

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost



**Put on the full armor of God so that you can
take your stand against the devil's schemes.**

-Ephesians 6:11

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
August 23, 2015



Our mission at Grace is to teach the inspired and inerrant Word of God, to proclaim that Jesus Christ is the crucified and risen Savior of the world and to nurture believers for lives of Christian service.

We are very pleased that you have joined us for worship today at Grace-Tucson! We pray that this time will be a blessing for you as God comes to you with his Word and promises and as you offer him your thanks and praise.

Worship Notes

The **order of service** we follow is printed out in this worship folder. You'll notice that the service is a dialogue between God and us, his people. The pastor speaks to God along with the congregation and also speaks the Word of God to the people.

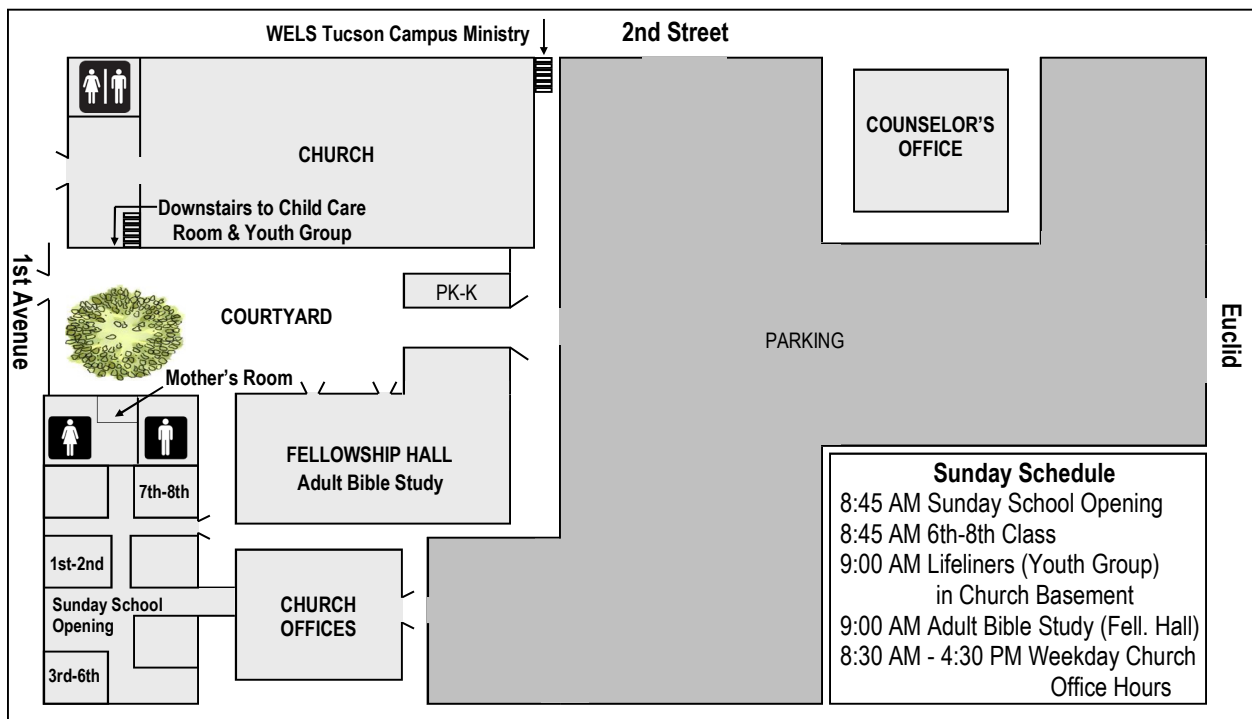
Hymns are found in our hymnal, *Christian Worship*, which is the red book in the pew rack in front of you.

Large print hymn sheets are available in the entryway. You may also ask an usher or greeter to get one for you.

