

Sunday Service

The Standard

Little Judges - 8th Commandment

September 13, 2020 - 8:30 AM & 10:15 AM

Live Broadcast at 10:15 AM



Grace Lutheran Church

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Welcome...

We are so happy that you are here with us today. Our desire is to be like another home for you. If you are new to Grace or to the area and are looking for a church home, we hope you will consider joining our family here at Grace.

To our many members and friends worshipping at home, whether near or far:

We are so happy that you are sharing our worship with us from your homes today.

To Everyone: Please check Grace Lutheran's website daily! www.GraceLutheranPSL.com

Seating with social distancing at the church is now available at the Bible Study on Thursday at 11:00 AM and on Sundays at 8:30 AM and 10:15 AM. Please remember, you will need to wear a face mask at Grace.

HOLY COMMUNION

This meal is weird and wonderful: weird because we actually believe that the bread and wine are the Body and Blood of Jesus the Christ; wonderful because Jesus is with us. We take this meal very seriously here at Grace. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out and allow us to answer your questions. **Children** who have not been instructed in the meaning of the Sacrament may come to the Lord's Table with their parents for a blessing but are asked to fold their arms across their chests to indicate they are to receive a blessing.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE COMMUNION: Due to social distancing and everyone's health we have moved Holy Communion to the end of our worship service and will celebrate by family/sitting groups. After the closing hymn pastor will pronounce the sending and then those who wish to share in the celebration of communion shall remain.

The distribution of the bread and wine in individual cups will be by an elder. Please take one of each and wait for Pastor to proceed with the taking of the elements for your group. **For those who have an intolerance to wine, grape juice is lighter colored on the tray.** Those who find it difficult to walk to the altar can be communed at your seat. Please inform the usher of your need. After Pastor Cris has given your group the blessing at the altar, you may place your cup in the basket and depart from the church.

The Standard

The Ten Commandments have long been the standard to which we judge how we should live. But how many do we have to keep so that we can stay on God's good side. Is it one or five? I mean some of these are easy, don't muder. I have not broken that yet. However when we look deeper at the commandments we see a deeper standard for our lives.

TODAY: Little Judges

Look, there's another one. Little judges are everywhere, working so hard to put people in their place. Perhaps Jesus knew what he was talking about when he said get the plank out of your own eye first.

---- THE OPENING HYMN

“From All That Dwell Below the Skies”

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1. **From all that dwell below the skies let the creator’s praise arise; Alleluia Alleluia!
Let the redeemer’s name be sung through ev’ry land by ev’ry tongue.
ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA**
2. **Eternal are Thy mercies Lord; eternal truth attends Thy Word; Alleluia Alleluia!
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore till suns shall rise and set no more.
ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA**
3. **All praise to God the Father be, all praise eternal Son, to Thee; Alleluia Alleluia!
Whom with the Spirit we adore forever and forever more:
ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA**

-- Opening

*If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord;
so then, whether we live or we die, we are the Lord’s.*

--- THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

(Take a moment of silent reflection upon our need for God’s forgiveness)

Pastor: *O Almighty God,*

PEOPLE: GOD, OUR LOVING FATHER,

WE CONFESS THAT WE ARE OFTEN IMPATIENT AND RUSH TO CRITICIZE.

WE TAKE OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOR GRANTED.

WE ARE OFTEN UNGRATEFUL AND NOT GRACIOUS.

WE OFTEN EXPECT CHURCH TO MIRROR OUR OWN BIASES.

WE FORGET TO ASK FOR OUR CHURCH TO MIRROR YOU.

WE OFTEN USE YOUR SCRIPTURES TO SUPPORT OUR OPINIONS.

WE FORGET THAT THEY ARE A LAMP TO OUR FEET AND A LIGHT TO OUR PATH.

OUR HOPE IS CENTERED ON OURSELVES AND NOT ON YOU.

RENEW US, LORD, THAT WE MAY DELIGHT IN YOUR WILL

AND WALK IN YOUR WAYS, TO THE GLORY OF YOUR HOLY NAME. AMEN.

Pastor: The story of Jesus is about life and forgiveness.... You are God’s beloved; you are a child of the resurrection. Live in the hope of new life. God loves you, and God is the restorer of hope. Your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. AMEN

--THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Lord, let your loving kindness always go before us and follow us, and lead us continually to do good. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. AMEN.

---THE HYMN OF PRAISE In Moments Like These

*In moments like these, I sing out a song;
I sing out a love song to Jesus.
In moments like these, I lift up my hands,
I lift up my hands to the Lord,*

*Singing, "I love You, Lord".
Singing, "I love You, Lord."
Singing, "I love You, Lord. I love You."
(Repeat)*

THE FIRST LESSON Isaiah 5:20-24

Darkness is a metaphor for depression, alienation, and judgment. It teaches that all who twist justice by living in darkness will suffer the darkness of God's judgment. By contrast, the light of God will dawn on the needy.

