



# TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST AUGUST 11, 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](https://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](https://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

*Let Us Go Now to the Banquet*

**#523**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

#151

*Trusting in God's grace and mindful of the sin that turns us away from God's love, let us pray honest words and sing the ancient prayer for compassion: "Kyrie eleison. Lord, have mercy."*



O Christ, most gracious giver,  
when hungry crowds surrounded you,  
you took a humble offering and made for them a feast.

**Still, O Lord, we doubt the abundance of your grace.  
Still, O Lord, we are hesitant to share the gifts we have.  
Still, O Lord, we wonder whether there is enough for all.**

**Forgive us, we pray, and transform our lives.  
Empower our generosity and help us recognize  
your surprising power within and around us.**

***Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.  
Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.***

## ASSURANCE AND PEACE

Jesus Christ, true bread from heaven,  
came to give life to the world.  
As fed and forgiven people,  
may Christ's grace satisfy your soul's hungers,  
and may his love flow through you  
to feed a hungry 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.*



1 I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,  
I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta-ble, some of these days.  
I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,  
I'm goin' - a eat at the wel - come ta - ble, some of these days.

## OBJECT LESSON

*Any children who are interested and comfortable are invited to come forward for a reflection and short prayer. Parents and guardians are welcome too!*

## FIRST READING

*Isaiah 55:1-11*

All of you who are thirsty, come to the water! Whoever has no money, come, buy food and eat! Without money, at no cost, buy wine and milk! Why spend money for what isn't food, and your earnings for what doesn't satisfy?

Listen carefully to me and eat what is good; enjoy the richest of feasts. Listen and come to me; listen, and you will live. I will make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful loyalty to David. Look, I made David a witness to the peoples, a prince and commander of peoples. Look, you will call a nation you don't know, a nation you don't know will run to you because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, who has glorified you. Seek the LORD when the LORD can still be found; call out while God is yet near. Let the wicked abandon their ways and the sinful their schemes. Let them return to the LORD so that the LORD may have

mercy on them, to our God, because God is generous with forgiveness.

My plans aren't your plans, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. Just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my plans than your plans. Just as the rain and the snow come down from the sky and don't return there without watering the earth, making it conceive and yield plants and providing seed to the farmer and food to the eater, so is my word that comes from my mouth; it does not return to me empty. Instead, it does what I want, and accomplishes what I intend.

This is the word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

#253

✠ GOSPEL CHANT *Christ came down as bread from heaven to give us life!*

He came down that we may have life he

came down that we may have life; he came down that we may

have life; hal-le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.

✠ GOSPEL READING

*John 6:35-40, 44-51*

A reading from the Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But I told you that you have seen me and still don't believe. Everyone whom Abba God gives to me will come to me, and I won't send away anyone who comes to

me. I have come down from heaven not to do my will, but the will of the one who sent me. This is the will of the one who sent me, that I won't lose anything God has given me, but I will raise it up at the last day. This is my Abba's will: that all who see the Son and believe in the Son will have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day.

“No one can come to me unless they are drawn to me by Abba God who sent me, and I will raise them up at the last day. It is written in the Prophets, ‘And they will all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has listened to Abba God and learned from God comes to me. No one has seen Abba God except the one who is from God, who has seen God.

“I assure you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate manna in the wilderness and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven so that whoever eats from it will never die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever, and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

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

SERMON

✠ HYMN *We Come to the Hungry Feast* #479

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE #780  
*Let us pray, trusting our Good Shepherd will guide the world through death's daunting valley to the feast of life.*

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -  
yond my fears, from death in - to life.

## OFFERING OUR GIFTS

*Let us offer our lives to God. You can give online at [gracenempls.org/give](http://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

#461

1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad-ly; ho-ly man-na is our bread.  
Come from wil-der-ness and wan-d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.  
You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.  
Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.

On the night they all were gathered,  
Jesus blessed and broke the bread:

“Take and eat, it is my body, given for you to be fed.

When you eat may you remember  
all that grace has offered you.” *Refrain*

When the supper then was ending, Jesus raised the cup of wine:

“In this cup is a new covenant,  
made to make the whole world mine.

Shed for you and for all people,  
that all will be as it should.” *Refrain*

## ✠ COMMUNION: PRAYER

Loving God, shaper and sustainer of all life,  
you planted the first fields and made us in your image  
to care for your creation...

*Echo as you are invited: **Blessed are you, God of love!***

All thanks and praise are yours, O God:  
Creator of sun and soil, Christ, the bread of life,  
Spirit, who bids us come and dine. **Amen.**

With the boldness of the children of God, 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

All who hunger, gather gladly!

Christ has set the table with grace enough for all. **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

*As the Grains of Wheat*

#465

*Refrain*



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from  
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,  
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

*Refrain*

may we share the pres-ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

HYMN

*O Living Bread from Heaven*

#542

✠ 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:

**Eternal God, as you fed your people with manna in the wilderness, so you have fed us at this table. By your loving Spirit, transform us and send us to be Christ's body, bread to bless our neighbors. Amen.**



# ✠ BENEDICTION

*based on Philipians 4:7-9*

As you go in the power of the Holy Spirit...

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of your creator, your redeemer, and your sustainer. **Amen.**

# ✠ HYMN

*May the God of Hope Go with Us*

*ACS 984*



*¡Dios de la es - pe - ran - za, da - nos go - zo y paz!*  
May the God of hope go with us ev - 'ry day,



*Al mun - do en cri - sis, ha - bla tu ver - dad.*  
to a world in need with news of joy and peace.



*Dios de la jus - ti - cia, mán - da - nos tu luz,*  
May the God of jus - tice speed us on our way,



*luz y es - pe - ran - za en la os - cu - ri - dad.*  
bring - ing light and hope to ev - 'ry land and race.



*O - re - mos por la paz, can - te - mos*  
Pray - ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our



*de tu a - mor. Lu - che - mos por la paz,*  
joy with all; work - ing for a world that's new,



*fie - les a ti, Se - ñor.*  
faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.

✠ SENDING

Go in peace, forgiven and fed.  
**We will. Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

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**ELCA • LGBTQ+ Affirming**

**Worship with us Sundays at 10 AM**

**1500 6<sup>th</sup> Street NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413 • 612-788-2444**

**[www.gracenempls.org](http://www.gracenempls.org)**

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



**Help love reach  
beyond these walls.**  
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Little Kitchen Food Shelf,**  
a no-boundaries, no-restrictions  
food shelf serving all people.

**Little Kitchen  
FoodShelf** 

The logo for Little Kitchen FoodShelf includes a small graphic of a cluster of colorful, patterned circles to the right of the text.

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