

The Church Militant— Our Sacrifice

September 6,
2026



Fifteenth Sunday
after Pentecost

Welcome, guests! We're delighted you could join us. If you have any questions or would like more information about our church, any member of Grace would be happy to speak with you. This folder contains information about our services, and congregational responses are indicated by indented, bolded letters. Please also take a moment to fill out the guest register at the church's entrance; it is used only by the pastor and elders. Restrooms are 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 Church is militant: first the cross, then the crown. Today, Christ tells us that for him and for us, going God's way means death must come before life. He calls us to deny ourselves and follow him on the way of the cross. Those words offend our sinful flesh and make our Old Adam cry out with Peter, "Never!" They prompt us to accuse God, as Jeremiah did. So today the Church prays for Christ's never-failing mercy, that we might avoid such wicked and harmful thoughts and instead be guided along the cross-laden path to salvation. Then, and only then, do these words of Christ cease offending our flesh and become a joy and delight to our heart.

PRAYER FOR THE DAY: O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

ORDER FOR TODAY'S SERVICE: SERVICE OF THE WORD AND SACRAMENT— CW, p.26

The "Service of Word and Sacrament" is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church.



OPENING HYMN:

#529

BUILT ON THE ROCK

****Please Stand for the Last Verse****



1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand E - ven when
2 Sure - ly in tem - ples made with hands God, the Most
3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, Built for his
4 Here stands the font be - fore our eyes, Tell - ing how
5 Grant then, O God, your will be done, That, when the

stee - ples are fall - ing. Crum - bled have spires in
High, is not dwell - ing; High a - bove earth his
own hab - i - ta - tion. He through bap - tis - mal
God did re - ceive us. Th' al - tar re - calls Christ's
church bells are ring - ing, Man - y in sav - ing

ev - 'ry land; Bells still are chim - ing and call -
tem - ple stands, All earth - ly tem - ples ex - cel -
grace us owns Heirs of his won - drous sal - va -
sac - ri - fice And what the sac - ra - ment gives
faith may come Where Christ his mes - sage is bring -

ing, Call - ing the young and old to rest,
ling. Yet he who dwells in heav'n a - bove
tion. Were we but two his name to tell,
us. Here sound the Scrip - tures that pro - claim
ing: "I know my own; my own know me.

But a - bove all the soul dis - tressed,
Choos - es to live with us in love,
Yet he would deign with us to dwell
Christ yes - ter - day, to - day, the same,
You, not the world, my face shall see.

Long - ing for rest ev - er - last - ing.
Mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.
With all his grace and his fa - vor.
And ev - er - more, our Re - deem - er.
My peace I leave with you al - ways."

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872, abr.; tr. Carl Döving, 1867–1937, alt.
Tune: KIRKEN DEN ER ET GAMMELT HUS (88 88 88 8) Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–87.

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

And also, with you.

(2 Corinthians 13:14)

CONFESSION OF SINS

God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

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.

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.

Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

KYRIE

For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise. (*Psalms 145:3*)

O LORD, OUR LORD



you crown our life with your love. You take a-way our sin;
 you com-fort our spir-it; you make us pure and
 ho-ly in your sight. You did not spare your on-ly Son,
 but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,
 how glo-rious is your name in all the earth.
 O Son of God, e-ter-nal Word of the Fa-ther,
 you came to live with us; you made your Fa-ther known;
 you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the
 King of glo-ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,
 how glo-rious is your name in all the earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

FIRST LESSON:

JEREMIAH 15:15 – 21

The church is militant, which means dying to self and the things of man. After a hard ministry, Jeremiah began to forget the things of God and to focus too much on the things of man. The prophet Jeremiah struggled to carry the cross given to him by his God.

O Lord, you understand. Remember me and care for me. Take vengeance for me on those who persecute me. You are slow to anger. Do not take me away. Keep in mind that for your sake I bear disgrace. Your words came to me, and I devoured them. Your words became my joy, the delight of my heart, because I bear your name, O Lord God of Armies. I did not sit with the band of partygoers, nor did I celebrate with them. I sat alone, because your hand was upon me. You filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unending? Why is my wound incurable, refusing to heal? Will you be as deceptive as an intermittent stream to me, like a source of water that a person can't depend on?

Therefore this is what the Lord says. If you repent, I will take you back, so that you may stand before me. If what you say is worthwhile and not worthless, you will be my spokesman. They must turn to you, but you must not turn to them. I will make you like a bronze wall to this people. They will fight against you, but they will not overcome you, because I am with you to save you and to rescue you, declares the Lord. I will rescue you from the hand of the wicked, and I will deliver you from the grasp of the ruthless.

PSALM OF THE DAY:

PSALM 121

Refrain



Keep me, keep me as the ap - ple of your eye.