Woe to those who call evil good and good evil,
who put darkness for light
and light for darkness,
who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!
Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes,
and shrewd in their own sight!
Woe to those who are heroes at drinking wine,

and valiant men in mixing strong drink,
who acquit the guilty for a bribe,
and deprive the innocent of his right!

Therefore, as the tongue of fire devours the stubble,
and as dry grass sinks down in the flame,
so their root will be as rottenness,
and their blossom go up like dust;
for they have rejected the law of the Lord of hosts,
and have despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

THE SECOND LESSON James 3:1-12

Taming the tongue, this is an important value in the Old Testament. "All my days have I grown up among the sages, and I have found nothing better for a man than silence."

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will

be judged with greater strictness. For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are

made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 7:1-6, 12-14

Leviticus 19:18 says, "Do not seek revenge or hold a grudge against any of your people. Instead, love your neighbor as you love yourself, for I am the Eternal One."

(1-6) "Judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to

take the speck out of your brother's eye.

"Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.

(12-14) "So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

"Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST

--- THE APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And 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 sits at the right hand of God, the Father, Almighty. From thence 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

--- THE SERMON - "The Standard"
Little Judges

--THE OFFERTORY

***Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit with-in me.
Cast me not away from Your presence,
and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation,
and uphold me with Your free Spirit. Amen***

--- PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH
(after each petition)

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,
PEOPLE: HEAR OUR PRAYER.

--- THE LORD'S PRAYER

----- THE BLESSING

*Pastor: May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord look upon you with grace and redemption.
May the Lord always walk before you and give you peace.*

PEOPLE: AMEN

-----THE CLOSING HYMN

"Savior Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise"

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- 1. Savior, again to Thy dear name we raise
With one accord our parting hymn of praise;
Once more we bless Thee ere our worship cease,
Then, lowly bending, wait Thy word of peace.**
- 2. Grant us Thy peace upon our homeward way;
With thee began, with Thee shall end the day;
Guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
That in this house have called upon Thy name.**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heav'n
Hallowed be Thy name
Thy kingdom come
Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heav'n
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

3. **Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the coming night;
Turn Thou for us its darkness into light.
From harm and danger keep Thy children free;
For dark and light are both alike to Thee.**
4. **Grant us Thy peace throughout our earthly life,
Our balm in sorrow and our stay in strife;
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,
Call us, O Lord, to thine eternal peace.**

----- SENDING

Pastor: Have peace knowing we are all with you.

Serve others knowing God walks before you.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE COMMUNION: Due to social distancing and everyone's health we will celebrate by family/sitting groups. After the "Sending" those who wish to share in the celebration of Holy Communion shall remain for the "Order of Holy Communion."

Pastor will signal groups up to the altar alternating between left and right sides. An elder will distribute the bread and wine for your side. Then Pastor Cris will direct your partaking of the elements, pronounce the blessing for your side, then you may place your cup in the basket on the side and depart in peace.

--- THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor: May the Lord be with you!

PEOPLE: AND ALSO WITH YOU.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE: WE LIFT THEM UP TO THE LORD.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

PEOPLE: IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE OUR THANKS AND PRAISE.

Pastor: The tree of life in the midst of the garden was the tree of our defeat. Christ was lifted up on the tree of victory; and where life was lost, there life has been restored. And so we praise you ..

PEOPLE: HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD, GOD OF POWER AND MIGHT, HEAVEN AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLORY. HOSANNA, HOSANNA, HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST. BLESSED IS HE THAT COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD. HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST.

---- THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

--- ADDITIONAL HYMNS

“CREATOR SPIRIT, BY WHOSE AID”

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1. **Creator Spirit, by whose aid**
The world’s foundations first were laid,
Come, visit every humble mind;
Come, pour your joys on humankind;
From sin and sorrow set us free;
May we, your living temples be.
2. **O Source of uncreated light,**
The bearer of God’s gracious might,
Thrice holy fount, thrice holy fire,
Our hearts with heav’nly love inspire;
Your Sacred, healing message bring
To sanctify us as we sing.
3. **Giver of grace, descend from high;**
Your sevenfold gifts to us supply;
Help us eternal truths receive
And practice all that we believe;
Give us yourself that we may see
The glory of the Trinity.
4. **Immortal honor, endless fame**
Attend the almighty Father’s name;
The Savior Son be glorified,
Who for all humankind has died;
To You, O Paraclete, we raise
Unending songs of thanks and praise.

