

When God Speaks, We Need to Listen

August 24,
2025



Eleventh Sunday
after Pentecost

Welcome, guests! We're delighted that you could join us. If you have any questions or would like more information about our church, any member of Grace would be more than happy to assist you. This folder includes all the details about our services, with the congregational responses indicated by indented, bold letters. Please take a moment to fill out the guest register at the church's entrance; this will be used solely by the pastor and elder. Restrooms are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary. May the Lord bless this service as Christ comes to you!

THE THEME FOR TODAY'S READINGS: The believer hears the Word of God and listens with a trusting heart. So many things in this world can distract us from that simple privilege and duty of believers! Living according to God's will means giving the Word of God a central place in our lives as the one thing needful.

PRAYER FOR THE DAY: Grant us, Lord, the spirit to think and do what is right that we, who cannot do anything that is good without you, may by your help be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

ORDER FOR TODAY'S SERVICE: COMMON WORSHIP — CW, Pg. 15



OPENING HYMN:

#282

LORD, OPEN NOW MY HEART TO HEAR

****Please Stand for The Last Verse****



1 Lord, o - pen now my heart to hear, And through your
2 Your Word in - spires my heart with - in; Your Word grants
3 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, And God the



Word to me draw near. Let me your Word e'er pure re -
heal - ing from my sin. Your Word has pow'r to guide and
Spir - it, Three in One, Shall glo - ry, praise, and hon - or



tain; Let me your child and heir re - main.
bless; Your Word brings peace and hap - pi - ness.
be Now and through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Johannes Olearius, 1611–84; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, st. 1, 3, alt.; Mark A. Jeske, b. 1952, st. 2.
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Tune: ERHALT UNS, HERR (LM) Klug, *Geistliche Lieder zu Wittenberg*, Wittenberg 1543, alt.



C: A - men.

In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

CONFESSION OF SINS

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this, I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

KYRIE



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy



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

God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.



PRAYER AND PRAISE

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

GLORY BE TO GOD

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

A series of musical staves in C major, each with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are written below the staves. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a mix of half, quarter, and eighth notes.

C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,

we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,

God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the

sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the

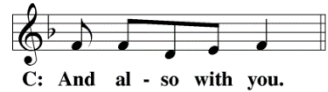
sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of

God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;

you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,

are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY



The Lord be with you.

Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, the spirit to think and do what is right that we, who cannot do anything that is good without you, may by your help be enabled to live according to your will; 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****

FIRST LESSON:

GENESIS 18: 1 – 14

The Lord appeared to Abraham and promised him a son. While the world laughs with Sarah at the seemingly impossible promises of God, we hear the Word of the Lord and believe it. Promises of free forgiveness, eternal life after death, and the perfection of heaven seem laughable to those who busy themselves with getting ahead or serving self. Even those who are familiar with the Word of the Lord find it difficult to believe his promises when guilt haunts their hearts.

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he was sitting by the door to his tent during the heat of the day. Abraham looked up, and he saw three men standing in front of him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them, and he bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I have now found favor in your sight, please do not pass your servant by. Now let me get a little water so that all of you can wash your feet and rest under the tree. Let me get some bread so that you can refresh yourselves. After that you may go your way. That is why you have come to your servant." They said, "Yes, do as you have said."

Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah and said, "Quickly prepare twenty quarts of fine flour, knead it, and make some loaves of bread." Abraham ran to the herd, brought a good, tender calf, and gave it to the servant. He hurried to prepare it. He took cheese curds, milk, and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them. He stood beside them under the tree while they ate. They asked him, "Where is Sarah, your wife?" He said, "She is over there in the tent."

One of the men said, "I will certainly return to you when this season comes around next year. Then Sarah your wife will have a son." Sarah was listening to this from the tent door, which was behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, well into old age. Sarah was past the age for childbearing. Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I am worn out, will I have pleasure, since my lord is also old?"

The Lord said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Will I really give birth to a child though I am old?’ Is anything impossible for the Lord? At the set time next year I will return to you, and Sarah will have a son.”