We believe that many blessings come from having families worship together and we love to have **children in worship!** If you need to calm a restless child, you may:

- stand for a few moments in the entryway, sometimes that's all that's needed
- go down the stairs to the left in the entryway—they will lead down to the Child Care Room where you will still be able to hear the service
- visit the private Mother's Room across the courtyard in the women's restroom—you will be able to hear the service there also

Printed copies of the sermon are available in the entryway. CDs of the entire worship service will be made upon request from the sound technician in the balcony. It only takes a few minutes to copy. You may also find sermons and services in print, audio and video on our website: www.GraceLutheranSAZ.org



SERVICE OF THE WORD

Christian Worship

WELCOME

HYMN

God of Grace and God of Glory

Christian Worship #523

Please stand

Minister: The grace of our Lord (†) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

OH, TASTE AND SEE



C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.



Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -



ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav - ens. Your faith - ful - ness con -



tin - ues for - ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.



Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

The words of this song of praise are based on Psalm 34:8 and Psalm 119:89. It marks our thankfulness to have heard God's forgiveness of our sins and anticipates our listening to God's Word throughout our worship service.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift of grace that we come into your presence and offer true and faithful service. Grant that our worship on earth may always be pleasing to you, and in the life to come give us the fulfillment of what you have promised; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Please be seated

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

When Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she proceeded to destroy the whole royal family. But Jehosheba, the daughter of King Jehoram and sister of Ahaziah, took Joash son of Ahaziah and stole him away from among the royal princes, who were about to be murdered. She put him and his nurse in a bedroom to hide him from Athaliah; so he was not killed. He remained hidden with his nurse at the temple of the LORD for six years while Athaliah ruled the land.

Jehoiada brought out the king's son and put the crown on him; he presented him with a copy of the covenant and proclaimed him king. They anointed him, and the people clapped their hands and shouted, "Long live the king!" When Athaliah heard the noise made by the guards and the people, she went to the people at the temple of the LORD. She looked and there was the king, standing by the pillar, as the custom was. The officers and the trumpeters

2 Kings 11:1-3, 12-18 (NIV)

were beside the king, and all the people of the land were rejoicing and blowing trumpets. Then Athaliah tore her robes and called out, "Treason! Treason!" Jehoiada the priest ordered the commanders of units of a hundred, who were in charge of the troops: "Bring her out between the ranks and put to the sword anyone who follows her." For the priest had said, "She must not be put to death in the temple of the LORD." So they seized her as she reached the place where the horses enter the palace grounds, and there she was put to death. Jehoiada then made a covenant between the LORD and the king and people that they would be the LORD's people. He also made a covenant between the king and the people. All the people of the land went to the temple of Baal and tore it down. They smashed the altars and idols to pieces and killed Mattan the priest of Baal in front of the altars. Then Jehoiada the priest posted guards at the temple of the LORD.

The First Lesson is frequently a reading from the Old Testament. It shares a common theme with the Second Lesson (often from one of the epistles) and the Gospel.

The pastor will sing the first part of each verse, the congregation may join in the second part.

Refrain



Psalm Tone



1. O LORD, you have searched me and you / know me;*
you perceive my thoughts / from afar.
2. You discern my going out and my / lying down;*
you are familiar with / all my ways.

Refrain

3. Where can I go from your / Spirit?* Where can I flee from your / presence?
4. If I go up to the heavens, / you are there;*
if I make my bed in the depths, / you are there.
5. If I rise on the wings / of the dawn,* if I settle on the far side / of the sea,
6. even there your hand will / guide me,* your right hand will / hold me fast.
7. Glory be to the Father and / to the Son* and to the Holy / Spirit.
as it was in the be- / ginning,* is now, and will be forever. / Amen.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the

Ephesians 6:10-20 (NIV)

readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints. Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

The Psalms were the hymnbook of the Old Testament. These poems, inspired by God, have been set to music and used in the worship lives of God's people for thousands of years. We give praise to God and encouragement to one another as we incorporate the singing of Psalms or selected verses of Psalms into our worship services.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Hebrews 4:12 cf. RSV

M: Alleluia. The Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Alleluia.

Please stand

The congregation stands out of respect for the words of Christ our King.

GOSPEL

Luke 12:49-53 (NIV)

“I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! But I have a baptism to undergo, and how distressed I am until it is completed! Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but division. From now on there will be five in one family divided against

each other, three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Praise — be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

Onward, Christian Soldiers
Christian Worship #537

SERMON

Ephesians 6:10-20
Be Strong in the Lord

Please stand

APOSTLES' CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Please be seated

OFFERING

Members of Grace respond to their Savior's love with offerings that are given joyfully, generously, regularly, and in a way that is proportionate to how the Lord has blessed them. Their cheerful gifts support the mission and ministry of our congregation. If you are a guest today, please know that we do not expect you to contribute to our congregation's work. However, if you would like to give an offering to the Lord in response to his love to you, we are happy to receive it and put it to work in God's kingdom.

Please fill out the Friendship Register located in the red folder at the end of the row and pass it along. Thank You!

Please stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: O Lord, our God, you are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day you open your hand and provide for the needs of your children on earth.

C: We praise you for every grace and blessing.

M: Strengthen your Church in all the world. Let your comforting message of salvation in Christ Jesus be proclaimed to troubled souls everywhere.

C: Use our ministries and offerings to extend your healing and your hope.

M: We bring you our requests for the various structures of our society. Bless our national, state, and local governments.

C: Grant us civil servants who are worthy of honor and respect.

M: Grant prosperity to our businesses and industries. Give employers a sense of fairness toward their workers, and employees a feeling of joy and pride in their workmanship.

C: Help us find satisfaction in all work well done.

M: Invigorate the schools of our land. Give success to every effort that helps students read, think, and communicate in ways that will promote an informed and responsible citizenry. Arouse curious minds to discover the wonders of your created order.

C: Give us teachers and students who pursue excellence.

The Apostles' Creed developed in the Early Christian Church as a personal confession of faith. It is so named because it confesses the faith taught by the Apostles of Jesus.



If you prefer, use your smart phone to give online by scanning this QR code.

Christians stand for congregational prayer showing the freedom of God's children to come boldly into his presence.

The Christian theologian Augustine (400 AD) adds, "We pray standing. . . as a sign of the Resurrection."

M: Strengthen the families of our country. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to be good parents. Give children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as your representatives.

C: Lead us to love one another as you have loved us.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with confidence that you will hear and with faith that you will respond for our welfare.

C: Amen.

Matthew 6 and Luke 11 record how Jesus taught his disciples to pray. We use his example prayer as part of our public worship, trusting that he will hear and answer our prayers.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

HYMN

Rise! To Arms! With Prayer Employ You
Christian Worship #455

Please stand

PRAYER

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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: A - men. A - men. A - men.

Please be seated

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN

Fight the Good Fight
Christian Worship #457

THOSE ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher Pastor Nathan Kassulke
Worship Leader Pastor Sam Clemons (10:00 AM)
Accompanists..... Stephanie Kania (7:45 AM)
Teri Guenther (10:00 AM)
Ushers Vic Thornton, Vernon Neal (7:45 AM)
Jonathan Ganster, Danny Koehler, Jon Miller, Rick Street (10:00 AM)
Sound & Recording Tech Chris Stuhr (10:00 AM)

The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So I will put my name on [them], and I will bless them." Numbers 6:27

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Arizona Lutheran Academy (ALA) Gaining Ground

Thank you to all who have made offerings in support of ALA's Gaining Ground campaign to fund a land purchase and other important projects. Because of your generosity, Grace is now prepared to forward \$22,100 to ALA, including \$10,000 from the General Bequest Fund to match the same amount in member offerings. You can continue to support this campaign by making donations directly to ALA. ALA has raised over \$200,000 toward its goal of one million by the end of September.

English as a Second Language Meeting

There will be an ESL meeting tomorrow, August 24 at 6:30 PM in the Grace-Tucson Fellowship Hall. The upcoming semester will be discussed and sign-up sheets will be available for those interested in helping. If you have any questions please contact Joyce Long at 405-5133.

