

# *5th Sunday After Pentecost*

## *July 10, 2022*

### *Mark 2:4 Adaptive Worship Service*



 GRACE  
L U T H E R A N   C H U R C H

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Ministers: The People of Grace Lutheran Church

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Pastor: Rev. Jefferson Cox

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Welcome! To love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind is to reflect God's mercy in responding to one's neighbor. That mercy found its most profound expression in the "gospel that has come to you"—namely the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That gospel mercy comes to us again today: at the font, at the table, and from the pulpit. It is very near to you.

There are a few things to know about this service: you are not required to stand at any point though you can move around anytime you want or need, prayer slips are available for your prayers to be included in Prayer Time, and Holy Communion is served with gluten-free bread and grape juice.

## GATHERING SONG

### *All Are Welcome*

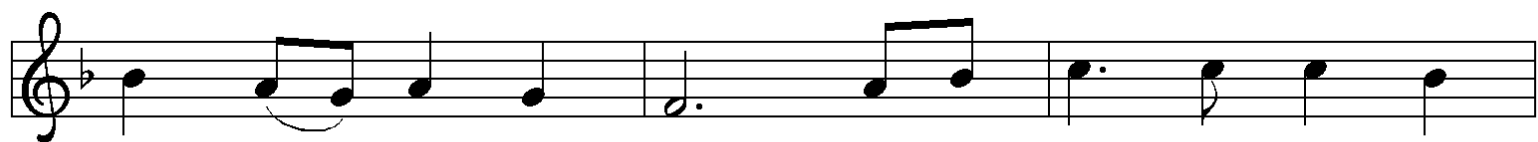
Verses 1 & 3



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of



Christ shall end di - vi - sions: All are wel - come,



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

3 Let us build a house where love is found  
in water, wine and wheat:  
a banquet hall on holy ground  
where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus,  
is revealed in time and space;  
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:  
All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen  
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## **GREETING**

Worship Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Worship Leader: Let us pray. O O Lord God, your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care. Hear the cries of everyone in need, and turn our hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Congregation: Amen.**

## **FIRST READING**

### **Deuteronomy 30:9-14**

Introduction to the Lesson: *Moses calls the people who are about to enter the promised land to renew the covenant God made with their ancestors. Through this covenant God gives life and asks for obedience. God's commandment is neither burdensome nor too far off, but dwells in the people's hearts.*

Reader: 9 The Lord will make you prosperous in all that you do; you will have many children and a lot of livestock, and your fields will produce abundant crops. He will be as glad to make you prosperous as he was to make your ancestors prosperous, 10 but you will have to obey him and keep all his laws that are written in this book of his teachings. You will have to turn to him with all your heart.

11 "The command that I am giving you today is not too difficult or beyond your reach. 12 It is not up in the sky. You do not have to ask, 'Who will go up and bring it down for us, so that we can hear it and obey it?' 13 Nor is it on the other side of the ocean. You do

not have to ask, ‘Who will go across the ocean and bring it to us, so that we may hear it and obey it?’ 14 No, it is here with you. You know it and can quote it, so now obey it.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL**

### **Luke 10:25-37**

Introduction to the Lesson: *Jesus is challenged to explain what is involved in obeying the greatest commandment. He tells a parable rich in surprises: those expected to show pity display hard hearts while the lowly give and receive unexpected and lavish mercy.*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Luke in the 10th chapter.

**Congregation: Glory to you, O Lord.**

25 A teacher of the Law came up and tried to trap Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to receive eternal life?”

26 Jesus answered him, “What do the Scriptures say? How do you interpret them?”

27 The man answered, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind’; and ‘Love your neighbor as you love yourself.’”

28 “You are right,” Jesus replied; “do this and you will live.”

29 But the teacher of the Law wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “Who is my neighbor?”

30 Jesus answered, “There was once a man who was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho when robbers attacked him, stripped him, and beat him up, leaving him half dead.

