

Big Grove Crow River Grace Parish

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October 22, 2023

21st Sunday After Pentecost

Welcome in Jesus' name.

We extend a special welcome to guests and visitors.



Lead Pastor Lisa Meshke, pastorlisaanne@gmail.com

Deacon Brenda Handel-Johnson, bhandeljohnson@gmail.com

Secretary, Sue Wiener

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Prelude/Procession/Bells

“Shall We Gather at the River”

ELW 423 (vs. 1,3)

1 Shall we gather at the river
Where bright angel feet have trod
With its crystal tide forever
Flowing by the throne of God

Chorus;

Yes we'll gather at the river
The beautiful the beautiful river
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God

3 Ere we reach the shining river
Lay we ev'ry burden down
Grace our spirits will deliver
And provide a robe and crown

CCLI Song # 93731 Robert Lowry
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“On Eagle’s Wings”

ELW 787 (vs. 1,2,3)

1 You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide in this shadow for life,
say to the Lord: "My refuge,
my rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain

And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.

2 The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
and famine will bring you no fear;
under God's wings your refuge,
with faithfulness your shield. *Refrain*

3 You need not fear the terror of the night,
nor the arrow that flies by day;
though thousands fall about you,
near you it shall not come. *Refrain*

Text: Michael Joncas, b. 1957 CCLI #2275507
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Welcome and Announcements

L: Blessed be God, the one who forms us, ☩ Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

C: Amen.

L: Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Steadfast and faithful God,

C: you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

L: Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.

God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In ☩ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

C: Amen.

***Gathering Hymn:** "Softly and Tenderly" ELW #608 (vs. 1,3)

1 Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling
Calling for you and for me
See on the portals He's waiting and watching
Watching for you and for me

Chorus

Come home come home
Ye who are weary come home
Earnestly tenderly Jesus is calling
Calling O sinner come home

3 Time is now fleeting the moments are passing
Passing from you and from me
Shadows are gathering death-beds are coming
Coming for you and for me

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***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.**

ELW #790 (vs. 1)

1 Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend me,
bringing comfort to my anxious soul.
Day by day, the blessings, Lord, you send me
draw me nearer to my heav'nly goal.
Love divine, beyond all mortal measure,
brings to naught the burdens of my quest;
Savior, lead me to the home I treasure,
where at last I'll find eternal rest.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Robert Leaf, 1936-2005
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***The Prayer of the Day:**

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Hymn: “Day by Day”

ELW #790 (vs. 2)

2 Day by day, I know you will provide me
strength to serve and wisdom to obey;
I will seek your loving will to guide me
o'er the paths I struggle day by day.
I will fear no evil of the morrow,
I will trust in your enduring grace.
Savior, help me bear life's pain and sorrow
till in glory I behold your face.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Robert Leaf, 1936-2005
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Scripture Reading:

Isaiah 45:1-7

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be closed: ²I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. ⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, ⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Hymn: "Day by Day"

ELW #790 (vs. 3)

3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me
when my burdens grow too great to bear;
oh, what joy to know that you will hear me
when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.
Day by day, no matter what betide me,
you will hold me ever in your hand.
Savior, with your presence here to guide me,
I will reach at last the promised land.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Robert Leaf, 1936-2005
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Responsive Psalm Reading:

Psalm 96: 1-9

L: Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

C: Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.

L: Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

C: For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.

L: As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

L: Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

C: Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.

L: Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the Lord, all the earth.

Hymn: "Great is Thy Faithfulness"

ELW #733 (vs. 1,3)

1 Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with Thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Chorus

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *Chorus:*

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Scripture Reading:

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.**Hymn:** “Children of the Heavenly Father”

ELW #781 (vs. 1,2,3)

1 Children of the heav'nly Father
safely in his bosom gather;
nestling bird nor star in heaven
such a refuge e'er was given.

2 God his own doth tend and nourish,
in his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things he spares them,
in his mighty arms he bears them.

