



**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**OF SOUTH BURNABY, BC**

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA**

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**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
June 21, 2026  
ACS Holy Communion, Setting 12**

God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

*We at Grace Lutheran Church strive to reflect and proclaim the love of God shown to us by Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit by providing an inclusive and supportive environment through loving care and community service.*

A warm welcome to those who are here worshipping in-person and on-line with us today! Here at Grace Lutheran we believe God is active in your life. Even you being here now is testament of God's calling and leading in your heart, which you have faithfully heeded. So we welcome you, and pray that today you will be nurtured and that the gifts that God has graciously given you will be stirred for the sake of God's mission in the world.

Grace Lutheran worships, prays, and serves on the traditional and unceded lands and territories of the hən̓q̓əmiñəḥ̓ (Musqueam) and Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) peoples.

## GATHERING

### CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather together to worship our loving God, who restores us, renews us, and reveals to us a family and community of belonging and love. And so with zeal we lift our voices and sing praises, for our Lord shows us all a kind and compassionate love, not just in accepting us but in affirming us in our deliverance, redemption, and salvation, through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**Thanks be to God.**

**GATHERING SONG:** Womb of Life and Source of Being (ACS #948)

### GREETING

The welcoming grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the affirming love of God, and the unifying fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

**SONG OF PRAISE** (ACS p. 31)

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy and gracious God, your steadfast love abides with us throughout all of time and space, and you teach us to trust in your ways of righteousness. May we heed your call to live in peace with one another that we might live grateful lives, not weighed down by fear, but blessed by your unending and forgiving grace, through Jesus Christ our Saviour and Redeemer. **Amen.**

## WORD

### FIRST READING: Jeremiah 20:7-13

A reading from Jeremiah.

*Jeremiah accuses God of forcing him into a ministry that brings him only contempt and persecution. Yet Jeremiah is confident that God will be a strong protector against his enemies and commits his life into God's hands.*

<sup>7</sup> O LORD, you have enticed me,  
and I was enticed;  
you have overpowered me,  
and you have prevailed.

I have become a laughingstock all day long;  
everyone mocks me.

<sup>8</sup> For whenever I speak, I must cry out;  
I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"  
For the word of the LORD has become for me  
a reproach and derision all day long.

<sup>9</sup> If I say, "I will not mention him  
or speak any more in his name,"  
then within me there is something like a burning fire  
shut up in my bones;  
I am weary with holding it in,  
and I cannot.

<sup>10</sup> For I hear many whispering:  
"Terror is all around!

Denounce him! Let us denounce him!”

All my close friends  
are watching for me to stumble.

“Perhaps he can be enticed,  
and we can prevail against him  
and take our revenge on him.”

<sup>11</sup> But the LORD is with me like a terrifying warrior;  
therefore my persecutors will stumble,  
and they will not prevail.

They will be greatly shamed,  
for they will not succeed.

Their eternal dishonor  
will never be forgotten.

<sup>12</sup> O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous;  
you see the heart and the mind;  
let me see your retribution upon them,  
for to you I have committed my cause.

<sup>13</sup> Sing to the LORD;  
praise the LORD!

For he has delivered the life of the needy  
from the hands of evildoers.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 69:7-10, 16-18**

<sup>7</sup> Surely, for your sake I have suffered reproach,  
and shame has covered my face.

<sup>8</sup> **I have become a stranger to my own kindred,  
an alien to my mother’s children.**

<sup>9</sup> Zeal for your house has eaten me up;  
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

<sup>10</sup> **I humbled myself with fasting,  
but that was turned to my reproach.**

<sup>16</sup> **Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind;  
in your great compassion, turn to me.**

<sup>17</sup> Hide not your face from your servant;  
be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

<sup>18</sup> **Draw near to me and redeem me;  
because of my enemies deliver me.**

### **SECOND READING: Romans 6:1b-11**

A reading from Romans.

*In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ’s death and resurrection. We have been made new in Christ through his death and resurrection to live freed from sin.*

<sup>1b</sup> Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? <sup>2</sup> By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? <sup>3</sup> Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup> Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death,

so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.

<sup>5</sup> For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup> We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup> For whoever has died is freed from sin. <sup>8</sup> But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup> We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup> The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. <sup>11</sup> So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (ACS p. 33)

**GOSPEL: Matthew 10:24-39**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus warns his disciples that their ministry in his name will meet with opposition. However, he assures them that they need not fear for the truth will come to light. Life is found in Christ.*

[Jesus said to the twelve:] <sup>24</sup> "A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; <sup>25</sup> it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

<sup>26</sup> "So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. <sup>27</sup> What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. <sup>28</sup> Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. <sup>29</sup> Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. <sup>30</sup> And even the hairs of your head are all counted. <sup>31</sup> So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

<sup>32</sup> "Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, <sup>33</sup> but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

<sup>34</sup> "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword.