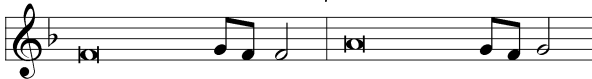
PSALM OF THE DAY:

PSALM 119A

Refrain



Psalm tone



Refrain

Blessed are they whose ways are blameless,*
 who walk according to the law of the LORD.
 Blessed are they who keep his statutes*
 and seek him with all their heart.
 You have laid down precepts*
 that are to be fully obeyed.

Refrain

Oh, that my ways were steadfast*
 in obeying your decrees!
 Then I would not be put to shame*
 when I consider all your commands.
 I will praise you with an upright heart*
 as I learn your righteous laws.
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.

Refrain

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. My Word will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. Alleluia. (Isaiah 55:11b cf. NIV)



****Please Stand****

GOSPEL

LUKE 10: 38 – 42

Twenty-first-century Christians can certainly identify with Martha. So much to do and so little time! We have great excuses and fine rationalizations to explain the fact we have so little time to sit at Jesus' feet. But like Martha, our reasons fail in the face of Christ's simple statement: there is one needful thing—to hear the Word of God.

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:

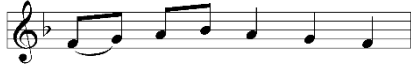


C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

As they went on their way, Jesus came into a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who was sitting at the Lord's feet and was listening to his word. But Martha was distracted with all her serving. She came over and said, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her to help me."

The Lord answered and told her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and upset about many things, but one thing is needed. In fact, Mary has chosen that better part, which will not be taken away from her."

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

APOSTLES' CREED

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*****

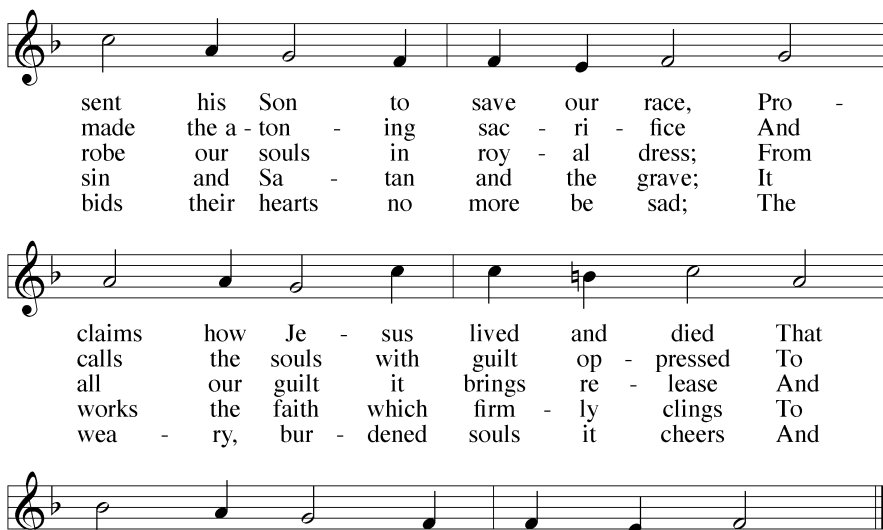
HYMN OF THE DAY:

#288

THE GOSPEL SHOWS THE FATHER'S GRACE



1	The	gos	-	pel	shows	the	Fa	-	ther's	grace,	Who
2	It	sets	the	Lamb	be	-	fore	our	eyes,	Who	
3	It	brings	the	Sav	-	ior's	right	-	eous	-	ness
4	It	is	the	pow'r	of	God	to	save	From		
5	It	bears	to	all	the	ti	-	dings	glad	And	



sent his Son to save our race, Pro -
 made the a - ton - ing sac - ri - fice And
 robe our souls in roy - al dress; From
 sin and Sa - tan and the grave; It
 bids their hearts no more be sad; The

claims how Je - sus lived and died That
 calls the souls with guilt op - pressed To
 all our guilt it brings re - lease And
 works the faith which firm - ly clings To
 wea - ry, bur - dened souls it cheers And

we might thus be jus - ti - fied.
 come and find e - ter - nal rest.
 gives the trou - bled con - science peace.
 all the trea - sures which it brings.
 ban - ish - es their guilt - y fears.

