

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Don't Be
SURPRISED!

COMMIT
YOURSELF TO
GOD

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*Praise
God*

**Don't Be
Ashamed**

Continue to Do Good

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
September 11, 2016



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.

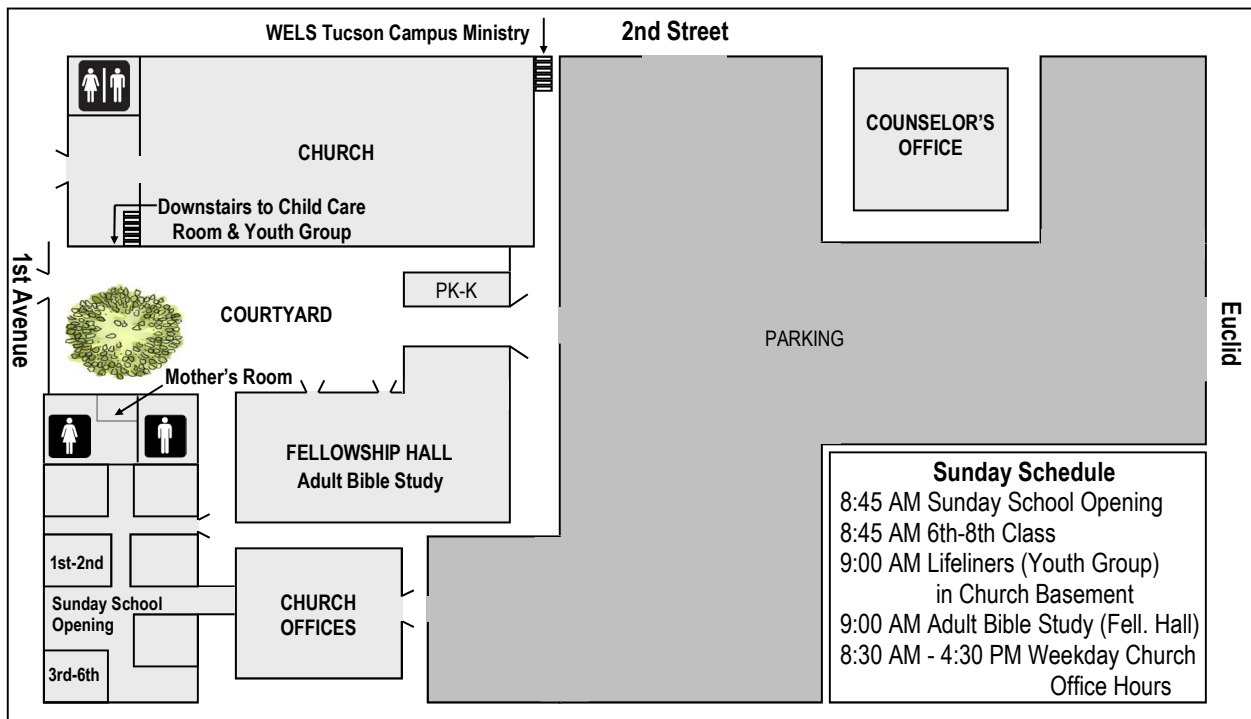
Hymns are found in our hymnal, *Christian Worship*, which is the red book in the pew rack in front of you.

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

Songs of Praise the Angels Sang
Christian Worship #222

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.

PRESERVICE MUSIC:

7:45 AM—

Songs of Praise the Angels Sang (French Melody)

Arr. by Valerie Floeter

10:00 AM—

Jesus, Lead Thou On

Arr. by Thomas Gieschen

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.

Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Please be seated

THE WORD

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.

FIRST LESSON

Shephatiah son of Mattan, Gedaliah son of Pashhur, Jehucal son of Shelemiah, and Pashhur son of Malkijah heard what Jeremiah was telling all the people when he said, "This is what the LORD says: 'Whoever stays in this city will die by the sword, famine or plague, but whoever goes over to the Babylonians will live. He will escape with his life; he will live.' And this is what the LORD says: 'This city will certainly be handed over to the army of the king of Babylon, who will capture it.'" Then the officials said to the king, "This man should be put to death. He is discouraging the soldiers who are left in this city, as well as all the people, by the things he is saying to them. This man is not seeking the good of these people but their ruin." "He is in your hands," King Zedekiah answered. "The king can do nothing to oppose you." So they took Jeremiah and put him into the cistern of Malkijah, the king's son, which was in the courtyard of the guard. They lowered Jeremiah by ropes into the cistern; it had no water in it, only mud, and Jeremiah sank down into the

Jeremiah 38:1-13 (NIV)

mud. But Ebed-Melech, a Cushite, an official in the royal palace, heard that they had put Jeremiah into the cistern. While the king was sitting in the Benjamin Gate, Ebed-Melech went out of the palace and said to him, "My lord the king, these men have acted wickedly in all they have done to Jeremiah the prophet. They have thrown him into a cistern, where he will starve to death when there is no longer any bread in the city." Then the king commanded Ebed-Melech the Cushite, "Take thirty men from here with you and lift Jeremiah the prophet out of the cistern before he dies." So Ebed-Melech took the men with him and went to a room under the treasury in the palace. He took some old rags and worn-out clothes from there and let them down with ropes to Jeremiah in the cistern. Ebed-Melech the Cushite said to Jeremiah, "Put these old rags and worn-out clothes under your arms to pad the ropes." Jeremiah did so, and they pulled him up with the ropes and lifted him out of the cistern. And Jeremiah remained in the courtyard of the guard.

