**WELCOME TO GRACE:** We rejoice over your presence this day as we gather in the Name and in the worship of our Lord. If you are a GUEST with us today, we hope you feel welcome in our church family and invite you to worship with us again. If you are interested in membership at Grace or want to know more about our church and our faith, please indicate your interest on the ATTENDANCE FORM in the pew.

#### **Grace's Mission**

♣ Sharing God's Grace♣ Living His Word♣ Making Disciples

**Grace Lutheran Church** is one of more than six thousand congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

We Believe the Bible is the inspired Word of God and the sole source for all Christian teaching and practice. *II Timothy 3:16* 

We Believe "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." *John 3:16* 

**We Believe** "by grace you have been saved through faith and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast." *Ephesians 2:8-9* 

**We Believe** our relationship with everyone is based upon Jesus' words: "Love one another as I have loved you." *John 15:12* 

Child Care We care about your children. We encourage parents with small children to help them participate in our worship. We ask you to have your children go to the restroom and get a drink before the service, and refrain from leaving during worship, unless there is an emergency. We have available a cry room equipped with sound located at the back of the sanctuary. Children's bulletins with activities are available. A nursery is available for children age 3 and under. Ask an usher for directions.

**Hearing Impaired** For those who need assistance, please ask an usher for a wireless hearing aid. They are easy to use.



# A SERVICE FOR ALL SAINTS' OBSERVED NOVEMBER 3, 2024

"YOUR FUTURE IS BRIGHT AND GLORIOUS"

### AS WE GATHER

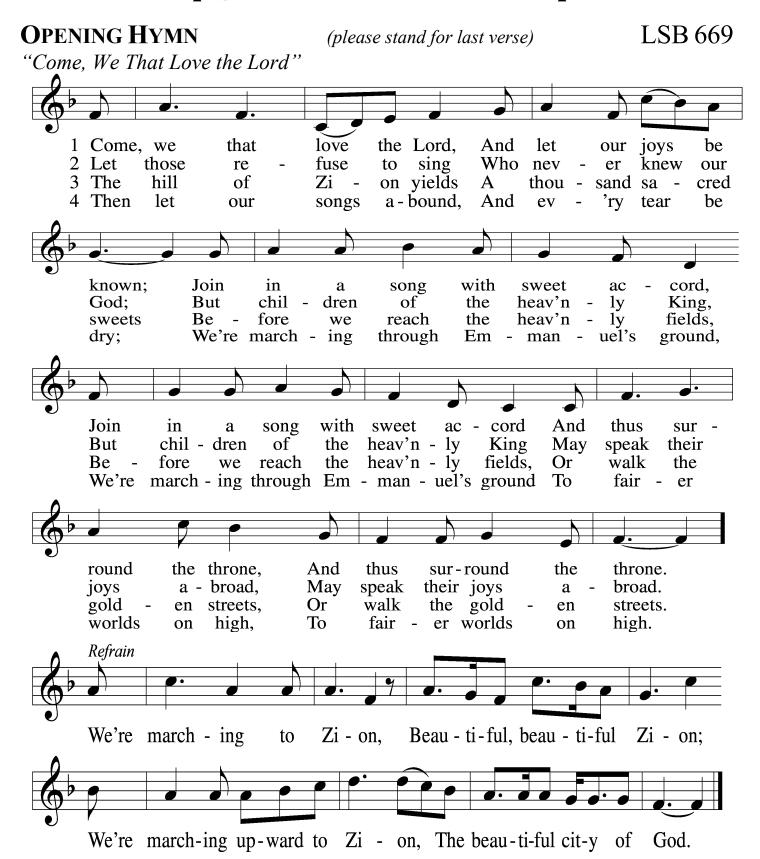
We are reminded that this gathering is in truth a far greater assemblage than the number of people in this room at this time. The letter to the Hebrews reminds us that as we journey through our earthly lives we are surrounded by "so great a cloud of witnesses" (12:1) and tells of "the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven" and "the spirits of the righteous made perfect" (12:23). Hymn writer Isaac Watts reminds us that "the saints on earth and those above but one communion make; joined to their Lord in bonds of love, all of His grace partake" (*TLH* 478:1). On this feast of All Saints, with the timeless words of the Te Deum, we pray that by God's grace we, too, will be "numbered with Your saints in glory everlasting" (*LSB*, p. 225). With joy and thanksgiving, we celebrate the faith that binds us together with the faithful of all times!