6 May we in faith its message learn
 Nor thanklessly its blessings spurn;
 May we in faith its truth confess
 And praise the Lord, our righteousness.

Text: Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.
 Tune: HERR JESU CHRIST, DICH ZU UNS WEND (LM) *Cantionale Germanicum*, Gochsheim, 1628.

SECOND LESSON

COLOSSIANS 1: 21 – 29

Paul became a servant of the Church to present the Word of God in its fullness. This Word proclaims the mystery kept hidden for generations: God has reconciled all people through Christ's physical body and now presents us without blemish and free from accusation. This mystery, hidden from the ages, is now revealed to us, his saints. Because Christ is in us, so is the hope of eternal glory.

At one time, you were alienated from God and hostile in your thinking as expressed through your evil deeds. But now Christ reconciled you in his body of flesh through death, in order to present you holy, blameless, and faultless before him—if you continue steadfast and firm in faith, without being moved away from the hope of the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a minister.

Now I rejoice in my sufferings on your behalf, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ on behalf of his body, which is the church. I became a minister of

the church for your benefit when God gave me the task of fully proclaiming the word of God, namely, the mystery that was hidden for past ages and generations, but now has been revealed to his saints. God wanted to make known to them what is the wealth of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles—this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

We proclaim him as we admonish and teach everyone with all wisdom, so that we might present everyone perfect in Christ. This is the goal I am laboring to reach, striving with his strength, which is powerfully at work in me.

SERMON TEXT:

COLOSSIANS 1: 21 – 29

SERMON THEME:

SERVING THE GOSPEL; REVEALING THE MYSTERY

****Please Stand****

RESPONSARY HYMN

#293

GOD'S WORD IS OUR GREAT HERITAGE



God's Word is our great her - i - tage And shall be ours for -
ev - er; To spread its light from age to age Shall be our
chief en - deav - or. Through life it guides our way; In death it
is our stay. Lord, grant, while worlds en - dure, We keep its
teach - ings pure Through - out all gen - er - a - tions.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861–1925.
Tune: REUTER (87 87 66 66 7) Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863–1924.

****Please Be Seated****

OFFERING – In 2 Corinthians 9:7, Paul tells us: “Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver.” This service is our gift to our guests; should you feel obliged to give, we thank you for your generosity.

****Please Stand****

PRAYER FOR THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Eternal God and Father, we give you thanks for the blessings we share as members of your holy Church, for your gracious Word and sacraments, for opportunities to worship and to

grow in faith and knowledge, for occasions to serve and be served, for fellowship with believers in our congregation and in our synod.

Help us to rejoice in these blessings, dear Lord, and to use them faithfully.

Jesus Christ, Lord of the Church, you give grace to your people by calling us to be your witnesses in the world. Open our eyes to see the great and noble mission that lies before us. In the hurting eyes of the lonely, in the pained eyes of the sick, and in the searching eyes of the lost, help us to see your face, O Jesus, and to serve others as we would serve you.

Awaken us to the opportunities you give to proclaim your message of love to our family members and neighbors.

Holy Spirit, giver of life, through Word and sacrament, bestow on us the wisdom and power we need to clearly witness and to act boldly to those who live in Redmond and her surrounding cities. Help us to speak the truth in love, to give the reason for the hope we have, and to conduct ourselves with gentleness and respect.

Set our hearts on fire as we work and witness for Christ.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray for a family member, an acquaintance, a neighbor, or a friend who does not believe in you, or whose faith is weak or troubled.

Silent prayer.

Bless the Church with men and women who are willing to proclaim your Word in places where we cannot go. Keep them and their loved ones in your care, and let nothing hinder their work. By the power of the gospel, restore their spirits each day, so that they do not lose heart as they serve us and others.