31 It so happened that a priest was going down that road; but when he saw the man, he walked on by on the other side. 32 In the same way a Levite also came there, went over and looked at the man, and then walked on by on the other side. 33 But a Samaritan who was traveling that way came upon the man, and when he saw him, his heart was filled with pity. 34 He went over to him, poured oil and wine on his wounds and bandaged them; then he put the man on his own animal and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. 35 The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Take care of him,’ he told the innkeeper, ‘and when I come back this way, I will pay you whatever else you spend on him.’”

36 And Jesus concluded, “In your opinion, which one of these three acted like a neighbor toward the man attacked by the robbers?”

37 The teacher of the Law answered, “The one who was kind to him.” Jesus replied, “You go, then, and do the same.”

*After the reading...*

Worship Leader: The gospel of the Lord. **Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## GOSPEL MESSAGE—From Sundays and Seasons

### A Matter of Proximity

Most people consider clarifying questions to be helpful things. That is, of course, unless the questions are attempts to find loopholes or ways around doing what is moral and just. Today we find that Jesus is not a fan of loopholes when it comes to serving our neighbors. In fact, the tale he weaves for the listeners today is shocking on its face. To suggest that the outsider, a Samaritan, saves the day in the story probably went a bit too far for those first hearers. Perhaps that's true for hearers today too, when we truly listen. The Samaritan is an unlikely hero.

This parable, often called "The Good Samaritan," highlights proximity as a tool in extending God's grace in the world. Those who do not want to help the injured person pass on the other side of the street. Perhaps the physical distance helps them feel disconnected from moral responsibility.

But notice the extreme proximity that the merciful Samaritan employs: he gets near to treat the beaten man's wounds, puts his own wine on the injuries as a sanitary agent, puts the man on his own beast, and pays for the man's needs with his own money. For Jesus, being a neighbor doesn't just mean tending to those who happen to be next to us. For Jesus, being a neighbor means leaning in, especially when others want to avoid the situation altogether.

To truly attend to the needs of the world we must come in close proximity to need. After all, Jesus himself, fully God, became fully human to get in proximity to us. And like the Samaritan, this wandering preacher from a nowhere town with a ragtag group of followers will save the day for us all. God in Jesus is the unlikely hero who draws close to our need.

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY

### *Let Justice Flow like Streams*

*verses 1-3*



- 1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar-king wa - ter, pure,
- 2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,
- 3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,



en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans-ing, sure.  
an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans-lat - ed in - to deed.  
and jus-tice, right, and peace per-vade this world our whole life through.

Text: Jane Parker Huber, b. 1926  
Music: ST. THOMAS, Aaron Williams, 1731–1776  
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## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Worship Leader: United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Good and gracious God, you have placed your word of love in the heart of your church. Fill your church with compassion, that we bear the fruit of your healing mercy to a broken world. Lord, in your mercy,

**Congregation: hear our prayer.**

Prayer Leader: Turn this community toward neighbors in need. Bring aid and support to those who are poor, beaten down, abused, forgotten, silenced, or avoided. Lord, in your mercy,

**Congregation: hear our prayer.**

Prayer Leader: Come near to all in need. Orchestrate kindness in the face of cruelty, hope where there is despair, love in the face of neglect, comfort where there is death, and healing in illness (including all those suffering from violence and terror, such as the people of Ukraine, Buffalo, Uvalde, Richmond, Highland Park, Philadelphia, and those suffering from natural disasters such as wildfires, floods, and COVID-19), and those we name now with our lips or in our hearts, ..... Lord, in your mercy,

**Congregation: hear our prayer.**

Prayer Leader: God of every time and place, in Jesus' name and filled with your Holy Spirit, we entrust these spoken prayers and those in our hearts into your holy keeping.

**Congregation: Amen.**

## **OFFERING**

*Offerings to the mission and ministry of Grace can be made online at [GraceCLW.com](http://GraceCLW.com) (look for the "Donate" button), or (for now) by mailing a check to Grace Lutheran Church, 1812 N. Highland Ave. Clearwater FL 33755. Thank you for your continued financial support during these uncertain times. You can fill out your attendance form on our website as well.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Prayer Leader: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and

what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Congregation: Amen.**

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**Congregation: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**Congregation: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name.

