

Order of Worship
4th Sunday after Pentecost

June 21, 2026



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
745 S. Ingraham Avenue
Lakeland, FL 33801
863-686-5585

The Rev. Dr. Olga-Maria Cruz, Pastor
Email: pastor@gracelakeland.com
www.gracelakeland.com

INTRODUCTION God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

*=ALL STAND for this part of worship

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

arr. Lani Smith

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we
may delight in your will and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.



1 Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo - ry to the Lord on high!"
2 Ser - vants striv - ing for the Lord, proph - ets burn - ing with the word,
3 Men and wom - en, young and old, raise the an - them loud and bold,



Heav'n and earth, a - wake and sing, "Praise to our al - might - y king!"
those to whom the arts be - long add their voic - es to the song.
and let chil - dren's hap - py hearts in this wor - ship take their parts;



Praise God, an - gel hosts a - bove, ev - er bright and fair in love;
Pow'rs of knowl - edge and of law, to the glo - rious cir - cle draw;
from the north to south - ern pole let the might - y cho - rus roll:



sun and moon, lift up your voice; night and stars, in God re - joice.
all who work and all who wait, sing, "The Lord is good and great!"
"Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly One; glo - ry be to God a - lone!"

TEMPLE TALK

***APOSTOLIC GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

* KYRIE

A In peace, in peace let us pray to the Lord. **A** For the

G Lord, have mer - cy.

peace from a-bove, and for our sal - va-tion, let us pray to the

Lord. **A** For the peace of the whole world, the well - be-ing of the

G Lord, have mer - cy.

Church of God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

Continued on next page

Lord. **A** For this ho-ly house, and for all who of-fer here their

C Lord, have mer - cy.

wor - ship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A Help, save, com-fort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.

C A - men

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray together:

Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING:

Jeremiah 20:7-13

⁷ O Lord, you have enticed me,
and I was enticed;
you have overpowered me,
and you have prevailed.

I have become a laughingstock all day long;
everyone mocks me.

⁸ For whenever I speak, I must cry out;
I must shout, “Violence and destruction!”
For the word of the Lord has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.

⁹ If I say, “I will not mention him
or speak any more in his name,”
then within me there is something like a burning fire
shut up in my bones;
I am weary with holding it in,
and I cannot.

¹⁰ For I hear many whispering:
“Terror is all around!
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!”
All my close friends
are watching for me to stumble.

“Perhaps he can be enticed,
and we can prevail against him
and take our revenge on him.”

¹¹ But the Lord is with me like a terrifying warrior;
therefore my persecutors will stumble,
and they will not prevail.

They will be greatly shamed,
for they will not succeed.
Their eternal dishonor
will never be forgotten.

¹² O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous;
you see the heart and the mind;
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

¹³ Sing to the Lord;
praise the Lord!

For he has delivered the life of the needy
from the hands of evildoers.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 69:7-10, 16-18 (*We will read the Psalm responsively by half verse.*)

⁷ Surely, for your sake I have suffered reproach,
and shame has covered my face.

⁸ I have become a stranger to my own kindred,
an alien to my mother's children.

⁹ Zeal for your house has eaten me up;
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

¹⁰ I humbled myself with fasting,
but that was turned to my reproach.

¹⁶ Answer me, O Lord, for your love is kind;
in your great compassion, turn to me.

¹⁷ Hide not your face from your servant;
be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

¹⁸ Draw near to me and redeem me;
because of my enemies, deliver me.

SECOND READING:

Romans 6:1b-11

^{1b} Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

³⁶ and one's foes will be members of one's own household.
³⁷ "Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, ³⁸ and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Olga-Maria Cruz

Silence is kept for reflection.