“FATHER MOST HOLY”

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1. **Father most holy, merciful, and tender;**
Jesus our Savior, with the Father reigning;
Spirit of comfort, Advocate, Defender,
Light never waning;
2. **Trinity blessed, unity unshaken;**
Goodness unbounded, very God of
heaven,
Light of the angels, Joy of those forsaken,
Hope of all living,
3. **Maker of all things, all Thy creatures praise**
Thee;
All for Thy worship were and are created;
Now, as we also worship Thee devoutly,
Hear Thou our voices.
4. **Lord God almighty, unto Thee be glory:**
One in three persons, over all exalted!
Glory we offer, praise Thee, and adore Thee,
Now and forever.

“GOD BLESS OUR NATIVE LAND”

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1. **God bless our native land;**
Firm may she ever stand
Through storm and night,
When the wild tempest rave,
Ruler of wind and wave,
Do thou our country save
By thy great might.
2. **So shall our prayers arise**
To God above the skies,
On Him we wait,
Thou who art ever nigh,
Guarding with watchful eye,
To thee aloud we cry:
God save the state!

---- **THIS WEEK AT GRACE - Today** **September 13, 2020**

Worship Service	8:30 AM
Second Worship Service and video service www.gracelutheranpsl.com	10:15 AM
Zoom into Fellowship	12:00 PM - Noon
Korean Church Worship	1:00 PM
AA	7:30 PM

Rest of the week

September 14 - September 19

LWML	Monday, 12:30 PM
Olivet School	Tuesday, 8 AM - 1 PM
Heatherwood Meeting	Tuesday, 7:00 PM
Individual/Family Communion	Wednesday, 11:00, 11:20, 11:40 & Noon
ZOOM Bible Study www.gracelutheranpsl.com	Thursday, 11:00 AM
Korean Church Prayer	Saturday, 6:00 AM

For complete calendar information, go to www.gracelutheranpsl.com/calendar

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK: Melissa Bailey - 9/15

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK: Mark & Dena Davey - 9/13 (45 yrs), Norm & Marge Neuberger - 9/17 (69 yrs)

THE FLOWERS ADORNING THE ALTAR are given by the Young Family in remembrance of Barbara's birthday on September 7th.

LADIES! Our ladies group, LWML, will have their first meeting of the season tomorrow, Monday, September 14th, beginning at 12:30 PM. ALL ladies, members and friends, of Grace Lutheran Church are invited to attend for a time of fellowship and conversation. Please remember to wear your mask, and we will keep safe distance while enjoying our gathering.

PLEASE CALL PEOPLE I realize I take for granted that people just come to the church on a regular basis. So that we all don't descend into madness, let's call and talk to each other regularly. Phone directories are available for your convenience.

CARENET INVITATION: Phil & Judy Fredrich, would like you to join them and fellow Grace Lutheran guests at a table for the CareNet Banquet, either Thursday, September 24 or Friday, September 25. The guest speaker this year is David Williams, who at the the age of 19 thought abortion was the answer. Table seating is limited this year so please call by tomorrow, September 14th, and let Phil or Judy know which evening you wish to attend (772-237-2626).

Online Giving We have now added Paypal for online donations. We have been approved as a trusted non profit organization. If you would like to give through Paypal, please go to: www.GraceLutheranPSL.com and click the **"GIVE"** button on the upper right side of the page.

COMMUNION ON WEDNESDAY: If you, or someone you know, would like to celebrate Holy Communion but prefer a small group or unable to attend Sunday service, Pastor Cris has set aside Wednesday's to celebrate the meal in small/family groups. Please come by on Wednesday at: 11:00, 11:20, 11:40 or 12:00 (noon) and partake of this wonderful meal.

SEE YOUR GRACE FAMILY ON ZOOM! Pastor and Coli will be hosting Zoom to Coffee at **NOON** every Sunday for those who would like to join in fellowship "virtually" to see and chat with Grace members and friends. All are welcome!

BIBLE STUDY FOR ALL Pastor Cris is conducting a "livestream" Bible study online (www.GracelutheranPSL.com) with ZOOM, for you to participate in on **Thursdays at 11:00 AM**. **** You are also welcome to attend the Bible Study at church, in person!** ** Seating with social distancing along with wearing your mask is now happening, at the Bible Study on Thursday at 11 AM and at Worship on Sundays at 8:30 AM and 10:15 AM.

GIVING - Changing over to a social distance model of ministry has been quite challenging. We needed to purchase new equipment and the overall church's expenses did not go down even though we were not meeting in person. We are here to provide "Grace and Peace in this Chaotic and Lonely Time" to those in our church and community. Thank you for your past and continual prayers and financial support to Grace and your community.

Questions to Ponder This Week - "Little Judges"

1. What is the human temptation when talking about others?
2. Read Matthew 7:1-14. According to Jesus, why is it bad for us to speak poorly of others and judge them?
3. How does breaking the 8th commandment hurt relationships around you?
4. Jesus is the ultimate judge. Because of the cross, what is his final judgment for you? Because of the cross, how will Jesus speak of you?