Member Information Update

A letter was sent out with two information sheets for members and friends of Grace to fill out and return. These forms allow you to share contact information as well as information about your family, your gifts and talents, and ways that you would be interested in serving at church. **We have received about half of the information sheets back from members. If you have not completed yours yet, you can drop them off in the gray box (in the Courtyard) this morning or mail them to the church office. You can also fill out an online version of the forms at www.GraceLutheranSAZ.org/profile.** Thank you for your help!

Welcome Grace Guests!

If you are a guest at Grace today, we are very happy to have you worship with us! If you would like more information about Grace or have questions about becoming a member of our congregation, please visit the Welcome Table in the courtyard. If this is your first time at Grace, please stop there to pick up a gift just for being our guest this morning.

Altar Flowers

The flowers beautifying our worship this morning have been given by Vic & Lois Thornton in thankfulness and in celebration of Rosie and Kellen Geselbracht's 3rd wedding anniversary.

You Are Invited

You are invited to a coffee fellowship this morning in the courtyard following both services. Fellowship after 10:00 AM worship is hosted by Sally Littau, Nancy Miles and Lois Thornton. We hope you'll take advantage of this opportunity to greet your brothers and sisters in Christ.

Time of Grace Presentation this Morning

We thank Matt Trotter from Time of Grace (WELS) for speaking to us about their ministry in Bible Study this morning. If you missed the presentation you can find more information at www.timeofgrace.org or watch the half-hour weekly television program *Time of Grace* featuring Pastor Mark Jeske (Thursday mornings at 6:30 AM on ABC Family).

Apache Clothing Drive

"Ashoog!" No, that's not achoo misspelled, the way we suggest the sound of a sneeze in English. Rather, it's the Apache word for saying, "thank you!" And "thank you" is also my way of expressing appreciation for the clean and usable clothing you donate to our Christian friends on the San Carlos and Fort Apache Reservations. Your generosity toward friends in Christ is pleasing to our God and Savior. Christian friends, keep showing how we care by how we share! Thanks again!

Russ Weir, Chmn. of the Apache Clothing Drive

Divine Call Extended

Grace's most recent Call Meeting took place on Saturday, August 15 at Grace-Sahuarita. This was the ninth time that we have gathered to extend a Divine Call for a Mission Pastor to Sahuarita. The voters at this meeting made the decision to extend our Call to Pastor Daniel T. Schmidt. Pastor Schmidt's middle initial is included here since he is sometimes confused with another Pastor Daniel Schmidt in Wisconsin.

Pastor Daniel T. Schmidt currently serves at Hope Lutheran Church in Oconomowoc, WI. He is married to Andrea, and they have two children, with a third on the way very soon! When Grace contacted Pastor Schmidt about the Call, he asked for some time to inform his congregation about it before any public announcements were made. In response to his request, the details of our Call were not shared in announcements last Sunday. We are pleased that he has now had an opportunity to make appropriate notifications so that we are able to share.

In addition to the Call in which he is serving at Hope Lutheran Church, Pastor Schmidt is also considering a Call extended to him to serve a new mission in Tyler, Texas.

A Pastor deliberating among three Calls is not common in our circles, but it does happen from time to time. Please keep Pastor Schmidt, his family, and all of the congregations affected in your prayers!



