

Gran-Park-Rollag Parish and Living Grace Lutheran Church

In ministry partnership since 2017

Gran-Park-Rollag Parish

3 Churches – 1 Ministry: Energized by God
To celebrate, share & show God's love
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Living Grace Lutheran Church

A worshipping community of the ELCA focused on making known God's love and grace by:
Welcoming Everyone, Sharing Jesus' story, Growing in faith and Serving beyond ourselves.
Pastor Hope Deutscher
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PO Box 477, Hawley, MN 56549
Worships at The Garrick Theater,
509 Front Street, Hawley, MN 56549

Sunday, August 29, 2021

Holy Communion Worship Service

Led by Pr. Hope Deutscher and Pr. Jim Greene

Music Provided by: Pam Aakre, Piano; and Pr. Hope Deutscher, Flute

Welcome/Announcements

- Welcome to worship for the GPR Parish and Living Grace Lutheran.
- *A Large print bulletin is available on our websites for you to use during worship.*
- We invite you to subscribe to our YouTube channel – Rollag Lutheran Church.
- *During our service, we have the following supplies reading:*
 - *Bread/crackers and wine/juice available for partaking in Virtual Holy Communion. We have communion kits available if you would like them, they have been blessed by the pastors.*

Happening This Week:

Sunday, August 29: 7 AM Online Worship; 8 AM Gran; 9:30 AM Rollag Indoor Worship Service; 11 AM Park

Monday, August 30: 4 PM Youth making BBQs (at Rollag)

Tuesday, August 31: 9 AM Northside Terrace Bible Study; 7 PM Living Grace In-Person Worship

Wednesday, September 1: 10 AM Bible Study; 11 AM Staff Meeting

Thursday, September 2: 2 PM Hawley Senior Living Service; 6 PM Make Potato Salad at WMSTR

Friday, September 3-Monday, September 6: WMSTR; Rollag Food Booth.

Sign up to Help at Western Minnesota Steam Threshers Reunion!

We need volunteers to help make food or serve food at Rollag's Food Booth at WMSTR (Sept 3-6)! Sign up today ONLINE – visit www.gprparish.org/wmstr/

Pastoral Care: Pastor Jim Greene and Pastor Hope Deutscher are available for pastoral care. If you or a loved one are hospitalized or ill, we would love to be caring for you. Please call or email us at the numbers above.

Bible and Book Studies:

- Wednesdays at 10 AM: Bible Study – Gospel of John (In-Person at Rollag with Zoom option upon request)

- 7 PM Monday, September 20: Women's Book Study – "The Rock, The Road, and the Rabbi" by Kathie Lee Gifford
- 7 PM Mondays,: Paul Tillich Bible Study

Prelude: How Can I Keep From Singing

Pam Aakre, Piano

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

With sincere hearts and minds, Let us confess our sins to our loving God who calls us close through our beloved Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.

God of light, we confess that we live in the shadows of hypocrisy and self-righteousness. We honor you with our lips, but we have not served you in our hearts. We are satisfied with human traditions and norms and avoid your liberating truth. We have confused meekness with weakness, holiness with social conformity, and anger with righteousness. Forgive us, we pray. By the power of your word save us from the prison of our conceit so that we may serve you with sincere hearts; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, God renews us by the word of truth, that we might become the first fruits of God's creation. Our generous God has given us the perfect gift of forgiveness, Jesus Christ our Lord, who has liberated us from dead tradition and made us new by the living Word filling our hearts with God's love. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Children's Message

Pr. Hope Deutscher

Hymn of the Month: O Living Bread from Heaven (LBW #197 / ELW #542)

Verse 1: *O living Bread from heaven, how well you feed your guest!
The gifts that you have given have filled my heart with rest.
O wondrous food of blessing! O cup that heals our woes!
My heart, this gift possessing, in thankful song o'er-flow!*

Verse 3: *You gave me all I wanted; this food can death destroy.
And you have freely granted the cup of endless joy.
My Lord, I do not merit the favor you have shown.
And all my soul and spirit bow down before your throne.*

Scripture: James 1:17-27

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like.

²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Message Pr. Hope Deutscher

Contact Pastor Hope at hdeutscher@gmail.com if you would like a transcript of this sermon.

Hymn: As We Gather At Your Table (ELW #522)

Pam Aakre, Piano and Pr. Hope Deutscher, Flute

Verse 1: *As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word,
Help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own;
Teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.*

Verse 2: *Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life;
Send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave;
May we still behold your image in the world you died to save.*

Gospel: Mark 7: 1 - 8; 14 - 15; 21 - 23

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" ⁶He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me;

⁷in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." ²¹For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

Message Pr. Jim Greene

Contact Pastor Jim at revjamesgreene18@yahoo.com. if you want a transcript of this sermon.

Holy Communion

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 in the remembrance of me. The body of Christ, given for you.

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 in the remembrance of me. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Offering

Thank you for remembering the importance of continuing to tithe your financial gifts. You can mail your offering to your church or give through Tithe.ly online (mobile and online option) or by mail. Visit livinggracehawley.org or gprparish.org for specific information.

Prayers

God our maker, may we look at how amazing we are inside and out AND do our best, with your help, to take care of ourselves. Like a well taken care of car gets around more cleanly, help us to clean in our thoughts, words, and actions. Thank you for putting inside us the ability to love, to forgive, and to be good stewards of the earth and all who we share this planet with. Please send rain to the drought stricken areas; relief to the areas hit with wild fires; and dryness to the places where flooding is causing problems.

LORD IN YOUR MERCY HEAR OUR PRAYER

Sovereign Lord, you came into the world like a mechanic stopping to help a stranded motorist along a deserted road. May we open our lives to your guidance and wisdom as we follow your example in taking care of our insides and outsides. Help us to read your word, make each day a time of worship, and trust your maintenance plan is eternal for all people.

LORD IN YOUR MERCY HEAR OUR PRAYER

Comforting Holy Spirit, infiltrate our lives with your prayer, your insights, and a reminder we're all better when we put God's ways above our ways. Help us to work together as we question, discuss, and remember life isn't always convenient or easy. Remind us how self-centeredness doesn't lead to freedom, it always leads to destructive behaviors and cover ups. Guide us to see how valuing others helps us.

LORD IN YOUR MERCY HEAR OUR PRAYER

Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter, guide and protect us inside and out as we remember how you taught us to pray:

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. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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 (*From the Prayer App: Lectio 365*)

God, help us to live this day to the full being true to you in every way.

Jesus, help us to give ourself away, being kind to everyone we meet.

Spirit, help me to love the lost, proclaiming Christ in all I say and do.

Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter guide our lives always. Amen

Dismissal

Go in peace and share the Good News! **As we celebrate, share and show God's Love!**

Hymn: *Dearest Jesus, at Your Word* (ELW 520 / LBW 248)

Pam Aakre, Piano; Pr. Hope Deutscher, Flute

Verse 1: *Dearest Jesus, at your word, we have come again to hear you;
Let our thoughts and hearts be stirred and in glowing faith be near you
As the promises here given draw us wholly up to heaven.*

Verse 3: *Radiance of God's glory bright, Light of Light from God proceeding,
Jesus, send your blessed light; help our hearing, speaking, heeding,
that our prayers and songs may please you,
as with grateful hearts we praise you.*

Thank you for worshipping with us!