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand?"
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

*APOSTLE'S CREED

We now profess the faith we share using the words of the Apostles' Creed:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

Life-giving God, you have called your people to lose their lives for Jesus' sake. Strengthen your church to follow you in the face of difficulty. Please bless presiding Bishop Curry, Bishop Suarez, and our synod staff.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Creator God, you know every sparrow that falls to the ground. Protect migrating birds, endangered species, and their natural habitats. Empower us to care for your creation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Sovereign God, you call us to act justly and love mercy. Protect the marginalized and all to whom we have not shown the abounding love of Jesus. Help us bring an end to oppression and bigotry in all forms.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Sustaining God, you promise to provide for us. Help those living with disability. Comfort those experiencing any sort of illness or suffering, *especially Mary, Barbara, Mabel, Doris, June, Willah, Ann, Julie, Christen, Carol, Judy, Jeff, Gloria, Betty, Brian, James & Gray, Wil, Amy, Bob & Jane, Scott, Lynda, Ron & Flo, Barbara, Monica, Avery, John, Abby, Tim, Arleen & Richard, Betty, Linda, Sue, Henry, Glenn, Gary, Connie, Greg, Beverly & Ray, Helen & Ron, and Max.*

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Empowering God, strengthen us to live out our diverse callings. We pray especially for fathers and father figures, that they show your compassion and care. We pray for all for whom this day is difficult or painful.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Faithful God, we give thanks for saints who have claimed their baptismal promises. May we follow their example of faith and service.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Faith of Our Fathers

arr. Michael Burkhardt

***OFFERING SONG**

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

WOV Setting 4

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in the key of D major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of six lines of music. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The first line begins with a common time signature 'C' and a key signature change to D major. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests. The lyrics are: 'Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, fill to the brim our cup of bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed, we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and the dreams of all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer now. Grace our ta-ble with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.'

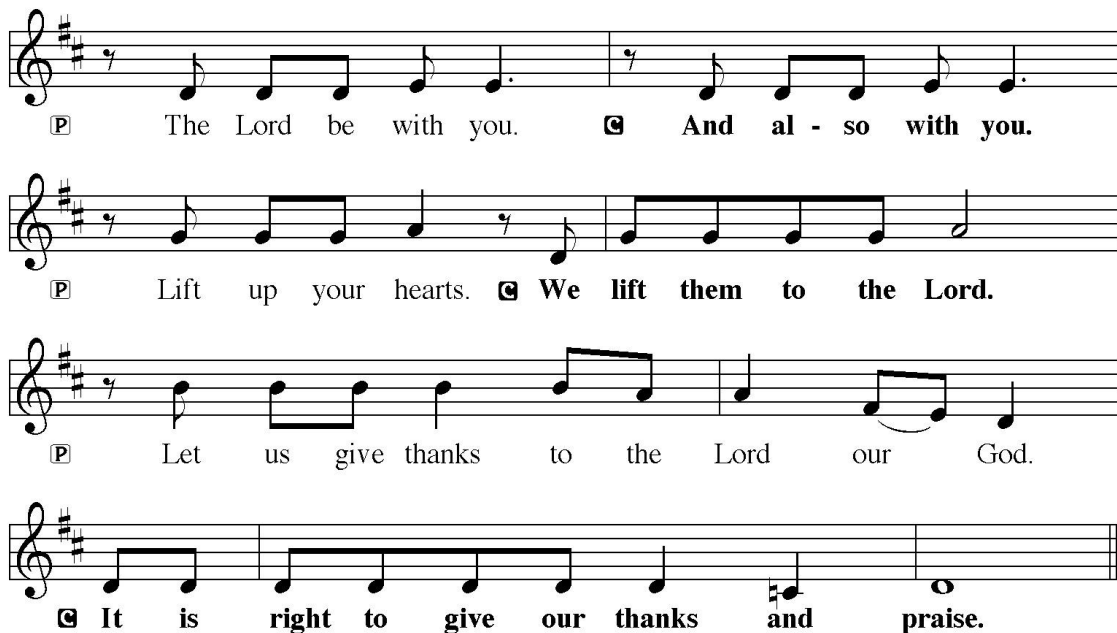
C Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, fill to the brim our
cup of bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed, we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath-er the hopes and the dreams of all; u-nite them with the
prayers we of-fer now. Grace our ta-ble with your pres-ence,
and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary
that we should at all times and in all places
offer thanks and praise to you,
o Lord, Holy Father, almighty and ever-living God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with the church on earth, all creation, and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

The musical score is written on five staves in treble clef with a common time signature. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was handed over,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

***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.**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.
Thanks be to God.