Hide me, hide me in the shad-ow of your wings.

Psalm tone



Refrain

I lift up my eyes to the hills.*
Where does my help come from?
My help comes from the LORD,*
the maker of heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot slip,*
he who watches over you will not slumber;

Refrain



Psalms tone



Refrain

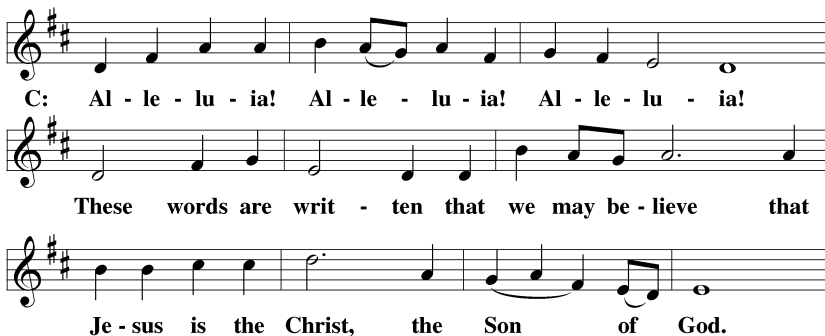
The LORD watches over you,*
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.
The LORD will keep you from all harm,*
he will watch over your life;
the LORD will watch over your coming and going*
both now and forevermore.

**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. Your words became a joy to me, and the delight of my heart. Alleluia. (Jeremiah 15:16
cf. RSV)





Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 16:21 – 26

Peter's great confession from last Sunday's Gospel showed the disciples understood who Jesus was. But though they understood his person, they still failed to understand his work. He had come to fulfill the redemptive mission for which he was anointed; he had not come to fulfill Israel's earthbound views of the Messiah, but God's plan.

From that time, Jesus began to show his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and experts in the law, and be killed, and on the third day be raised again.

Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "May you receive mercy, Lord! This will never happen to you." But Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a snare to me because you are not thinking the things of God, but the things of men."

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. In fact, whoever wants to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. After all, what will it benefit a person if he gains the whole world, but forfeits his soul? Or what can a person give in exchange for his soul?"



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY:

#465

JESUS, I MY CROSS HAVE TAKEN



1 Je - sus, I my cross have tak - en,
2 Let the world de - spise and leave me;
3 Go, then, earth - ly fame and trea - sure!
4 Haste, my soul, from grace to glo - ry,



All to leave and fol - low you. Des - ti -
They have left my Sav - ior, too. Hu - man
Come, dis - as - ter, scorn, and pain! In your
Armed by faith and winged by prayer. All but



tute, de - spised, for - sak - en, You on
hearts and looks de - ceive me; You are
ser - vice pain is plea - sure; With your
heav'n is tran - si - to - ry; God's own

earth once suf-fered, too. Per-ish ev-'ry;
not, like them, un-true. And since you have
fa-vor loss is gain. I have called you
hand shall guide you there. Soon shall end this

fond am-bi-tion, All I've ev-er
smiled up-on me, God of wis-dom,
Ab-ba, Fa-ther! You my all in
earth-ly sto-ry; Swift shall pass the

hoped or known; Yet how rich is my con-
love, and might, Foes may hate and friends may
all shall be. Storms may howl, and clouds may
pil-grim days, Hope soon change to heav'n-ly

di-tion! God and heav'n are still my own.
shun me— Show your face, all is bright.
gath-er; All must work for good to me.
glo-ry, Faith to sight and prayer to praise.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, abr., alt.
Tune: HYFRYDOL (87 87 D) Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–87.

****Please Stand****

SECOND LESSON

ROMANS 12:1 – 8

Jesus did not heed Satan’s temptation or Peter’s command. He denied himself and carried his cross to the hill of his death and our eternal life. Through that one act of righteousness, God gave justification that brings life to all mankind.

Therefore I urge you, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice—holy and pleasing to God—which is your appropriate worship. Also, do not continue to conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you test and approve what is the will of God—what is good, pleasing, and perfect.

So by the grace given to me, I tell everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought, but think in a way that results in sound judgment, as God distributed a measure of faith to each of you. For we have many members in one body, and not all the members have the same function. In the same way, though we are many, we are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

We have different gifts, according to the grace God has given us. If the gift is prophecy, do it in complete agreement with the faith. If it is serving, then serve. If it is teaching, then teach. If

it is encouraging, then encourage. If it is contributing, be generous. If it is leadership, be diligent. If it is showing mercy, do it cheerfully.

SERMON TEXT:

ROMANS 12:1 – 8

SERMON THEME:

THE CHURCH IS UNDER ATTACK; RESIST COMPROMISE

*****Please Stand*****

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*****Please Be Seated*****

OUR 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.