[If your health limits you, please don't feel required to stand during the worship service.]



PRE-SERVICE MUSIC
CHIMES CALL TO WORSHIP
WELCOME

# + SERVICE OF PREPARATION +



Text and tune: Public domain

### **INVOCATION**

- **I** In the name of the Father and of the **▼** Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

### **PSALM**

PSALM 149; ANTIPHON: V. 4

- **L** For the Lord takes pleasure in His people; He adorns the humble with salvation.
- **L** Praise the Lord!
- Sing to the Lord a new song, His praise in the assembly of the godly!
- Let Israel be glad in his Maker;
- **C** let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!
- Let them praise His name with dancing,
- making melody to Him with tambourine and lyre!
- **L** For the Lord takes pleasure in His people;
- **C** He adorns the humble with salvation.
- **L** Let the godly exult in glory;
- **C** let them sing for joy on their beds.
- Let the high praises of God be in their throats
- and two-edged swords in their hands,
- **L** to execute vengeance on the nations
- and punishments on the peoples,
- L to bind their kings with chains
- and their nobles with fetters of iron,
- L to execute on them the judgment written!
- This is honor for all his godly ones. Praise the Lord!
- A Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
- For the Lord takes pleasure in His people; He adorns the humble with salvation.

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

- **L** Beloved of God, we rejoice to be numbered with the saints. In confidence, let us come before our gracious Lord to confess our sins and to receive His gracious absolution.
- Almighty God, we repent of our sins—the inherited sinfulness that is our original condition and our manifold sins in thought and in word and in deed. In Your mercy, forgive us. Create in us clean hearts, O God, that we may serve You as Your redeemed people, now and forever.
- In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C Amen.

♣ SERVICE OF THE WORD ♣

"Gloria in Excelsis."



In To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth; 2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa-ther's Son, we pray; 3 For You a-lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro- claimed at Je-sus' birth! O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way. For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry, You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King. Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—In God the Fa-ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

### SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

- **L** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, You knit together Your faithful people of all times and places into one holy communion, the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant us so to follow Your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that, together with them, we may come to the unspeakable joys You have prepared for those who love You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

(please be seated)

#### FIRST READING

REVELATION 7:9-17

(God is worshiped by multitudes in heaven.)

<sup>9</sup>After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, <sup>10</sup>and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" <sup>11</sup>And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup>saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." <sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" <sup>14</sup>I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. <sup>15</sup>"Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. <sup>16</sup>They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. <sup>17</sup>For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

**EPISTLE** 1 JOHN 3:1-3

(We are called God's children now through His love.)

<sup>1</sup>See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

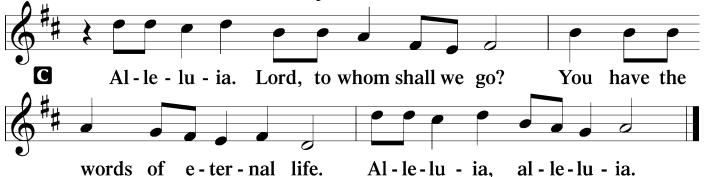
- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

(please stand)

(Tradition dictates that our eyes follow the cross. Please remain standing until the cross has been returned to its original position. The Gospel is read from the center of the church to symbolize the Gospel in our midst.)

#### VERSE AND ALLELUIA

P Alleluia. Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us look to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith. Alleluia. *Hebrews 12:1a, 2a* 



(Jesus speaks to His disciples on the mountain.)

- **L** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter.
- C Glory to You, O Lord.
- <sup>1</sup>Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.
- <sup>2</sup>And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:
- <sup>3</sup>"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 4"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
- 5"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
- <sup>6</sup>"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
- 7"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
- 8"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
- <sup>9</sup>"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.
- <sup>10</sup>"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- <sup>11</sup>"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."
- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

(please be seated)

"For All the Saints"









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(please be seated)

**SERMON TEXT:** REVELATION 7:9-17 **SERMON TITLE:** "OUR HOPE ETERNAL"

(please stand)

#### **APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence 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)

### WE OFFER OUR FIRST FRUITS

(Financial support of Grace Lutheran Church is considered a privilege of membership. Although all offerings are welcome, we do not expect them from our visitors.)