All baptized children of God are invited to the Lord's Table, where we receive Jesus' very body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine. We partake at the communion rail; gluten free bread and grape juice are available. If you wish to commune, but cannot come forward, let an usher know and we will come to you. If you do not wish to commune, you are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. Anyone may remain at the rail for a time of personal prayer, following which you may return to your pew down the side aisle.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



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



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



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



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN(S)

Children of the Heavenly Father
O Jesus, I have Promised
(Next pages)

ELW 781
ELW 810

Children of the Heavenly Father

Tryggare kan ingen vara



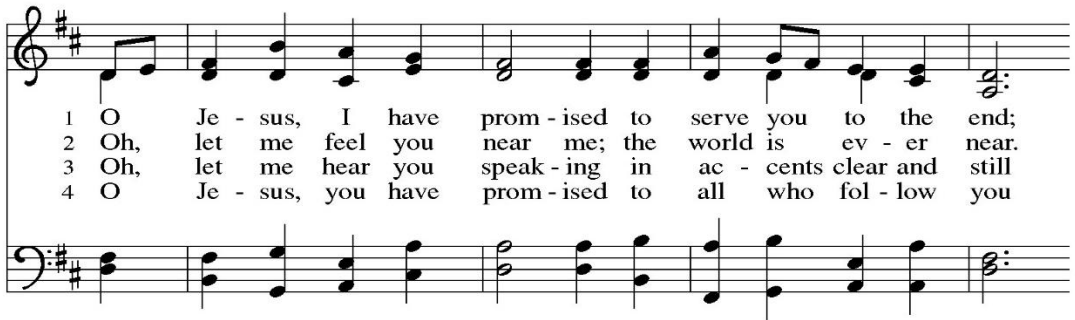
- 1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa-ther safe-ly in his bo - som gath - er;
- 2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour-ish.
- 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;
- 4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;



nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.



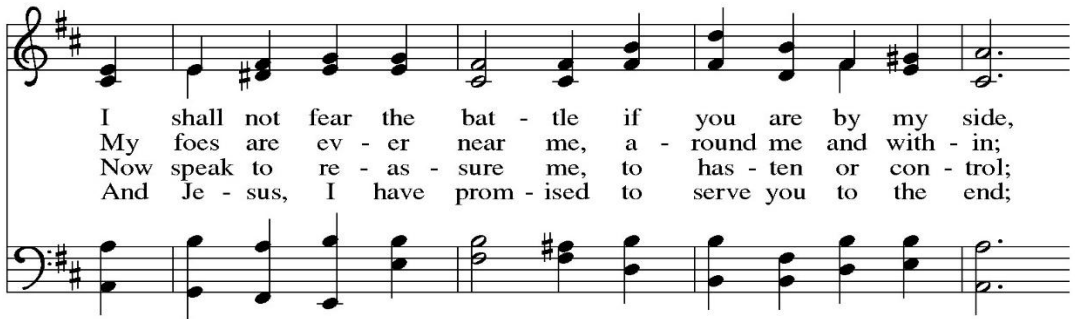
O Jesus, I Have Promised



1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.
3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still
4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.
I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear.
a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.



I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.
now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.
oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

***POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **Amen.**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

**Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled
with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we,
through this holy meal,
may share your love freely,
as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us
now and forever.
Amen.**

*SENDING HYMN

The Church of Christ, in Every Age

ELW 729

1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by
 2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
 3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
 4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
 5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -

change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
 of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
 church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
 fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
 be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -

her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
 bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
 sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
 share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
 out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

***BENEDICTION**

May the mercy of our God,
✠ Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
be with you now
and remain with you always.
Amen.

