

Let the
little
children
come
to me

MARK 10:14



Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 7, 2018 – 8:00 a.m.

Grace Lutheran Church

313 S. Prospect Avenue, Champaign, IL 61820

(217) 356-6232 • office@gracelutherancu.org

www.gracelutherancu.org • Pastor: Chris Repp



Welcome to Grace!

We're glad you've joined us as we gather to be encountered by God in Word and Sacrament. We believe that God is at work here to create and sustain faith in God's promise of love and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. We use a rich, traditional pattern of worship that dates back to the early days of Christianity. We recognize it comes with a bit of a learning curve, but we're convinced that it's worth the effort. Don't feel like you have to get everything the first time. We'll "carry" you until you get a feel for it.

Helpful information for first-time visitors:

- ❖ Restrooms are in the hall to the left of the entrance, on the right opposite the elevator.
- ❖ Our staffed nursery for children 4 and younger is on the right past the restrooms.
- ❖ Clipboards with crayons and activity sheets are on a table in the Narthex (Lobby). Other activities for young children are in the pink and blue totes.
- ❖ Our pastor enjoys meeting visitors. Please introduce yourself.

Please sign the Friendship Register located on the pew, next to the center aisle, and pass it to the person next to you during the Offering portion of the service.

We provide Name Tags for frequent visitors as well as members. If you would like one, please contact our Office Assistant (office@gracelutherancu.org).

Key to the order of service:

Regular type: spoken by a leader

Bold type: spoken by the people

Regular Italics: sung or chanted by a leader

Bold Italics: sung or chanted by the people

Small Red Italics: liturgical directions

✝ indicates that the sign of the cross may be made

ELW: Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Red Hymnal)

As We Gather: Today's gospel combines a saying that makes many of us uncomfortable with a story we find comforting. Jesus' saying on divorce is another of his rejections of human legislation in favor of the original intent of God's law. Jesus' rebuke of the disciples who are fending off the children should challenge us as well. What does it mean to receive the kingdom of God as a child does?

Note: This bulletin is available electronically on the worship menu of the Grace web site.

Large-print bulletins are available from the ushers.

Gathering

Prelude

Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire
CWM RHONDDA Festal

The Grace Bell Choir
arr. Jefferey A. Hall
arr. Anna Laura Page

The assembly stands.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the pastor begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

All Creatures, Worship God Most High!

ELW 835

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

Word

First Reading

Genesis 2:18-24

Genesis 2 stresses that people are not meant to live in isolation but in relationship. Out of love for humanity, God creates them male and female, to provide companionship for each other and to become with each other “one flesh.” The Hebrew words used here are ish (man) and ishshah (woman).

¹⁸The LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.” ¹⁹So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³Then the man said,

“This at last is bone of my bones

and flesh of my flesh;
this one shall be called Woman,
for out of Man this one was taken.”

²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

Psalm 8

¹O LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!—
²**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens
out of the mouths of infants and children;
you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**
³When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,
⁴**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,
human beings that you should care for them?**
⁵Yet you have made them little less than divine;
with glory and honor you crown them.
⁶**You have made them rule over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet:**
⁷all flocks and cattle,
even the wild beasts of the field,
⁸**the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,
and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**
⁹O LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Second Reading

Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

Quoting from the psalms, this passage from Hebrews emphasizes that Jesus, the one through whom God created everything and who sits at God's right hand, is also the one who experienced human suffering and death in order to blaze the path of salvation for us.

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the

exact imprint of God’s very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

^{2:5}Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels.

⁶But someone has testified somewhere,

“What are human beings that you are mindful of them,
or mortals, that you care for them?

⁷You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;
you have crowned them with glory and honor,

⁸subjecting all things under their feet.”

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them,⁹but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying,

“I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands.

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel

Mark 10:2-16

Jesus announced and enacted in history the new reality of God's surprising activity. These two stories demonstrate this new reality: Women and children are accepted and valued, not dismissed as inferior to adult men.

The Holy Gospel, according to Mark, the 10th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” ³He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” ⁴They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.” ⁵But Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ ⁷‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

¹⁰Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹²and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

Children's Sermon

Pastor Chris Repp

Sermon

Pastor Chris Repp

The assembly stands.

Hymn of the Day

God, When Human Bonds Are Broken

ELW 603

Apostles' Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the ✠ resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Longing for God's will to be fulfilled among us, let us pray for the church, the world, and all people in need.

Each petition concludes:

... Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

Hear our prayers in your compassion, O God, and draw us ever closer to you through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words. After the Peace, the assembly is seated.

Meal

Offering

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

At this time, please fill out the Friendship Register and pass it to the person next to you if you have not already done so. When all have signed the Register, please return it to the center aisle for later collection.

Offertory *Seek Ye First*

The assembly stands as the offering is brought forward.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

God of life,

**you give us these gifts of the earth,
these resources of our life and our labor.**

**Take them, offered in great thanksgiving,
and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light.**

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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 and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God,
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God,
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na here on
earth. † Blest is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na here on earth.
Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. 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.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly is seated.

Communion

We believe that Christ is truly present for us in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, forming us into his body for the sake of the world. We welcome to the Lord's table all baptized Christians. Those who are not baptized we invite to explore with us the Christian faith and consider baptism. Those who do not commune are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please hold this bulletin in your hands as a sign to the pastor that you would like a blessing.

To receive communion, please join the line on your side of the aisle and proceed to the pastor. (Note: gluten-free, dairy-free, wheat-free wafers are available. Just ask the pastor.) To receive wine, take an empty glass from the acolyte and proceed to a deacon with a pouring chalice. (Pre-poured glasses of grape juice are also available from the acolytes). Place your used glass in the basket provided near the stairs on the side you leave. Please notify an usher if you need to have communion brought to you in your seat.

Lamb of God

O Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy up - on us, have mer-cy up - on us.
O Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;

have mer-cy up - on us, have mer-cy up - on us.

O Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;

grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

Communion Hymn

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

ELW 611

The assembly stands.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray. Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

Amen.

Sending

Blessing

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.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

ELW 843

Announcements

Dismissal

Go in peace. Sound the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Worship Support

The ministry of the church is carried out by all of its people, and Christian worship is a communal activity of the whole assembly. We give thanks to the following for their worship leadership and support today.

Presiding Minister:	Pastor Chris Repp	Director of Music:	Jon Arnold
Assisting Minister:	Claire Vail	Guitars:	Dave Brown
Reader:	Dennis Archer		Jack Wilkie
Deacons:	Susan Monte	Bass Guitar:	Michael Miller
	Vipin Samraj	Vocals:	Claire Vail
Acolytes:	Adele Miller	Sound Technician:	Kevin Vail
	Ben Kirby	Counters:	Paula Miller
Director of Youth and Congregational Life:	Caitlyn Reinders	Communion Bread:	Meg Loven
Communications Specialist:	Virginia Lehmann	Nursery Coordinator:	Paula Miller
	Chris Alcorn	Nursery Assistants:	Melissa Goldman
Office Assistant:			Jillian Devine
		Coffee Hour:	Blanke Family

✠ Chancel flowers are given by **Brian & Gloria Rainer** ✠
with gratitude for the musical contributions of Dana Robinson and Jon Arnold,
and both choirs, vocal and bell.

Hymns and portions of the liturgy are reprinted from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, © 2006, and from *Sundays and Seasons*, © 2018, by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS026105, and ONE LICENSE, License #A-725811.