**Grace is one congregation
at FOUR places!**

**Enjoy worship, Bible study and activities
at Grace locations in
Benson, Sahuarita, Tucson and Vail.**

This Week at Grace • Aug 23-Aug 30

TUCSON

Today

Worship Services 7:45 & 10:00a
 Coffee Fellowship following both services
 Children's Sunday School 8:45a
 Youth Confirmation Class 8:45a
 Lifeliners (High School Group): *Bible Study* 9:00a
 Adult Bible Study (Fellowship Hall):
 • *Time of Grace Presentation* 9:00a
 WELS TCM Welcome Back Party! 6:00p

SAHUARITA

Today

Worship Service 9:45a
 Coffee Fellowship following worship
 Bible Study: *The Beatitudes* 11:00a

Wednesday

NO Bible Study

Sunday

Worship Service 9:45a
 Coffee Fellowship following worship
 Bible Study: *The Beatitudes* 11:00a

BENSON

Today

Worship Service/Communion 7:30a

Wednesday

Bible Study: *What is the Church?* 7:00p

Sunday

Worship Service 7:30a

Monday

English as a Second Language Meeting 6:30p

Wednesday

Midweek Bible Study: *Church History* 10:00a
 Midweek Bible Study: *Church History* 6:30p

Thursday

NO Women's Bible Study

Sunday

Worship Services 7:45 & 10:00a
 Coffee Fellowship following both services
 Children's Sunday School 8:45a
 Youth Confirmation Class 8:45a
 Lifeliners (High School Group): *Bible Study* 9:00a
 Adult Bible Study (Fellowship Hall) 9:00a
 • *Pastor Clemons* 9:00a

VAIL

Today

Bible Study: *Church-Mission-Ministry* 9:00a
 Children's Sunday School 9:00a
 Worship Service/Communion 10:00a
 Coffee Fellowship following worship

Sunday

Bible Study: *Church-Mission-Ministry* 9:00a
 Children's Sunday School 9:00a
 Worship Service 10:00a
 Coffee Fellowship following worship

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Fiesta Sahuarita

Grace is participating in this year's Fiesta Sahuarita, an annual event just down the road from Grace-Sahuarita at Anamax Park. The Fiesta is Saturday, September 26, noon until 9 PM. The event includes live music, food trucks, games, arts and crafts, and a waterslide. Grace will have a booth at the festival and will be looking for **volunteers to help staff the booth for an hour or two at a time**. Boz Lomasney will be at the booth most of the day, so the volunteers are additional help. There will be lots to see and do at the Fiesta, so anyone wanting to come staff the booth for a bit can then enjoy the rest of the activities as well! If you'd like to help please contact Diane Kramm at pdkramm@earthlink.com or call/text her at 440-8564.

NO Wednesday Sahuarita Bible Study or Thursday Women's Bible Study

The Wednesday morning Bible Study at Grace-Sahuarita and the Thursday morning Women's Bible Study at Grace-Tucson are cancelled this week while Pastor Koehler is at the AZ-CA District Mission Board meeting in Las Vegas, NV.

Welcome, College Students!

We realize that many college students are returning to school at the University of Arizona and Pima Community College, or are arriving to attend for the first time. We are happy to have you with us and look forward to getting to know you better. While school is in session, our WELS Tucson Campus Ministry (TCM) offers weekly Sunday evening Bible studies, which are geared specifically toward college students and college aged non-students. The first meeting of WELS TCM for the upcoming year is our Welcome Back Party this evening at 6:00 PM. If you would like to know more, please speak to one of the pastors or introduce yourself to one of our Student Assistants, Dylan Guenther and Danny Koehler.



Dylan Guenther & Danny Koehler

A schedule of our activities for this semester is available in either entryway.

Parking Permits

Our WELS Tucson Campus Ministry offers parking permits for the church parking lot to college students who are actively involved in worship and/or Bible study here. Find more information and apply for a parking permit at www.WELSTCM.com. Members of Grace are asked to please let us know in the Church Office if you will be parking in the lot for non-church activities.

Parking permits for non-students are also available to active members through the Church Office. Please drive carefully in the church parking lot, avoid turning your wheels unless the car is moving forward or backwards (turning them in place can damage the asphalt), and park away from the church buildings so that the closer spots and the parking lot entrance are open for church activities.



Grace Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), a group of nearly 400,000 men, women, and children in nearly 1,300 congregations across the United States and Canada united by a common faith in Christ's saving love. We are committed to a common calling—encouraging each other in our faith and sharing God's gift of a Savior with the rest of the world.