Move us to support them with our sincere prayers and generous offerings.

Special Prayers and Intercessions

Wherever your Word is proclaimed, O Lord, grant it success. Let your kingdom come to us and others, so that we and many more might join the assembly of saints and angels to sing your praise forever.

Savior of all, hear our prayer and help us in our mission. Amen.

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.

CLOSING PRAYER

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

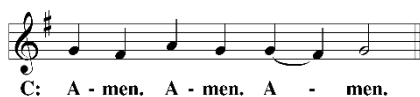


THE BLESSING

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.



****Please Be Seated****

CLOSING HYMN:

#462

OH, THAT THE LORD WOULD GUIDE MY WAYS



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To
2 Or - der my foot - steps by your Word, And
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, A
4 Make me to walk in your com - mands— 'Tis



keep his stat - utes still! Oh, that my God would
make my heart sin - cere; Let sin have no do -
strict - er watch to keep; And should I e'er for -
a de - light - ful road— Nor let my head or



grant me grace To know and do his will!
min - ion, Lord, But keep my con - science clear.
get your way, Re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.
heart or hands Of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.

Tune: EVAN (CM) William H. Havergal, 1793–1870, adapt.

WHAT WE BELIEVE:

- Every word of the Bible is inspired, inerrant, and the only source of absolute truth.
- The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit form the triune God, the only true God.
- All humans are born dead in sin and deserve eternal condemnation.
- Jesus Christ is the true God; he was conceived in Mary's womb by the Holy Spirit, adding a human nature to His divine nature.
- Only through His perfect work of redemption, which includes His perfect life and innocent death, are all sins for all people forgiven and given credit for His perfect life.
- Only those whom the Holy Spirit, through Word and Baptism, blesses with faith in Jesus' redemptive work receive the benefit of it.
- The day is drawing near when Jesus will return to take all believers to heaven, condemn all unbelievers to eternal torment, and destroy this present world.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Installation in Sutherlin: Rev. Homer Mosley will be installed on September 6 at 1 pm, with Pastor Emmons participating in the service. Anyone interested in attending and wanting to ride with the pastor should contact him to make arrangements.

Afternoon with Luther: September 21 at 1 p.m. Grace will welcome Dwight Johnson from Colorado Springs as he performs a one-man play about the life of Martin Luther. This event is free and open to the public; there will be a door offering, and all proceeds will go to LMSG.

Women's Mission Rally: The Pacific Northwest will host its women's rally at Bethany Lutheran Church, 151 Tremont Street, Port Orchard, WA, on September 26-27. The welcome dinner is scheduled for Friday from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The rally will take place on Saturday from 8 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., featuring Rev. Thomas Heyn and Rev. Timothy Bartels as speakers. Mavis has offered a ride to anyone interested in attending; please contact her to make arrangements.

Sunday Morning Bible Study: The Holy Spirit and His role in our faith. Please join us at 9:00 a.m. Throughout August, we gather to hear how He calls us. We pray this Bible Study will be enlightening for you! Feel free to bring your questions; you can come and go as needed; reading is always optional, and questions are always welcome.

Midweek Bible Study: Join us at 6:30 p.m. at Greg and Penny Port's house, 1923 NW Nickernut Ct, Redmond, to study the book of Amos. You can also join via Zoom. We will focus on the minor prophets of the Old Testament for the next twelve weeks. The Zoom link is provided, or you can email Pastor Emmons to get the link.

Zoom Meeting ID: 850 328 6057

Password: GraceOT

Visiting Our Neighbors: Pastor Emmons will be out on the streets Thursday morning from 10 a.m. to noon throughout July and August. Please consider joining him for some company.

Home Visits: Pastor Emmons will be making home visits. Please let him know if there are times when you're unavailable so he can plan your visit accordingly. This is a good opportunity to discuss any personal issues you may have or share ideas for our congregation.

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