

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, October 18, 2020

Virtual Holy Communion Worship Service

Led by Pr. Hope Deutscher, Pr. Jim Greene, and Andrea Keene

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

Happening this Week:

Monday, October 19: 6:30 PM Smart Team Meeting (Zoom);
7:30 PM Women's Bible Study (Zoom)
Tuesday, October 20: 7 PM Education Meeting (Zoom)
Wednesday, October 21: 9 AM Staff Meeting (Zoom);
10 AM Joel Bible Study (Zoom);
6:30 PM Confirmation
Thursday, October 22: 7 PM Parish Council Meeting

Prelude: 'Tis the Gift to be Simple Pam Aakre, Piano

Welcome/Announcements

- *Welcome to Living Grace! This morning we are again worshipping God from Living Grace's home in the Garrick Theater in Hawley. As a mission congregation, one of our favorite hymns is "All Are Welcome"! This morning is no different – we are glad you are here and worshipping with us.*
- *Be a subscriber to the YouTube channel – Rollag Lutheran Church – when you do, you become one of the first people to know when a worship service is available for you to watch and it also helps boost our visibility with others who may be looking for a service to watch!*
- *Pastoral Care: Pastor Hope Deutscher and Pastor Jim Greene 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. Andrea Keene is also available to talk to parents and youth.*
- *SMART Team/Worshipping Update: Our worshipping communities are working on Business Plans to reopen, when it is safe to do so, and when we are prepared to do so following MN Department of Health guidelines.*

- *Connect Through these Bible and Book Studies:*
 - *Monday evenings (every 2 weeks): Paul Tillich Bible Study (led by Joe Hass)*
 - *Wednesdays at 10 AM: Luke Joel Study*
 - *First and Third Mondays @ 7 pm, starting October 19th: Women's Book Study: It's Not Supposed to be This Way: Finding Unexpected Strength When Disappointments leave you shattered by Lysa Terkeurst. Contact Pr. Hope for Zoom log-in details! We will meet the first and third Mondays via Zoom.*
- *Notes about today's service:*
 - *You can follow along – large print bulletins are available on our websites!*
 - *Today, we again invite you to participate in Virtual Communion. Please prepare some bread/crackers and wine/juice to share communion during today's service.*
 - *Thanks to the children for being a part of the worship service. Andrea will have a children's sermon in a few minutes.*
 - *Thanks to Pam Aakre, Sam Helgeson and Pr. Hope for providing music.*

As we light the Christ candle, let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

(LIGHT CHRIST CANDLE)

Hymn: God of Grace and God of Glory (#705 ELW; LBW #415)

Pam Aakre, Piano; Sam Helgeson, Trumpet

- Verse 1:** *God of grace and God of glo-ry, on your peo-ple
 Pour your pow'r; crown you're an-cient chur-ch's sto-ry;
 Bring its bud to glo-rious flow'r. Grant us wis-dom, grant us courage
 For the fac-ing of this hour, for the fac-ing of this hour.*
- Verse 3:** *Cure your chil-dren's war-ring mad-ness; bend our pride to
 Your con-trol; shame our wan-ton, self-ish glad-ness,
 Rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis-dom, grant us cour-age,
 Lest we miss your king-dom's goal, lest we miss your king-dom's goal.*

Children's Message

Andrea Keene, GPR Youth Director

Confession & Forgiveness (HOPE)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God, **have mercy on us.**

We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world. **Amen.**

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 (NIV)

Paul, Silas and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace and peace to you.

Thanksgiving for the Thessalonians' Faith

² We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. ³ **We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.**

⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. ⁶ You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. ⁷ And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. ⁸ The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, ⁹ for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

Message

Pr. Hope Deutscher

If you would like a copy of the sermon, please contact Pr. Hope at hdeutscher@gmail.com.

Hymn of the Month: Listen, God is Calling (ELW 513 / WOV 712)

Pam Aakre, Piano; Pr. Hope Deutscher, Flute

Refrain: *Lis-ten, lis-ten, God is call-ing, through the Word in-vit-ing,
Of-fer-ing for-give-ness, com-fort, and joy.*

Verse 1: *Je-sus gave his man-date: share the good news
That he came to save us and set us free. REFRAIN*

Verse 2: *Let none be for-got-ten through-out the world,
In the tri-une name of God go and bap-tize. REFRAIN*

Verse 3: *Help us to be faith-ful, stand-ing stead-fast,
Walk-ing in your pre-cepts, led by your Word. REFRAIN*

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

¹⁵Then 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.

Message

Pr. Jim Greene

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

QUESTIONS to Enhance the Way we think and live:

- 1) What are some of your biggest concerns as to how people are treating each other?
- 2) When the Bible says to love God, neighbor, and self - how would the world be better if we followed this rule?
- 3) What are some things you do to help you connect with God for guidance and help as you treat yourself and others better?

Virtual 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.

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 body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Receiving of 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 (JIM)

Creator God, Help us to become imitators of you- building each other up, forgiving as we've been forgiven; serving as we have been served; working together to build up the family of God. Open our eyes and hearts to how you speak, teach, and provide guidance and care for all. In this time of political unrest inspire wisdom in all our leaders; decency in how they talk to each other, and a wider view in how we're all in this together.

LORD IN YOUR MERCY HEAR OUR PRAYER

Blessed Jesus, may your body and blood strengthen and encourage us to face whatever difficulties are before us. COVID-19 and the fears surrounding it feel as overwhelming to us as it must have felt for you facing down those who wanted you dead. Thank you for not letting the dishonesty and fears of others get in the way of your service to God. May we walk with you through our fears into the light of your wisdom and grace.

LORD IN YOUR MERCY HEAR OUR PRAYER

Counseling Holy Spirit, help us to open our heart completely to you as we expose our fears, hurts, and doubts to the light of your inspection and to discover how you can use everything to help us. Guide us to face our fears and concerns and to trust you place people around us who can help. Keep us in your word, challenge us to pray, bless us with times when we feel you close to us.

LORD IN YOUR MERCY HEAR OUR PRAYER

Triune God, we lift up all who struggle with illness, pain, grief, and anything which places a

wall between us, others, or you. Inspire us to live with integrity as we elect people into offices which are meant to serve and bring glory to you. Remind us to let go of all we have and to hold onto you as we remember how you taught us to pray: The Lord's Prayer

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

As we journey through our life, may God go before us to show the way, behind us to encourage us; beside us to support us; above us to watch over us; and within us to give us the peace which surpasses all understanding.

Hymn: *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!* ELW #413 / LBW #165

Pam Aakre, Piano, Sam Helgeson, Trumpet

Verse 1: *Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly, Lord God Al-might-y!*
 Ear-ly in the morn-ing our song shall rise to thee.
 Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly, mer-ci-ful and might-y!
 God in three per-sons, bless-ed Trin-i-ty!

Verse 3: *Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly! Though the dark-ness hide thee,*
 Though the eye of sin-ful-ness thy glo-ry may not see,
 On-ly thou art ho-ly; there is none be-side thee,
 Per-fect in pow'r in love and pu-ri-ty.

Verse 4: *Ho-ly, ho-ly ho-ly! Lord God Al-might-y!*
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.
 Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly, mer-ci-ful and might-y!
 God in three per-sons, bless-ed Trin-i-ty!