupped hand as you hear "Body of Christ, given for you." In the brass trays are cups of red wine or golden grape juice. Take a small cup as you hear, "Cup of Christ, given for you." You may respond with "Amen," "Thank you," or with quiet acceptance.

If you cannot come forward but wish to receive communion or a blessing, please let an usher know and the servers will come to you. If for any reason you do not wish to receive, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing with your arms crossed over your chest.

As we celebrate Communion, you may join in singing:

HYMN

This Is Christ's Body

ACS 967

This is Christ's bod - y, bro - ken and blest. Feed us with
mer-cy and love. We are Christ's bod - y,
bro - ken and blest. Heal us and make us one.

HYMN

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

#470

HYMN

Goodness is Stronger than Evil

#721

✠ POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

Now may the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

Let us pray:

**Holy God, we thank you for this feast of grace and life.
As we have been served, help us to serve our neighbors.
As we have been fed, help us to feed all who are hungry.
As you have loved us, help us to love the world
in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

✠ BENEDICTION

based on Isaiah 6

May the triune God—holy, holy, holy Lord,
whose glory fills the earth—bless you, transform you,
and send you with purpose and power. **Amen.**

*“Right hand” on verses 1 & 3**“Left hand” on verses 2 & 4*

✠ SENDING

Go in peace, born anew to share God’s love with all.

We will. Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

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ELCA • LGBTQ+ Affirming

Worship with us Sundays at 10 AM

1500 6th Street NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413 • 612-788-2444

www.gracenempls.org

We are called
to love God,
serve neighbors, and
tell the story of Jesus Christ,
welcoming all.



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beyond these walls.**
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**We're the home of
Little Kitchen Food Shelf,**
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**Little Kitchen
FoodShelf** 

Interested in volunteering?

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for community life

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empowering lives through
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