3 Neither life nor death shall ever
from the Lord his children sever;
unto them his grace he showeth,
and their sorrows all he knoweth.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870-1958Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress.#SB109327**Children's Sermon:** “Jesus Loves Me”

ELW #595 (vs. 1,3)

1 Jesus loves me! this I know,
for the Bible tells me so;
little ones to him belong,
they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain

Yes, Jesus loves me,
yes, Jesus loves me,
yes, Jesus loves me,
the Bible tells me so.

3 Jesus loves me! he will stay
close beside me all the way;
when at last I come to die,
he will take me home on high. *Refrain*

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820-1915, alt. CCLI #2275507

***Gospel Acclamation:** “I Love to Tell the Story” ELW # 661 (vs. 1)

1 I love to tell the story
Of unseen things above
Of Jesus and His glory
Of Jesus and His love
I love to tell the story
Because I know 'tis true
It satisfies my longings
As nothing else can do

Chorus

I love to tell the story
'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old old story
Of Jesus and His love

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***Holy Gospel:**

Matthew 22:15-22

L: The Holy Gospel according to the Book of Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” ²¹They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

L: The Gospel of our Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Hymn: "I Love to Tell the Story"

ELW # 661 (vs. 2)

2 I love to tell the story
More wonderful it seems
Than all the golden fancies
Of all our golden dreams
I love to tell the story
It did so much for me
And that is just the reason
I tell it now to thee

Chorus

I love to tell the story
'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old old story
Of Jesus and His love

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***Hymn:** "This is My Song"

ELW #887

1 This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
but other hearts in other lands are beating
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

2 My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
and skies are ev'rywhere as blue as mine.
So hear my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for their land and for mine.

3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's kingdoms,
your kingdom come; on earth your will be done.
O God, be lifted up till all shall serve you,
and hearts united learn to live as one.
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations;
myself I give you; let your will be done.

Text: Lloyd Stone, 1912-1993, sts. 1-2; Georgia Harkness, 1891-1974, st. 3 CCLI 2275507

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***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 the People:**

Hymn: "My Lord, What a Morning"

ELW #438 (vs. 1,3)

Refrain

My Lord, what a morning;
my Lord, what a morning;
oh, my Lord, what a morning,
when the stars begin to fall.

1 You will hear the trumpet sound,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. *Refrain*

3 You will hear the Christian shout,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. *Refrain*

Text: African American spiritual Augsburg Fortress #SB109327

***Peace:**

L: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C:** **And also with you.**

Offering: "Soon and Very Soon"

ELW #439 (vs. 1,3)

1 Soon and very soon
We are going to see the King
Soon and very soon
We are going to see the King
Soon and very soon
We are going to see the King

Chorus

Hallelujah hallelujah

We're going to see the King

3 No more dying there
We are going to see the King
No more dying there
We are going to see the King
No more dying there
We are going to see the King. *Chorus:*

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***Offertory Prayer:**

God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. 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.

***Benediction:**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

***Sending Hymns:**

"What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine"

ELW #774 (vs. 1,2)

1 What a fellowship what a joy divine
Leaning on the everlasting arms
What a blessedness what a peace is mine
Leaning on the everlasting arms. *Chorus:*

Chorus:

Leaning (leaning on Jesus)
Leaning (leaning on Jesus)
Safe and secure from all alarms
Leaning (leaning on Jesus)
Leaning (leaning on Jesus)
Leaning on the everlasting arms

2 O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way
Leaning on the everlasting arms
O how bright the path grows from day to day
Leaning on the everlasting arms. *Chorus:*

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"Go Tell It on the Mountain"

ELW #290 (vs. 1,3)

Chorus:

Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and ev'rywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born

1 While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light. *Chorus:*

3 Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn. *Chorus:*

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***Dismissal:**

L: Go in peace. Share the harvest. **C: Thanks be to God.**