

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Service of Holy Communion
July 19, 2026
9:30 am

Grace Lutheran Church
Camp Hill, PA

**-the congregation is invited to stand*

WELCOME TO GRACE

A warm welcome to all who are worshiping with us this summer. If you are visiting with us, please fill out a guest card which are found in the pews. Following the service, please introduce yourself to the pastor.

We hope that this bulletin will help guide you through our worship service.

INTRODUCTION

It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

God gathers us in unity.

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

The Little Lamb

Gregg Sewell

***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,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."
In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.
Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN**

Blessed Assurance

ELW#638

***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.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

The assembly may be seated.

God speaks to us in scriptures read, sung, and preached.

WORD

FIRST READING – Isaiah 44:6-8

⁶Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:
I am the first, and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.
⁷Who is like me? Let them proclaim it;
let them declare and set it forth before me.
Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.
⁸Do not fear or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?

You are my witnesses!
Is there any god besides me?

There is no other rock; I know not one.
Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM – Psalm 86:11-17

¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

¹² **I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart,
and glorify your name forevermore.**

¹³ For great is your love toward me;
you have delivered me from the pit of death.

¹⁴ **The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of
violent people seeks my life;
they have not set you before their eyes.**

¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

¹⁶ **Turn to me and have mercy on me;
give your strength to your servant, and save the
child of your handmaid.**

¹⁷ Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me
may see it and be put to shame;
because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

SECOND READING – Romans 8:12-25

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to

futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *We Are Called* ELW#720

Refrain

We are called to act with jus-tice, we are called to
love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -
oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

***GOSPEL: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew.

Glorify to you, O Lord.

²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸ He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the

harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷ He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”
The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly may be seated.

SERMON

The assembly stands as able.

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

Children of the Heavenly Father

ELW#781

***APOSTLES’ CREED**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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.**

***THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Each prayer concludes:

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

***THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Share the peace with one another.

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

MEAL

OFFERING

We respond to the grace given us by sharing our gifts with others through the offering. Today's regular offering supports the ongoing ministry of Grace church. You can give online, by cash, or by check.

MUSICAL OFFERING

As the Deer for Violin and Piano

arr. Tom Fettke

Emily Hartman – violin, Kristopher Hartman - piano

***SETTING THE TABLE**

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

ELW#512

The musical notation is written on three staves in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray. 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**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

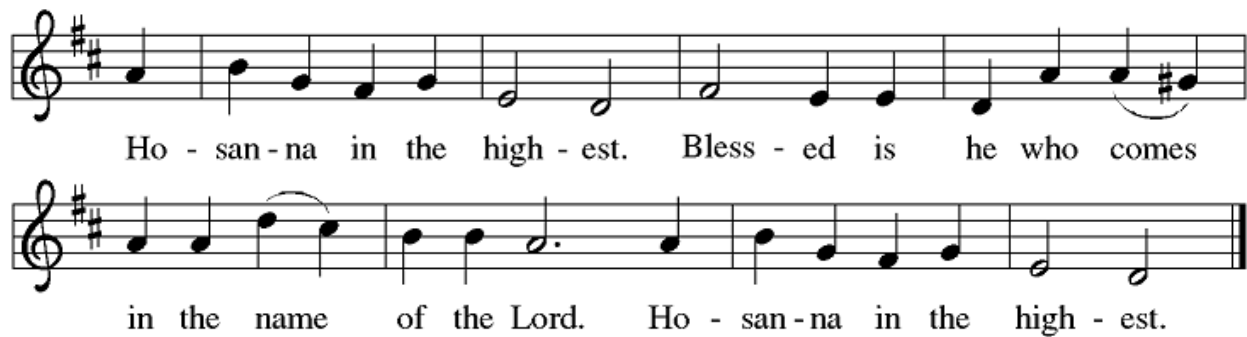
Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful 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 all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**





***THANKSGIVING AT TABLE**

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

*In the night in which he was betrayed,
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.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen, amen, 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.

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

ELW#885

The musical notation is written on three staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

Thanks be to God.

The assembly may be seated.

Those communing at home or in their seats are invited to prepare their elements then to be led through eating and drinking the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine.

The Lutheran Church welcomes all to the Lord's Supper. If you are not a Christian and wish to inquire about the Christian faith, we invite you to speak to the minister.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

ELW#752

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

This musical score is for a two-part setting of the hymn 'Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying'. It is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first system consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a melody with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment, ending with a final chord in the treble staff.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Jesus Remember Me (3 times)

ELW#616

Je - sus, re - mem-ber me when you come in-to your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem-ber me when you come in-to your king - dom.

This musical score is for a three-part setting of the hymn 'Jesus Remember Me'. It is written in B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The first system consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a melody with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment, ending with a final chord in the treble staff.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Borning Cry

ELW#732

*BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of the Risen Lord strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

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.

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

SENDING

***BLESSING**

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, † one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**

Praise and Thanksgiving

ELW#689

***DISMISSAL**

Serving, Loving, Growing in Faith.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Praise and Thanksgiving

Bunessan

SERVING TODAY IN WORSHIP

Presiding MinisterThe Rev. Dr. J. Richard Eckert
Assisting Minister..... Ethan Lentz
Lector..... Brigitte Storey
Acolyte Liam Barber
Communion AssistantsDonna Enrico, Pat O'Neal
SoundLarry Hoffman
Director of Music..... Kristopher Hartman
Organist..... Emily Hartman
Technology OperatorChris Jury

This Week at Grace: July 18-24, 2026

We make a difference by serving others through God's love and our faith.



Connect with Us



EVENTS

The Sanctuary Lamp for July is given by Nancy Whitcomb in memory of Paul & Greg.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God.

The Bulletins & Mailings are given to the Glory of God.

We hold in prayer especially this week....

Tom Zimmerman, Wayne & Veronica Butler, Elizabeth Butler, Ken & Paddy Barber, Bob Hillegas, Mark Caron, Stacey LaPine, Mary Ryder, Jeff Johnson, Tricia Butz, Dr. Robert Little, Jaclyn Atkins, Robert Schweitzer, Alice M., Dean Jury, the friends & family of Patricia Ensminger and the friends & family of Jason Hoffman.

We hold in prayer the recently departed....

Patricia Ensminger and Jason Hoffman

Welcome to Our Church Cards

If you are visiting Grace at one of our worship services, please take a moment to complete one of the "Welcome to Our Church" cards found in the pews, both narthexes and in the library. We'd love to hear from you.

Movie Night - Rescheduled

The Movie Night scheduled for Friday, July 17 in the Social Hall has been rescheduled to Friday, August 7. Doors open at 7:00pm and movie kicks off at 7:15pm.

Pastor Chad on Vacation

Pastor Chad will continue to be on vacation until Saturday, July 25. During this time if you need pastoral assistance or have any emergencies, please contact Pastor Eckert at 717-737-0439 or office@gracecamphill.org.

Community Meal – July 22

Come out for some good food and fellowship. The menu consists of Pork BBQ Sandwich, Mac n Cheese, Peas & Carrots, Soup, Coffee, Tea & Water, as well as Assorted Desserts. This will be the last Community Meal until September as there will be no Community Meals in August.

GYG Pool Party – Friday, July 24

The GYG Pool Party is open to all youth and families in GYG, and the younger siblings of those who are in GYG. Burgers, Hot dogs, Soda, Water, and Ice cream will be provided. Please bring a snack, small side dish, or dessert to share if you attend. For directions or more information contact Ethan Lentz at ethan.lentz@gracecamphill.org.

Upcoming Events (See the [Events page](#) on the website for more details)

7/26	Installation of New Members
8/3	Grace Book Club
8/7	Movie Night
8/9	Installation of The Rev. Dr. J. Richard Eckert
8/12	Summer Board Game Night

Grace's Merchandise Store

Want some cool Grace gear? We offer a variety of items including hats, polo shirts, t-shirts, sweatshirts, a windbreaker jacket, and water bottles. A portion of the proceeds from each purchase goes back to Grace.

<https://www.bonfire.com/store/grace-lutheran-camp-hill-merch/>



GRACE MERCHANDISE

Special Benevolence Offering

The Special Benevolence for **JULY** is **Lutheran World Relief**. To contribute, please list your dollar amount next to *Special Offering Ministry* on the contribution envelopes, use the online giving page on the website page at <https://www.gracecamphill.org/give> or use the QR Code.



Give Now

Pastoral Assistance or At Home Communion

If you need pastoral assistance or to request At Home Communion, please contact Pastor Chad at 717-737-0439x10 or pastorchad@gracecamphill.org. If you have a pastoral emergency outside of normal working hours you can contact Pastor Chad on his mobile phone at 610-297-2514. *A pastoral emergency would be a death, or life-threatening circumstances.*

Lost & Found Items

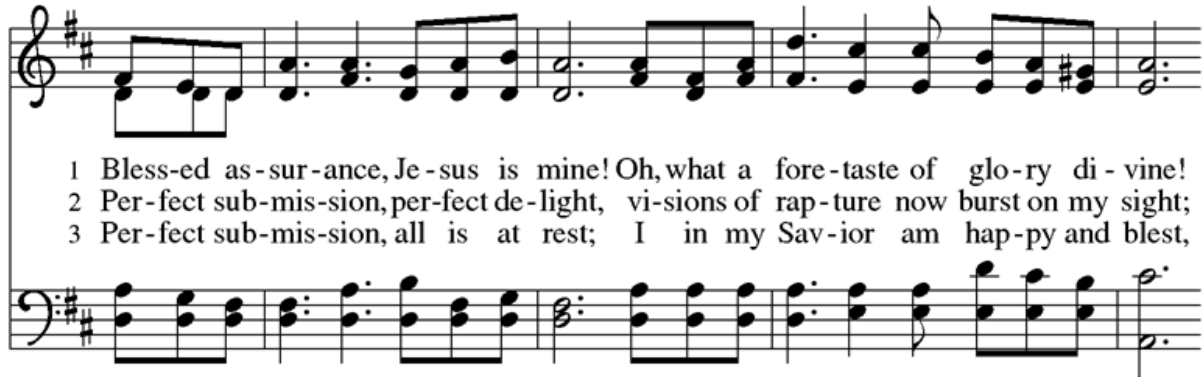
If you are missing a coat, a water bottle or other items please check with the office at 717-737-0439 or office@gracecamphill.org to see if your missing item(s) may have been turned in. Items will be kept in the office for (1) month. After that time, they will be placed in the Community Aid bin in the second parking lot.

Good News from Grace articles are due by **12noon on the 15th of the month** for the next month's newsletter. **This Week at Grace** information is due by **12noon on Tuesdays**. Please email any information to ddeppen@gracecamphill.org.

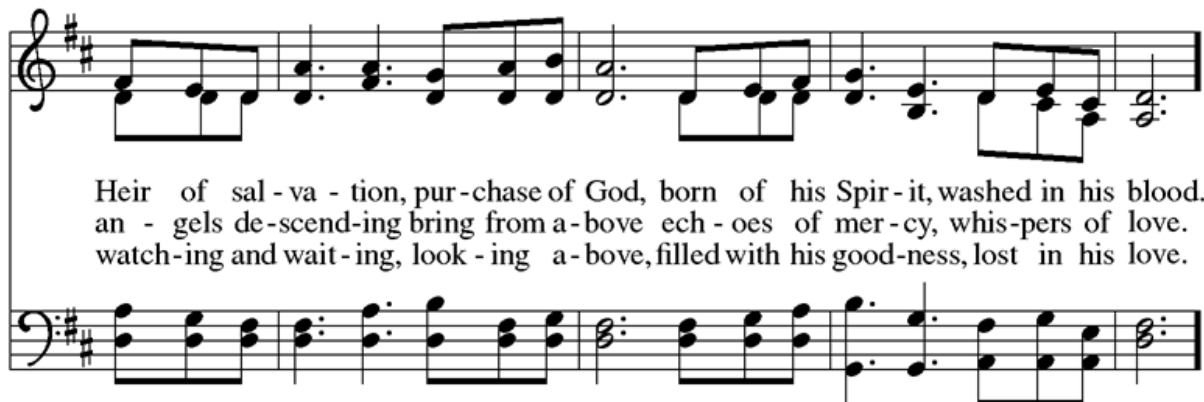
Calendar

7/18/26	5:00pm	Sabbath Service of Holy Communion in Barkley Chapel
7/19/26	9:30am	Service of Holy Communion in Sanctuary
7/20/26	6:30pm	NO Scouting America Meeting Group Spiritual Formation in Small Conference Room
7/21/26	9:00am	Quilting Ministry in Quilt Room
7/22/26	3:00pm 5:30pm	Grace Giving Pantry Community Meal in the Social Hall
7/24/26	5:00pm	GYG Pool Party at the Weber's

Blessed Assurance

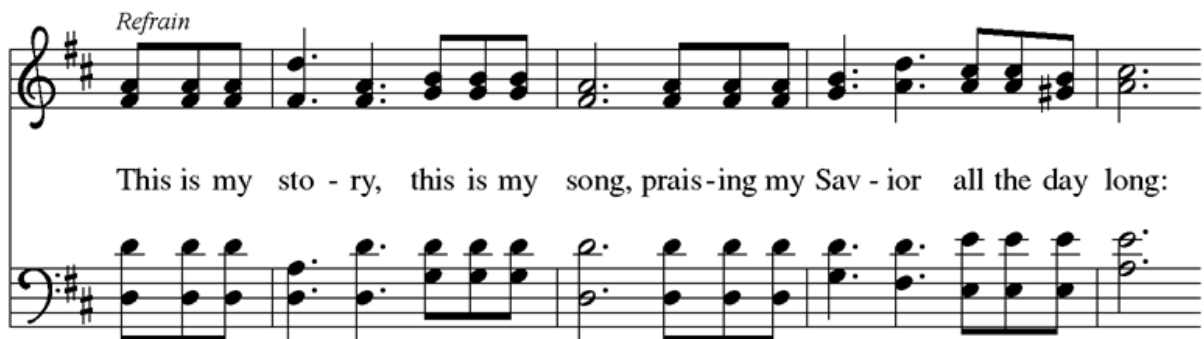


1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Children of the Heavenly Father

Tryggare kan ingen vara

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature of 4/4. The lyrics are in Swedish and English. The Swedish lyrics are: Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra, 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; stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet. 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.

Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,
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;

stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.
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.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958

Music: TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA, Swedish folk tune

Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Praise and Thanksgiving

1 Praise and thanks-giv-ing, God, we would of-fer for all things
2 God, bless the la-bor we bring to serve you, that with our
3 Fa-ther, pro-vid-ing food for your chil-dren, by Wis-dom's
4 Then will your bless-ing reach ev-'ry peo-ple, free-ly con-

liv-ing, you have made good: har-vest of sown fields, fruits of the
neigh-bor we may be fed. Sow-ing or till-ing, we would work
guid-ing teach us to share one with an-oth-er, so that, re-
fess-ing your gra-cious hand. Where you are reign-ing, no one will

or-chard, hay from the mown fields, blos-som and wood.
with you, har-vest-ing, mill-ing for dai-ly bread.
joic-ing with us, all oth-ers may know your care.
hun-ger; your love sus-tain-ing show-ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.
Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version
Text © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

Our Story

Matthew 25:35-40: *For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’”*

The purpose of Grace Lutheran Church is to make a difference by serving others through God’s love and our faith

Grace Church Staff

Senior Pastor The Rev. Chad Butz
..... 610.297.2514 (cell); pastorchad@gracecamphill.org
Pastor for Spiritual Formation.....The Rev. Dr. J. Richard Eckert
.....pastoreckert@gracecamphill.org
Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministry Ethan Lentz
..... Ethan.Lentz@gracecamphill.org
Director of MusicKristopher Hartman
..... K.E.Hartman11@gmail.com
Organist Emily Hartman
..... K.E.Hartman11@gmail.com
Office Administrator/Sexton Chris Jury
..... cjury@gracecamphill.org
Administrative SpecialistDiane Deppen
.....ddeppen@gracecamphill.org

To contact the church office: 717.737.0439; office@gracecamphill.org
Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

**Grace Lutheran Church * 1610 Carlisle Road *
Camp Hill, Pennsylvania 17011**