Refrain



I will walk in the pre-sence of the Lord, in the land of the liv - ing.

Psalm Tone



1. I love the LORD, for he / heard my voice;* he heard my cry for / mercy.
2. Because he turned his / ear to me,* I will call on him as long / as I live.
3. The LORD is gracious and / righteous;* when I was in great need, he / saved me.

Refrain

4. For you, O LORD, have delivered my / soul from death,* my eyes from tears, my feet from / stumbling.
5. How can I re- / pay the LORD* for all his good- / ness to me?
6. I will lift up the cup of sal- / vation* and call on the name / of the LORD.
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

1 Peter 4:12-19 (NIV)

Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. However, if you suffer as a

Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. For it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? And, if it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner? So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

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.

OFFERTORY MUSIC:

7:45 AM—
The Lord's My Shepherd
Words & Music by Stuart Townend
(based on Psalm 23)
and *I Will Trust in You Alone*

10:00 AM—
The Lord Is My Light
Tune by Alberto Taulé

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.

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

Jesus, Lead Us On
Christian Worship #422

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.

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.

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

TODAY

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 Pat Messer in loving memory of Arlo Cook on September 10, and to celebrate the birthdays of Darrell Bossert (September 9) and Bill Messer (September 14).

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 Audrey Nessinger and Linda Morris. We hope you'll take advantage of this opportunity to greet your brothers and sisters in Christ.

NEXT SUNDAY

Next week's Scripture Lessons for Devotional Reading this Week

Numbers 12:1-15

James 3:13-18

Mark 9:30-37

Sermon Text & Theme

Mark 9:30-37

God's Incomparable Love

English as a Second Language

We will begin the 16th year of our English as a Second Language program tomorrow, September 12 at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. If you know of anyone who might be interested in participating in the program or if you would like to volunteer, please contact the church office (623-6633) or Joyce Long (795-6456).

Toy Donations

English as a Second Language is in need of toys to use in the childcare area while classes are going on. Legos are a big hit, but any toy donation will be appreciated! You may drop off your donations to the church office through the month of September. Thank you!

Upcoming Voters' Meeting & Breakfast

The next Voters' Meeting for our congregation is scheduled for this Saturday, September 17 at 8:30 AM in the Grace-Tucson Fellowship Hall. Because of this early start time breakfast will be provided beginning at 8:00 AM. A booklet with Pastor and Council reports can be found at both entrances of church and in the Fellowship Hall. This keeps members up to date on Grace's ministry activities and helps voters prepare for the meeting. Please feel free to come dressed for the Men's Fellowship Disc Golf Event which follows the meeting.

Men's Fellowship Group

Immediately following the Voters' Meeting this Saturday, the Men's Fellowship Group will play a round of disc golf at Santa Cruz River Park, located at 1491 N. Riverview Blvd (west of the freeway off of Speedway). Boz Lomasney will provide all the equipment, but be sure to bring water and wear comfortable exercise clothes. If you've never played, that's okay! Boz will explain the game and will show those participating how to throw a disc. If you have any questions, call Boz at (440) 251-4704.



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 • Sept 11-Sept 18

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):
 • *The Life of Christ: Jesus' Last Days* 9:00a
WOG Meeting following 10 AM worship
 TCM Bible Study—*Why Does God Allow Evil?* 7:00p

Monday

Handbell Practice in the Sanctuary 4:30p
 English as a Second Language Classes Begin 6:30p

Tuesday

Saguaro Circuit Meeting at Grace-Tucson 1:00p
 English as a Second Language Classes 6:30p

Wednesday

Midweek Bible Study: *Church History* 10:00a
 Midweek Bible Study: *Church History* 7:00p

Thursday

Women's Bible Study: *Digging for Insights* 9:00a

Saturday

Voters' Meeting at Grace-Tucson (breakfast at 8:00) 8:30a
Men's Fellowship Disc Golf following the meeting

Sunday

Worship Services/Communion 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):
 • *The Life of Christ: Jesus' Last Days* 9:00a
 TCM Bible Study—*40 Years of Wild Lessons* 7:00p

SAHUARITA

Today

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

Saturday

Voters' Meeting at Grace-Tucson (breakfast at 8:00) 8:30a
Men's Fellowship Disc Golf following the meeting

