

**Time after Pentecost**  
**September 8, 2024**  
**10:00 a.m.**



**Welcome to worship at Oak Grove Lutheran Church.**  
**Please know that you are welcome, no exceptions!**

**PRELUDE**    *“JIREH”*

**WELCOME**

**CALL to WORSHIP**

People of God, look about Creation and see the faces of those we know and love.

**Neighbors and friends, sisters and brothers, a communion of kindred hearts.**

People of God, look about and see the faces of those we hardly know.

**Strangers, sojourners, forgotten friends, the ones who need an outstretched hand.**

People of God, look about and see all the images of God assembled here today.

**In me, in you, in all people, everywhere, God’s Spirit shines for all to see!**

**PEOPLE OF GOD, COME, LET US WORSHIP TOGETHER!**

**GATHERING SONG**    *“Grace Like Rain”*

Amazing Grace how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me;

I once was lost but now I'm found, was blind but now I see,  
so clearly.

Hallelujah, grace like rain falls down on me

Hallelujah, all my stains are washed away, they're washed away.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear, the hour I first believed.

When we've been there ten thousand years  
bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing your praise than when we'd first begun.

Grace Like Rain CCLI#3689877 Authors [Chris Collins](#) [Edwin O. Excell](#) [John Newton](#)  
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## **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.**

## **SONG of PRAISE** *“Blessed Be Your Name”*

Blessed be your name in the land that is plentiful  
Where your streams of abundance flow, blessed be your name  
Blessed be your name when I'm found in the desert place  
Though I walk through the wilderness, blessed be your name

Every blessing you pour out I'll turn back to praise  
When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say

Blessed be the name of the Lord. Blessed be your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord. Blessed be your glorious name

Blessed be your name when the sun's shining down on me  
When the world's all as it should be, blessed be your name  
Blessed be your name on the road marked with suffering  
Though there's pain in the offering, blessed be your name

You give and take away. You give and take away.  
My heart will choose to say, Lord, blessed be your name

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### **PRAYER of the DAY**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray... Gracious God,

**throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.**

### **OLD TESTAMENT READING** Isaiah 35:4-7a

<sup>4</sup>Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." <sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; <sup>6</sup>then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; <sup>7</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **NEW TESTAMENT READING** James 2:1-10, 14-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? <sup>2</sup>For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, <sup>3</sup>and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one

who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," <sup>4</sup>have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup>Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup>But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup>Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

<sup>8</sup>You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>9</sup>But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. <sup>10</sup>For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

<sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? <sup>15</sup>If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, <sup>16</sup>and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? <sup>17</sup>So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Word of God, word of life.  
Thanks be to God.

## ANTHEM *"Holy Water"*

### MILESTONE- Bible Presentation

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff continues the melody and lyrics.

The holy gospel according to St. John the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **MARK 7:24-37**

<sup>24</sup>From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, <sup>25</sup>but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. <sup>26</sup>Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup>He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." <sup>28</sup>But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." <sup>29</sup>Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." <sup>30</sup>So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup>They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup>He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup>Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." <sup>35</sup>And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup>Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup>They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**MESSAGE**    ***"EPHPHATHA! BE OPENED!"***

**HYMN of the DAY**    *Open Your Ears, O Faithful People"*

Open your ears, O faithful people,  
Open your ears and hear God's Word.  
Open your hearts, O royal priesthood, God has come to you.

*refrain*

God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!  
God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!  
God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!  
God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!

They who have ears to hear the message,  
They who have ears, now let them hear;  
They who would learn the way of wisdom, let them hear God's Word.

Israel comes to greet the Savior, Judah is glad to see his day,  
From east and west the peoples travel, God will show the way.

**CONFESSION of 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.**

## PRAYERS of INTERCESSION

Each petition ends with:  
*Hear us O God, **your mercy is great.***

## SHARING of the PEACE

The peace of the risen Christ be with you always. **And also with you**

**OFFERING**      *"Multiplied"*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God,  
**source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## 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,  
my heart, my heart, adores you.  
My heart is glad to say the words:  
You are holy, God.*

## **WORDS of INSTITUTION**

### **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 HOLY COMMUNION**

Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.

### **DISTRIBUTION**

#### **"All Who Are Thirsty"**

All who are thirsty, all who are weak,  
Come to the fountain; dip your heart in the stream of life.  
Let the pain and sorrow be washed away in the waves of his mercy  
As deep cries out to deep. We sing:  
Come, Lord Jesus, come. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

All who are thirsty, all who are weak,  
Come to the fountain; dip your heart in the stream of life.  
Let the pain and sorrow be washed away in the waves of his mercy  
As deep cries out to deep. We sing:  
Holy Spirit, come. Holy Spirit, come.

#### **"Bless the Lord"**

For your beauty, for your goodness



And your wisdom awesome God  
Praise the Lord, oh my soul, praise the Lord

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For your power, for your honor  
and your splendor mighty God  
Praise the Lord, oh my soul, praise the Lord  
Praise the Lord, oh my soul, praise the Lord

*refrain*

And I will worship you I will bless your name forever  
I will worship you; Bless the Lord, oh my soul, bless the Lord  
Bless the Lord, oh my soul, bless the Lord

For your kindness, for your favor  
For your mercy gracious one  
Thank the Lord, oh my soul, thank the Lord  
Thank the Lord, oh my soul, thank the Lord

For your fire, for your testing  
And your Spirit, Holy One  
Thank the Lord, oh my soul, thank the Lord  
Thank the Lord, oh my soul, thank the Lord *refrain*

For your suff'ring, for your anguish  
And your sorrow humble King  
Bless the Lord, oh my soul, bless the Lord  
Bless the Lord, oh my soul, bless the Lord  
For your vict'ry, for your triumph  
And you'll soon come and reign over us. *refrain*

**PRAYER after COMMUNION**

Holy God,

**you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now  
to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

God almighty,  
 God most merciful,  
 Creator, Christ and Spirit (+)  
 bless you, keep you and give you peace.  
**Amen.**

Go in peace. Follow Jesus!  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SENDING FORTH SONG** *“The Feast Is Ready”*

The trumpets sound the angels sing, the feast is ready to begin  
 The gates of heav'n are open wide and Jesus welcomes you inside

Sing with thankfulness songs of pure delight  
 Come and revel in heaven's love and light  
 Take your place at the table of the King  
 The feast is ready to begin, the feast is ready to begin

Tables are laden with good things, O taste the peace the joy he brings  
 He'll fill you up with love divine, he'll turn your water into wine

The hungry heart he satisfies, offers the poor his paradise  
 Now hear all heaven and earth applaud the amazing goodness of the Lord

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**POSTLUDE**

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