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

God of Our Fathers

arr. Lani Smith

PERMISSIONS

Liturgical Text and Music from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, With One Voice, All Creation Sings, and sundaysandseasons.com, © 1995, 2006, 2020, 2022 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted and/or streamed with permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies License #SAS016761. All rights reserved.

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Eternal Father, Strong to Save, Tune: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823-1876, arr. Lani Smith, 1934-2015. Arr. ©1992, 2016 Lorenz Publishing Company, admin Music Services. Streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-722274. All rights reserved.

Let the Whole Creation Cry, Text: Stopford A. Brooke, 1832-1916, alt. Music: Jakob Hintze, 162201702, arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685-1750, adapt. Public domain.

How Firm a Foundation, Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt. Music: Early American. Public domain.

Faith of Our Fathers, Tune: ST. CATHERINE, Henry F. Hemy, 1818-1863, James G. Walton, 1821-1905, refrain, arr. Michael Burkhardt, b. 1957. Arr. © 2007 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP), div. MorningStar Music Publishers. Streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-722274. All rights reserved.

Children of the Heavenly Father, Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870-1958. Text © 1925 Board of Publication. Lutheran Church in America. Text reprinted and/or streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-722274. All rights reserved. Music: Swedish folk tune. Public domain.

O Jesus I Have Promised, Text: John E. Bode, 1816-1874, alt. Music: *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693. Public Domain.

The Church of Christ, in Every Age, Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000. Text © 1971 Hope Publishing Company. Text reprinted and/or streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-722274. All rights reserved. Music: William Knapp, 1698-1768. Public Domain.

Sortie on "National Hymn", Tune: NATIONAL HYMN, George W. Warren, 1828-1902, arr. Lani Smith, 1934-2015. Arr. © 1980, 2016 Lorenz Publishing Company, admin Music Services. Streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-722274. All rights reserved.

Grace Lutheran livestreams our worship services over Facebook, YouTube, or other platforms and has them available for later viewing through our website. We may also use still photography of church activities for church communications, websites, and other uses. By your presence with us, you acknowledge that you may be photographed, and you consent to our use of it for these purposes. The video capture of congregants is minimal and will usually be from the back. If you want to be sure that you will not be shown on any video, we recommend sitting near the back on the left side of the sanctuary.

Scan this Tithe.ly QR code with your phone camera to send an offering to Grace.



Council Representatives		Ministries	
Terry Neal	President	The Rev. Dr. Olga-Maria Cruz	<i>Pastor</i>
	Stewardship		(863) 529-1229
Barbara Carpanini	Vice President		pastor@gracelakeland.com
Kristen Storms	Corp. Secretary	Kandyn Mathes	<i>Admin. Assistant</i>
	Christian Ed.		(863) 686-5585
Marty Lewis	Treasurer		church@gracelakeland.com
James Irish	Rec. Secretary	Lynda Mack	<i>Bookkeeper</i>
Mary Flekke	Financial Secretary		Lynda.mackcpa@yahoo.com
Tom Hager	Property, Outreach		(863) 660-5859
Naomi Thomsen	Finance	Mary Flekke	<i>Bell Choir Director</i>
	Memorials		mflekke@tampabay.rr.com
Dan Stoller	Social Ministry		(863) 660-1156
Marty Lewis	Worship/Music	Art Pranno	<i>Choir Director</i>
Jon Thiele		Gene Hodges	<i>Organist</i>
		Rita Fandrich	<i>Pianist</i>
		Marty Lewis	<i>Worship Band Director</i>
			drmslewis@gmail.com
			(863) 648-4770
		Church Website	www.gracelakeland.com



GRACE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH