



DIVINE GRACE EV. LUTHERAN

CHURCH • SCHOOL • PRESCHOOL

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
3000 S. Lapeer Road • Lake Orion, MI 48359
(248) 391-1131 • www.DivineGrace.net



SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

ORDER OF SERVICE

Hymn 623

O Bless the Lord, My Soul



1 O bless the Lord, my soul! Let all with-in me join and
2 O bless the Lord, my soul, nor let his mer-cies lie for-
3 'Tis he for-gives your sins, 'tis he re-lieves your pain, 'tis
4 He fills the poor with good; he gives the suf-f'ers rest. The
5 His won-drous works and ways he made by Mo-ses known but



aid my tongue to bless his name whose fa-vors are di-vine.
got-ten in un-thank-ful-ness and with-out prais-es die.
he that heals your sick-ness-es and makes you young a-gain.
Lord has judg-ments for the proud and jus-tice for th'op-pressed.
sent the world his truth and grace by his be-lov-ed Son.

Text and tune: Public domain

Greeting

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.

Confession and Absolution

We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

Amen.

Prayer and Praise

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

O taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless-ed are they who take
ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e - ter - nal; it
stands firm in the heav - ens. Your faith - ful - ness con -
tin - ues for - ev - er. O taste and see that the
Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

Prayer of the Day

Lord God, heavenly Father, you graciously forgive us all our sins and abundantly provide for all our needs of body and soul. Give us confidence in your mercy, and teach us also to be merciful to our neighbor, that we willingly forgive all people, and judging only ourselves, lead blessed lives to your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

The Word

First Reading

Genesis 50:15-21

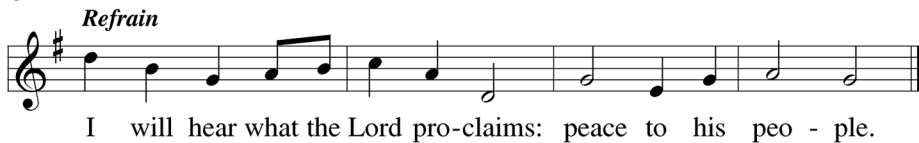
Joseph's brothers had treated him badly. Joseph was quick to forgive them and free them from the prison of their past.

¹⁵ When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and will pay us back in full for all of the evil that we did to him."

¹⁶ They sent the following message to Joseph: "Before he died your father commanded us, ¹⁷ 'You are to tell Joseph, "Please forgive the offense of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.'" Now, please forgive the offense of the servants of the God of your father."

Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ His brothers also came and fell down in front of him, and they said, "See now, we are your servants." ¹⁹ Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰ You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring this to pass and to keep many people alive, as it is this day. ²¹ Now therefore, do not be afraid. I will nourish you and your little ones." He comforted them and spoke to them in a kind way.

Psalm 103



**Praise the Lord, 'O my soul;*
all my inmost being, praise his 'holy name.**

**He forgives 'all your sins*
and heals all your dis'eases;**

**he redeems your life 'from the grave*
and crowns you with love and com'passion.**

Refrain: I will hear what the Lord proclaims: peace to his people.

The Lord is compassionate and 'gracious,*
slow to anger, abound'ing in love.

He does not treat us as our 'sins deserve*
or repay us according to our in'iquities.

For as high as the heavens are a'bove the earth,*
so great is his love for those who 'fear him;

as far as the east is 'from the west,*
so far has he removed our transgressions 'from us.

Refrain: I will hear what the Lord proclaims: peace to his people.

As a father has compassion on his 'children,*
so the Lord has compassion on those who 'fear him;

for he knows how 'we are formed,*
he remembers that 'we are dust.

Our days are like grass, like a flower 'of the field;*
the wind blows over it and 'it is gone.

But the Lord's love is with those who 'fear him*
from everlasting to ever'lasting.

Glory be to the Father and 'to the Son*
and to the Holy 'Spirit,
as it was in the be'ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. 'Amen.

Refrain: I will hear what the Lord proclaims: peace to his people.

Second Reading

Ephesians 4:29-5:2

The Lord, through Paul, teaches that kindness, compassion, and forgiveness are marks of God's Church.

²⁹ Do not let any unwholesome talk come from your mouths. Say only what is beneficial when there is a need to build up others, so that it will be a blessing to those who hear. ³⁰ Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Get rid of every kind of bitterness, rage, anger, quarreling, and slander, along with every kind of malice. ³² Instead, be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ has forgiven us. ¹ Therefore, be imitators of God as his dearly loved children. ² And walk in love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Verse of the Day

Alleluia. Bear with each other and forgive one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.
Alleluia.

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

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

Gospel Reading & Sermon Text

Matthew 18:21-35

Through a parable Jesus teaches that the ability to forgive others comes when the Spirit enables us to understand how much God has forgiven us.

²¹ Then Peter came up and asked Jesus, “Lord, how many times must I forgive my brother when he sins against me? As many as seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but I tell you as many as seventy-seven times.

²³ For this reason the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ When he began to settle them, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. ²⁵ Because the man was not able to pay the debt, his master ordered that he be sold, along with his wife, children, and all that he owned to repay the debt. ²⁶ Then the servant fell down on his knees in front of him, saying, ‘Master, be patient with me, and I will pay you everything!’ ²⁷ The master of that servant had pity on him, released him, and forgave him the debt.

²⁸ But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him one hundred denarii. He grabbed him and began choking him, saying, ‘Pay me what you owe!’ ²⁹ So his fellow servant fell down and begged him, saying, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay you back!’ ³⁰ But he refused. Instead he went off and threw the man into prison until he could pay back what he owed.

³¹ When his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were very distressed. They went and reported to their master everything that had taken place. ³² Then his master called him in and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt when you begged me to. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴ His master was angry and handed him over to the jailers until he could pay back everything he owed.

³⁵ This is what my heavenly Father will also do to you unless each one of you forgives his brother from his heart.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Hymn 731

Oh, How Good It Is



1 Oh, how good it is when the fam - 'ly of God dwells to -
 2 Oh, how good it is on this jour - ney we share to re -
 3 Oh, how good it is to em - brace his com - mand to pre -



geth - er in spir - it, in faith and u - ni - ty. Where the
 joice with the hap - py and weep with those who mourn. For the
 fer one an - oth - er, for - give as he for - gives. When we



bonds of peace, of ac - cept - ance and love are the
 weak find strength, the af - flict - ed find grace when we
 live as one we all share in the love of the



fruits of his pres - ence here a - mong us.
 of - fer the bless - ing of be - long - ing.
 Son with the Fa - ther and the Spir - it.



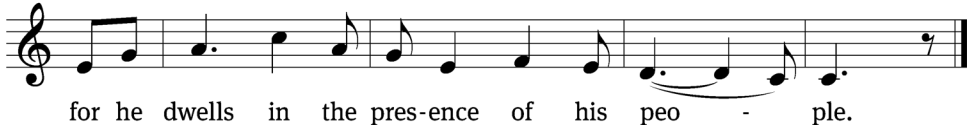
Refrain
 So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord,



and with one heart we'll live out his word,



till the whole earth sees the Re - deem - er has come,



Text: © 2012 Getty Music Publishing (BMI), Parakeet Boots Music (ASCAP), Townend Songs, admin. Music Services . Used by permission: OneLicense no. 709604
Text and tune: © 2012 Getty Music Publishing (BMI), Parakeet Boots Music (ASCAP), Townend Songs, admin. MusicServices.org, Inc.
Used by permission: OneLicense no. 709604

Sermon

Matthew 18:21-35

Forgiveness Pays It Forward

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.

Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

Hymn 733

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

1 "For - give our sins as we for - give,"
2 How can your par - don reach and bless
3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals
4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls

you taught us, Lord, to pray, but you a - lone can
the un - for - giv - ing heart that broods on wrongs and
the truth we dim - ly knew: how small are oth - ers'
and bid re - sent - ment cease; then, bound to all in

grant us grace to live the words we say.
will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
debts to us, how great our debt to you!
bonds of love, our lives will spread your peace.

Closing Prayer

O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



The 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.



Hymn 730

Blest Be the Tie That Binds



1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;
2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;
3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
4 When here our path - ways part, we suf - fer bit - ter pain;
5 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free



the fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
yet, one in Christ and one in heart, we hope to meet a - gain.
and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Serving in Worship Today:
 Presiding Minister – Pastor Mark Voss
 Preacher – Vicar David Rutschow
 Worship Accompanist – Andy Kasischke
 Ushers 8:00 am – R. Jorgenson, P. Miela, J. Anderson, S. Kerlin
 Ushers 10:30 am – E. Nordlie, K. Uhlig, G. Gooch

OUR WEEK WITH THE SAVIOR

Today	8:00 am	Worship Service
	9:00 am	Rally Around the Word
	9:15 am	Bible Study
		Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service
	11:30 am	Rally Around the Word
Monday	6:00 pm	Catechism
	7:00 pm	Board of Elders
Tuesday	6:30 pm	Introduction to Lutheran Christianity (new non-member school families)
Wednesday	9:10 am	School Chapel
	11:00 am	Bible Study at Flourish Senior Living
Thursday	4:30 pm	DGLS Home Soccer Game vs. Cross of Glory
Next Sunday	8:00 am	Worship Service (<i>Ushers: K. Krueger, L. Sak, L. Buss, M. Allen</i>)
	9:15 am	Bible Study
		Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service (<i>Ushers: T. Lane, P. Martinico, S. Kimmel</i>)

Divine Grace Lutheran Church News

Altar Flowers: Thank you to Pam Kyle for donating today's altar flowers in honor of her mother's birthday.

Bible Basics Course: Our next Bible Basics Course will begin on Tuesday, September 22, from 6:30-8:15 pm, and meet in that time slot each week on Tuesday for 10 sessions. This is the class that we ask those to take who are interested in taking up membership at Divine Grace. If you know someone who may be interested, please be sure to make them aware and offer to attend with them. There are inserts for you to share with others on the credenza in the church lobby.

This membership class also may be taken as a refresher course in basic doctrine – it's an excellent review of the Bible's basic teachings. If you would like to enroll, sign up on the sheet located on the church entryway credenza. There are extra flyers available. Please consider inviting someone you know to come with you and discover what God's Word says!

Sunday School: Parents, Sunday School begins today! Please be sure to bring your children, preschool to 8th grade, to continue to grow to know Jesus better and better. Thank you to all of our volunteer teachers and staff members; we appreciate you!

7th & 8th Grade Catechism: Parents of 7th and 8th grade students who do not attend DGLS, please note that Catechism classes begin tomorrow night at 6:00 PM. If you have not yet let pastor know that your child will be attending the class, please do let him know ASAP.

Rally Around the Word: After each of our two services this morning, please be sure to stop in the Fellowship Hall and take a look at the displays for our annual Rally Around the Word. This is a great opportunity for you to come to know more about the work of our many boards and committees. It is also a great chance for you to sign up to help in some way that you might be interested in, including signing up for church cleaning, bringing snacks for fellowship, ushering, signing up to take a turn setting up for and cleaning up after the Lord's Supper, and much more. Also, please note that if you don't yet have your picture on our member picture board, we will have someone on hand to take a picture of you. Or, if it has been many years since your picture has been updated, please do get a brand-new picture taken.

Fall Church Work Day: On **Saturday, September 26th**, beginning at 9:00 AM, we will be hosting another church work day to do some needed work around our church and school grounds, as well as a few items inside the buildings. We would love to have your help! If you are unable to make it on that day but would like to check a few of the items off the list, please sign up on the list of projects which you can find on the church credenza.

Teen Bible Study/Youth Group: Teens (grades 6-12), you have an opportunity to join with other teenagers from around our Synod in an online Bible study **Sunday, September 27th**. We will host the event here at Divine Grace, and we are inviting teens from the other congregations of our circuit. We will provide snacks and soft drinks. The online Bible study will begin at 7:00 PM and will end at 8:00 PM. Teens planning to attend, please register by signing up on the sheet on the credenza.

Visits with Vicar: Would you like to get to know Vicar Rutschow better? One thing that some of our congregations have done, especially when they have a vicar who is a single man, is to encourage people who would like to invite him out, or invite him over, to do so. If you would like to do that, you certainly may, but please don't feel as though you have to. To keep things sane for his schedule, we would suggest Wednesday nights or Friday nights. To keep him from getting 15 invitations in one week, we have put a calendar on the Fellowship Hall Bulletin board. If you would like to sign up for a time, please coordinate it with him and then list your name on the sheet. His email address is drutschow@DivineGrace.net and his cell number is (928) 254-1757.

Cross of Glory Active Group: The CoG Active Group is planning to meet at 10am on Saturday, September 19th at the Stony Creek Metropark Inwood Trails and hike 3 miles. The hike will consist mainly of grass and dirt trails with some gravel and a small amount of sand. To get to the trailhead, note that the bridge on Inwood is closed. The parking lot is only accessible from the west side, so plan to come from Mt Vernon road. If you have any questions, please reach out to Caleb Gifford (calebsgifford@gmail.com, 586-785-8310). Also, there are Sunday afternoon pickleball sessions available for anyone interested (scan

below for the signup and address). To sign up and to get more information, please scan the QR codes below.



Hiking



Pickleball

Thank Offerings may be given...

- In the offering plate at the church door,
- Online at www.DivineGrace.net,
- Through the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app,
- Or by mailing them to:
Divine Grace Lutheran Church
3000 S Lapeer Rd
Lake Orion, MI 48359



All Scripture quotations are taken from The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®)

copyright © 2018 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved. www.wartburgproject.org

© 2008 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-709604

Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House.

Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House.

For children to use during worship.

My Worship Notes

Name _____

What is the name of the church season or special day today?

What is the color of the church today? Circle one: Blue White Purple Red Green

The sermon text was:

This is in the: ☐ Old Testament ☐ New Testament



What is the sermon about?

Did we have a Sacrament today?



Baptism?

☐ Yes

☐ No



Communion?

☐ Yes

☐ No

My favorite song today was:

What did you learn about God today?

Draw a picture of something you heard or saw today:

What are you thankful for today?



Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod www.wels.net

Pastor Mark Voss • Cell Phone: (248) 462-1390 • Email: mvoss@DivineGrace.net
Vicar David Rutschow • Cell Phone: (928) 254-1757 • Email: drutschow@DivineGrace.net
Principal Michelle Hagewood • Cell Phone: (269) 325-8505 • Email: mhagewood@dgles.net
Preschool Director Barb Musinski • Email: bmusinski@DivineGrace.net

Divine Grace Worship Services – Sundays, 8:00 & 10:30 am

Bible Class – Sundays, 9:15 am – Adult Bible Class

Children's Sunday School - Sundays, 9:15 am

Visit our website – DivineGrace.net

facebook.com/DivineGraceLakeOrion

instagram.com/divinegrace_lake_orion