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 witness clearly and to act boldly toward those who live in Redmond and its 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.

Special Prayers and Intercessions

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.

Silent prayer.

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.

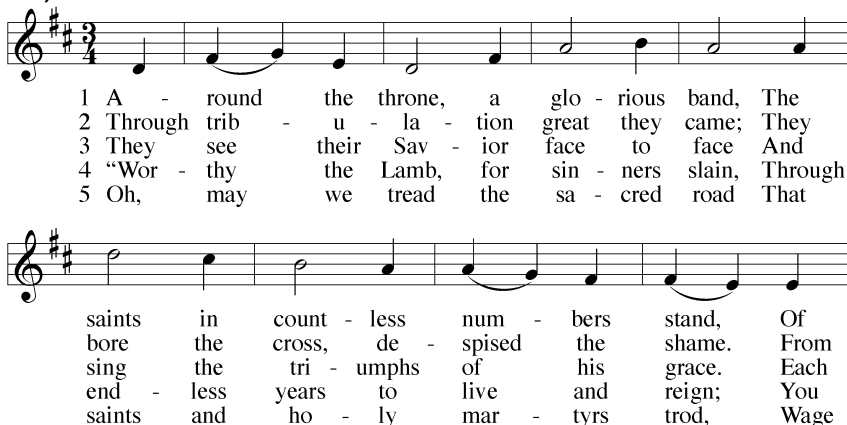
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

#549

AROUND THE THRONE, A GLORIOUS BAND



1 A - round the throne, a glo - rious band, The
2 Through trib - u - la - tion great they came; They
3 They see their Sav - ior face to face And
4 "Wor - thy the Lamb, for sin - ners slain, Through
5 Oh, may we tread the sa - cred road That

saints in count - less num - bers stand, Of
bore the cross, de - spised the shame. From
sing the tri - umphs of his grace. Each
end - less years to live and reign; You
saints and ho - ly mar - tyrs trod, Wage

ev - 'ry tongue, re - deemed to God, Ar -
all their la - bors now they rest In
day and night they sing his praise, To
have re - deemed us by your blood, And
to the end the glo - rious strife, And
rayed in gar - ments washed in blood.
God's e - ter - nal glo - ry blest.
him the loud thanks - giv - ing raise:
made us kings and priests to God."
win, like them, a crown of life.

Text: Rowland Hill, 1744–1833, abr., alt.

Tune: ROCKINGHAM OLD (LM) *Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature*, London, 1778, adapt.

****Please Stand****

THE SACRAMENT

The Lord be with you.

C: And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

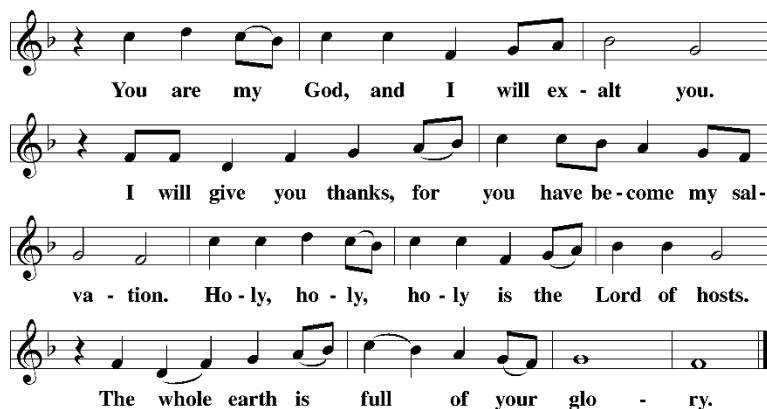
C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. By the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, he empowered his Church to be witnesses of Christ to the ends of the earth. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

SANCTUS

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.
The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (†) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

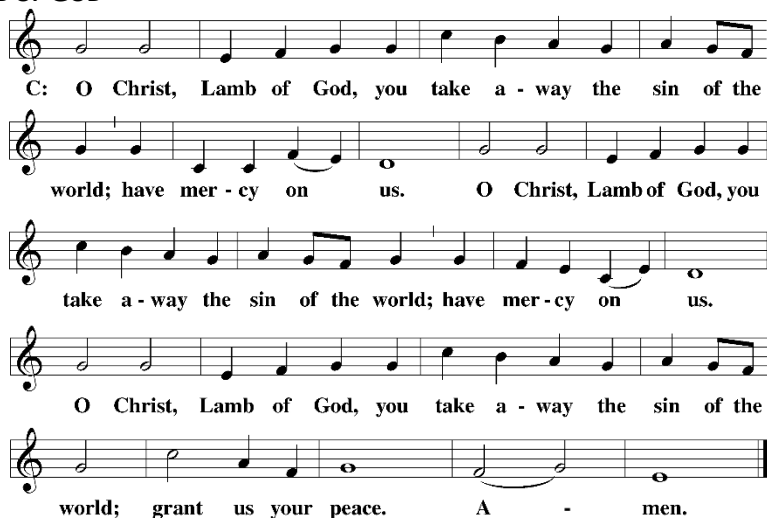
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (†) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."