VOLUNTARY JOYFUL CHORUS

"At Every Turn"

# + COMMEMORATION OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED +

Let Holy Scripture says in Psalm 116:15: "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints." On this All Saints' Day, we remember and give thanks and praise to God for the life and for the death of His saints. We rejoice with those who rejoice, and that includes rejoicing with those whose happiness now knows no end in the kingdom of glory. During the past year, families in our congregation and our extended church family have been impacted greatly by the death of ones we love. As those who trust in Jesus Christ, we do not grieve as the rest of the world grieves. We grieve in hope, we pray with confidence, and we live with certainty that those who have died in Christ are secure in His presence. We also rejoice that one day we shall join them in their heavenly joy, which knows no end.

We honor the life and give thanks to God for these His saints:

Doris Jean Turner August 13, 1927 – January 22, 2024 Shirley Ruth Springer October 24, 1938 – January 28, 2024

. . . and all others dear to our hearts who have entered into everlasting rest with the Lord Jesus.

Let us pray.

Merciful Father, whose dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, rose victoriously over death and the grave, we remember with thanksgiving Your faithful people who have trusted in Christ, whose tears are gone, and whose sorrows You have turned to joy. We humbly implore You to strengthen us in the confident hope of the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(please stand)

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- L Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.

### THE 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.

**BENEDICTION**Numbers 6:24–26

L The Lord bless you and keep you.The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.The Lord look upon you with favor and ♣ give you peace.

C Amen.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



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#### **POSTLUDE**

AXAMOWE QUILLOS

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Presiding Elders	Steve DeShaw/Josh Jones/Thomas Wolfmueller
Organist	Virginia DeBerry
Joyful Chorus Director	Cindy Hilton
Acolyte	
	Josh Jones / Pete Lufholm
Ushers	Mac Hall
	Todd Byars
	Brent Keesee
	Josh Jones
Altar Guild	
Teller	Jodie Hawkins
Nursery Attendant	Alana & Kate Stansell

# **GRACE PRAYS**

We continue to pray for the following:

- Protection for our armed forces and strength for their families.
- Wisdom for our nation's leaders.
- Grace during our time of vacancy.
- Continued guidance and blessing for Ms. Carol.
- Strength and commitment in tending our baptismal journey.
- Our ECP.

# ONGOING HEALTH PROBLEMS

❖ Mike Barbian, Charles Colgan, Mary Ann Johnston, Mary Morgan, Diane Richey, Melinda Richmond & David Stock.

### ILL OR RECOVERING

- Susan Johnson (Virginia DeBerry's mom) surgery to remove a stone from her right kidney was rescheduled to 12/4. Left kidney removal due to cancer was rescheduled to 1/20/25.
- ❖ Jeff Allemand (Michele Hayden's uncle) was diagnosed with throat cancer and is receiving radiation treatments.
- ❖ Mina Fitting is still in MMH, now in a regular room. Meds are helping her heart function. Swallowing needs to be strengthened.
- ❖ Katie Grimes, (the Hayden's niece) 22 yr. old lineman, is undergoing several surgeries after being hit with 6,000 volts of electricity sustaining 3<sup>rd</sup> degree burns over her body.
- ❖ Wanda Stansell (Chris Stansell's grandma) had surgery for a broken hip. She's not doing well and kidneys are failing.



The flowers this morning have been provided to the glory of God by

### Fred & Margie Norton

In honor of Stephanie & Brandon Mitchell's 9<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

### Grace Lutheran Church – LCMS

3000 West Golf Course Road Midland, Texas 79701-2998 Church Office – (432) 697-3221 ECP Office – (432) 694-3063

www.GraceLutheranMidland.org gracelutheranchurc@sbcglobal.net

# Our Ministry Staff

Carol Massie, Director of Children, Youth, & Family Life	638-4153
Mrs. Amy Hoppman, Early Childhood Director	894-7027
Ms. Victoria J. Crawson, Church Office Administrator	626-484-9723
Lea Keesee, Parish Nurse	634-2580

Please see Grace in Action for the week's calendar and other important information regarding the ministry of our congregation!