Sunday

Worship Service 9:45a
 Coffee Fellowship following worship

VAIL

Today

Adult Bible Study: *Of Kings & Prophets* 9:15a
 Children's Sunday School 9:00a
 Youth Confirmation Class 9:00a
 Worship Service/Communion 10:00a
 Coffee Fellowship following worship
WOG Meeting following worship

Monday

Bible Study at the Ministry Center: *Sermon Review* 9:00a

Wednesday

Bible Study at the Ministry Center: *Revelation* 7:00p

Saturday

Voters' Meeting at Grace-Tucson (breakfast at 8:00) 8:30a
Men's Fellowship Disc Golf following the meeting

Sunday

Adult Bible Study: *Of Kings & Prophets* 9:15a
 Children's Sunday School 9:00a
 Youth Confirmation Class 9:00a
 Worship Service 10:00a
 Coffee Fellowship following worship

BENSON

Today

Worship Service/Communion 7:30a

Saturday

Voters' Meeting at Grace-Tucson (breakfast at 8:00) 8:30a
Men's Fellowship Disc Golf following the meeting

Sunday

Worship Service 7:30a

**Grace Evangelical
Lutheran Church**

**830 N. First Avenue
Tucson, Arizona 85719**

**Phone 623-6633
Fax 623-1514**

Administrative Assistant

**Cora Stuhr
office@gracelutheransaz.org**

Pastors

At Grace-Tucson

Ronald G. Koehler, III revrgk3@gracelutheransaz.org

Nathan P. Kassulke revnkp@gracelutheransaz.org

Timothy L. Patoka revtlp@gracelutheransaz.org

At Grace-Vail & Grace-Benson

Colin M. Rieke revcmr@gracelutheransaz.org

At Grace-Sahuarita

Ryan A. Heiman revrah@gracelutheransaz.org

Bible-Based Counselor

Cinda Drescher
cinda@gracelutheransaz.org
Phone 882-3773

Music Coordinator

Beth Kassulke
music@gracelutheransaz.org
Phone 293-2935

Office Assistant

Debbie Koehler
assistant@gracelutheransaz.org
Phone 623-6633

Calendars and Coupon Cards Available

The Lifeliners (our high school youth group) are conducting their annual sale of Bible Verse Calendars (\$8 each or 2 for \$15) and Coupon Cards (\$20). The Coupon Cards are new this year. They will be sold instead of Entertainment Books. The Coupon Cards have deals for a variety of restaurants and businesses. The card is good for continuous use until October 15, 2017. The Lifeliners will be available in the Courtyard on Sunday mornings for you to make your purchases. Proceeds help fund Lifeliner activities.

ALA Volleyball in Tucson

The Arizona Lutheran Academy Coyotes volleyball teams will play at Desert Christian School (7525 E. Speedway Blvd, Tucson, AZ 85710) on Tuesday, September 20. The JV game is at 4:00 PM and the varsity game at 5:00 PM. You are invited to join with other southern Arizona ALA fans to cheer the team on! *ALA is our WELS Lutheran High School located in the Phoenix area.*



Lazer Tag, Go-Karts, Mini Golf...Oh My!

Calling all high school families of Grace! Want to enjoy the above activities and more? Then come on by Golf N' Stuff on Saturday, September 24 at 1:00 PM (6503 E. Tanque Verde Rd, 85715). We'll have some fun, eat some food, and make some friends. For more information see the Lifeliners courtyard display case or stop by the Lifeliners table in the courtyard after today's service.

Deer Valley Women's Retreat

The women of Deer Valley invite you to a one-day Women's Retreat at Deer Valley Lutheran Church in Phoenix (220 W. Union Hills Drive, 85027) on September 24 from 9:00 AM-2:00 PM (registration begins at 8:00). The theme this year is "*We Are God's Flowers*" and the guest speaker is Hank Shoop, a Christian Geologist. A light breakfast and luncheon is included in the day. Tickets are \$8. All guests registered by September 18th will receive a \$2 discount. You can pre-register by contacting Jenni Taylor at retreat@deervalley.org or call (623) 694-1847. A flyer with more details can be found on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

LWMS 2016 Fall Retreat

The LWMS Grand Canyon Circuits East & West will be having a combined 2016 Fall Retreat October 14-16 at Camp Shadow Pines in Heber, AZ (www.campshadowpines.com).

Registration forms are available online at www.grandcanyonlwms.org or can be found in the Fellowship Hall. There is also a flyer in the courtyard with speaker information and pricing for the retreat. **The registration deadline is October 1, 2016.** We have the opportunity to choose our room configuration and roommate preferences if we register early enough! Please contact Diane Kramm (440-8564) or your Grace site LWMS contact if you have questions.



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.

For more information about our synod and what we believe visit: www.wels.net