The peace of the Lord be with you always.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

AGNUS DEI



****Please Be Seated****

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION – Please come forward at the direction of our usher. We do practice close communion according to Paul's guidance in 1 Corinthians 11:27: "For if anyone eats and drinks in an unworthy manner because he does not recognize the Lord's body, he eats and drinks judgment upon himself." Therefore, if you are not a member of the ELS or WELS, please talk to Pastor Emmons before communing. Thank you for respecting our practices.

****Please Stand****

THANK THE LORD

C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.
Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.
He re-news his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

CLOSING PRAYER

Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

BLESSING

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****

CLOSING HYMN:

#477

WHAT IS THE WORLD TO ME



1 What is the world to me With all its vaunt - ed
2 The world seeks to be praised And hon - ored by the
3 The world seeks af - ter wealth And all that mon - ey
4 What is the world to me! My Je - sus is my



plea - sure When you, and you a - lone, Lord
might - y, Yet nev - er once re - flects, That
of - fers, Yet nev - er is con - tent Though
trea - sure, My life, my health, my wealth, My



Je - sus, are my trea - sure! You on - ly, dear - est
they are frail and flight - y. But what I tru - ly
gold should fill its cof - fers. I have a high - er
friend, my love, my plea - sure, My joy, my crown, my



Lord, My soul's de - light shall be; You are my
prize A - bove all things is he, My Je - sus,
good; Con - tent with it I'll be; My Je - sus
all, My bliss e - ter - nal - ly. Once more then



peace, my rest. What is the world to me!
he a - lone. What is the world to me!
is my wealth— What is the world to me!
I de - clare: What is the world to me!

Text: Georg M. Pfefferkorn, 1645–1732, abr.; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Tune: WAS FRAG ICH NACH DER WELT (67 67 66 66) Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629–1701, alt.

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, assuming His 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. Those who reject God's love remain condemned in their sins for eternity.
- The day is drawing near when Jesus will return; all believers will be with Him in heaven, all unbelievers will be condemned to eternal torment, and this present world will be destroyed.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELS Website: The ELS website (<https://els.org>) has many great resources for our members. On the site, you will find news about the synod, call lists, resources such as devotions, Bible studies, evangelism and outreach ideas, and the quarterly publication “Lutheran Sentinel.”

Sunday School teachers: Do you have this overwhelming desire to teach children or be part of our congregation’s future? We potentially have three Sunday School students (3, 5, and 8); we need teachers. If you have taught Sunday School before and would like to help teach our children, or if planning and organizing is your thing. Please talk to Pastor Emmons; we need 3 or 4 people to help with Sunday School.

Information Meeting: The council would like to meet with the congregation assembly on Sunday, September 13, following the service to update everyone on the potential property in the Fred Meyers complex.

Bible Information Class: We are still looking for participants for our Bible Information Class on Thursday evenings at 6 p.m.

Time for Outreach: “Music on the Green” was postponed this past week due to rain and will be made up on September 9. Setup begins at 3:30 p.m., and the music starts at 6:00 p.m. Please consider coming out to join us and meet our neighbors.

Sunday Morning Bible Study: Please consider attending our Sunday morning adult Bible Study as we study Paul’s letter to the church at Philippi.

Midweek Bible Study: Our Tuesday evening Bible Study is at 6 p.m. We will meet at Gary and Lani Carroll’s home (3211 SW Umatilla Rd.) to study Isaiah, or you can join us on Zoom.

Zoom Meeting ID: 850 328 6057

Password: GraceOT

Women’s Mission Rally: Mark your calendar for the West Coast Women’s Mission Rally, to be held at Christ Lutheran Church in Klamath Falls, Oregon, September 25–26.

Pastor out of town: Pastor Emmons will be in Milwaukee this week (Sep. 9–12) for the annual LMSG planning meeting. If you need pastoral care, you can contact the elder, Gene Baldwin, at 541-610-9978.

Pastor: Roger Emmons
Email: Roger.emmons@graceredmond.com
Web Site: <https://graceredmond.com>
Church Phone: 541-844-7100
Cell Phone: 541-699-7643

Address: 945 SW Glacier Ave
Redmond, OR 97756
Mailing Address: PO Box 2396
Redmond, OR 97756