Pastor: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Pastor: Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Pastor: Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**Congregation: Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray in whichever language is closest to our hearts.

**Congregation: 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.**

## PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

Prayer Leader: Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another. **Amen.**

Pastor: Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, help those who go to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick, homebound, or imprisoned. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your everlasting presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Congregation: Amen.**

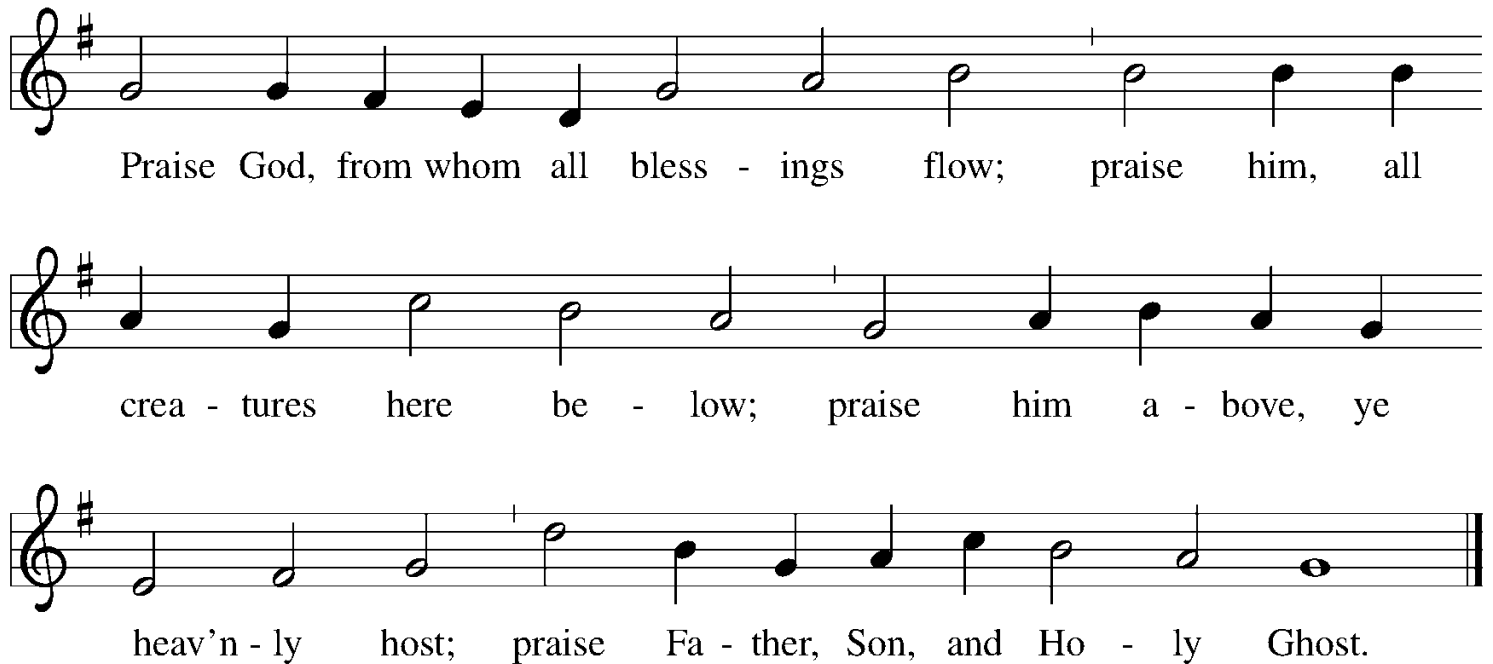
## BLESSING

Worship Leader: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**Congregation: Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

### *The Doxology*



The musical notation consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, using quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all  
crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye  
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

## DISMISSAL

Pastor: Together we have heard God's Word and joined in prayer, we have given and have been forgiven. Now as this service of worship is ending, this week's service to the world is beginning! Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God!**