



**FOCUSED  
FOLLOWERS  
Are Narrowly Focused**

*Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost  
August 21, 2022*



## GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Gathering around Grace in worship – Growing in Grace in study – Going with Grace in love  
in Yorba Linda, California, the land of gracious living*

6550 Fairmont Blvd  
Yorba Linda, CA 92886  
# 714-779-2384 / [gracelutheran.church](http://gracelutheran.church)

Pastor Phillip Sievert – 720-364-1002 / [pdsievert@aol.com](mailto:pdsievert@aol.com) or [pastor@gracelutheran.church](mailto:pastor@gracelutheran.church)

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### *Welcome*

- † If you would like to know more about Grace, visit our **website** at [gracelutheran.church](http://gracelutheran.church). A **membership** class, a class that covers the basic teachings of the Bible and what it means to be a Christian meets quarterly. A new one is starting in September. Contact Pastor Sievert for more information. We would also love to share information with you about our Sunday worship services, our weekly Bible Classes, and our youth programs.
- † Restrooms are across the breezeway, in our Grace Hall... a cry room is available in the back left corner of our church.
- † Coffee and treats are available after church. We would love to visit with you and answer your questions.



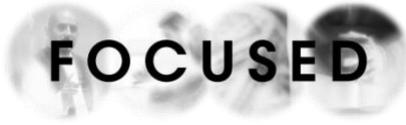
*Grace Lutheran Church  
is a member of the  
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod  
and California Lutheran High School*





Worship

August 21, 2022  
11<sup>th</sup> after Pentecost



Our eyes – and our hearts – tend to focus in on the easy way or the way everyone else is following. But the path that Jesus offers us is the one that leads

through the door to eternal life. No other path does that. Therefore, Jesus' followers make every effort to enter through the narrow door he has opened!

In the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## **CONFESSION**

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.  
**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty and merciful Father,**

**we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.**

**We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.**

**We have done those things that we should not have done,**

**and we have not done those things that we should have done.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord!**

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,**

**according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

**Amen.**

## ✠ The Word ✠

*The path to glory is narrow, but God prepared the way to the top of the mountain of glory for all who believe in him.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **FIRST READING**

### **Isaiah 66:18-24**

<sup>18</sup> “And I, because of what they have planned and done, am about to come and gather the people of all nations and languages, and they will come and see my glory.

<sup>19</sup> “I will set a sign among them, and I will send some of those who survive to the nations—to Tarshish, to the Libyans and Lydians (famous as archers), to Tubal and Greece, and to the distant islands that have not heard of my fame or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory among the nations. <sup>20</sup> And they will bring all your people, from all the nations, to my holy mountain in Jerusalem as an offering to the LORD—on horses, in chariots and wagons, and on mules and camels,” says the LORD. “They will bring them, as the Israelites bring their grain offerings, to the temple of the LORD in ceremonially clean vessels. <sup>21</sup> And I will select some of them also to be priests and Levites,” says the LORD.

<sup>22</sup> “As the new heavens and the new earth that I make will endure before me,” declares the LORD, “so will your name and descendants endure. <sup>23</sup> From one New Moon to another and from one Sabbath to another, all mankind will come and bow down before me,” says

the LORD. <sup>24</sup>“And they will go out and look on the dead bodies of those who rebelled against me; the worms that eat them will not die, the fire that burns them will not be quenched, and they will be loathsome to all mankind.”

*After the reading:*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Luke 13:29**

Alleluia. People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. Alleluia.

## **GOSPEL READING**

**Luke 13:22-30**

<sup>22</sup>Then Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem. <sup>23</sup>Someone asked him, “Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?”

He said to them, <sup>24</sup>“Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to. <sup>25</sup>Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, ‘Sir, open the door for us.’

“But he will answer, ‘I don’t know you or where you come from.’

<sup>26</sup>“Then you will say, ‘We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.’

<sup>27</sup>“But he will reply, ‘I don’t know you or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!’

<sup>28</sup>“There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out. <sup>29</sup>People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. <sup>30</sup>Indeed there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last.”

*After the Gospel Reading we say:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

## Praise be to you, O Christ.

### SERMON

*based on the second reading Hebrews 12:18-29*

<sup>18</sup>You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; <sup>19</sup>to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them, <sup>20</sup>because they could not bear what was commanded: “If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned to death.”<sup>[Exodus 19:12,13]</sup> <sup>21</sup>The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, “I am trembling with fear.”<sup>[Deut.9:19]</sup>

<sup>22</sup>But you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, <sup>23</sup>to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, <sup>24</sup>to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

<sup>25</sup>See to it that you do not refuse him who speaks. If they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from him who warns us from heaven? <sup>26</sup>At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.”<sup>[Haggai 2:6]</sup> <sup>27</sup>The words “once more” indicate the removing of what can be shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain.

<sup>28</sup>Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, <sup>29</sup>for our “God is a consuming fire.”<sup>[Deut.4:24]</sup>

### CHURCH PRAYER

#### LORD’S PRAYER

**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.**

#### **BLESSING**

**L:** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.  
**C: Amen.**

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