<sup>35</sup> For I have come to set a man against his father,

and a daughter against her mother,

and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law,

<sup>36</sup> and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

<sup>37</sup> "Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, <sup>38</sup> and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup> Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** To Christ Belong, in Christ Behold (ACS #958)

## CREED

Together with the reconciled and redeemed, let us confess the Christian faith with the Apostle's Creed:

**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

Called to live in peace with God, each other, and ourselves, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. Each petition will end with "by your unifying mercy, O God," and you all are invited to respond with **hear our prayer**. By your unifying mercy, O God, **hear our prayer**.

O Lord, we are not beyond reproach yet you call us by name to enter into your fold with welcome and love. Give us the faith to trust in your promises of inclusion, that we could in turn love you and neighbour as well as ourselves. By your unifying mercy, O God, **hear our prayer**.

O Lord, you remove our shame from us and show us a grace that is beyond understanding. May we always be strengthened by your love, that our witness in the world be faithful and reflective of all that you've done for us. We remember in prayer our neighbouring faith communities; those who use this building for worship, work, and play; our partners Anglican Church of Canada and Moravian Church in Canada; and our bishops, rostered leaders, congregations, and ministries of the ELCIC. In particular, we pray for Benediction Lutheran Church in Delta and all who serve them; and for King of Life Lutheran Church in Coquitlam and their pastor Dorothy Chu. By your unifying mercy, O God, **hear our prayer**.

O Lord, you have created everything around us: this planet, the forests, the lands, the seas, our communities, and our families, and you welcome us to live together not as strangers but as kindred. Strengthen our stewardship of all at you have made, that we might learn to live in harmony with all of creation. By your unifying mercy, O God, **hear our prayer**.

O Lord, together we share a zeal for your house, but there continues to be scorn between the nations and peoples. Lead us all through elected officials, governments, and politicians to places where we needn't fear the threat of violence but know the love and grace of community and your kingdom. We also pray for the continued support of those that we've sponsored to come into our country: Abraham Barhane; Solyana Amanuel; and Filimon Abraha; as well as for those who have not yet arrived: Maekele Kiflu, Selam Haile, and their children; and Meri, Surafiel, Nohom, and Elita Gabramikael. By your unifying mercy, O God, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, we are humbled by your providence and healing, and your love is kind and reaches out to us all. Be with those among us who are sick, who mourn, or who feel lonely, that we might all know the care and welcome withing your love. Especially we pray for Kathy and family; Bryan and Chona; Ron, Tess, and Mineko; Greg and Aikiko; Bev and family; John and Betty; Sukhwant; Pastor Kristen; Pastor Carol; Laura; Kandie; Will; Chris; Larry; Walter; Piet; Kelly; Betty; Ngan Kew (nan CUE); Matt; Patty; Sarasawathi (SAR-ah-sa-WAH-tee); and all those we name aloud or quietly in our hearts at this time...  
By your unifying mercy, O God, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, you draw near to us and you redeem us into your eternal presence and community with you and all the saints, and we are blessed by your love. May the lives of those we've loved and lost remain in our hearts forever, and may their faith continue to inspire us in our lives and community. By your unifying mercy, O God, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your welcoming love, shown to us by Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

### **MEAL**

### **DIALOGUE**

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.**

### **PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and places give thanks and praise to you, O God, through our Saviour Jesus Christ, who welcomes us all to live together in peace, joining the choirs of angels, the hosts of heaven, and the church on earth in praising your name with this unending hymn:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY** (ACS p. 36)

### **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy and humble, majestic and merciful, compassionate and Creator of all that is, you have given us a life beyond ourselves and joined us together with you. And in community with all the

saints in your kingdom, you lead us on paths of righteousness and mercy. And when the time was right, you sent to us Jesus, your Son, to teach and heal and show us the truth of your love.

For on the night that he was betrayed, your Son Jesus sat with his friends for a meal, where he took the bread, gave thanks, broke and shared it saying, "Take and eat, this is my body broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Then after they ate, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them to drink from 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."

So it is through this bread and cup that we see how we are joined together, brought into community, and made to be people of God, together proclaiming this, the basis of our faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

So it is to you, O God, that all honour and glory belong, through our Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER** (ACS p. 39)

Gathered to serve God and one another 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.**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Taste and see, God welcoming us in love and grace.

**Thanks be to God.**

**COMMUNION**

**COMMUNION HYMNS:** Lamb of God (ACS p. 40)

Lord, Be Glorified (ELW #744)

Great Is Thy Faithfulness (ELW #733)

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Holy God, we have again been fed by your Word and nourished by your truth, and have been strengthened and empowered by your love and grace. May we be enlightened and affirmed by the power of your Spirit to go out into the world as your people, proclaiming your good news of peace and hope, through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**SENDING****BLESSING**

Now may the Creator God bless you and guide you,  
the Crucified God hold you and guard you,  
and the Compassionate God lead you to live a life of peace and deep joy, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG:** Borning Cry (ELW #732)

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace, dearly loved just as you are.

**Thanks be to God.**