

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
10501 Hwy. 32 South, Hawley, MN 56549-8929
Office Phone: 937-5499
Pastor Jim Greene
Cell Phone: 218-329-3933
PastorJim@RollagLutheran.org
Pastor Hope Deutscher
Cell Phone: 701-730-5051
Livinggracehawley@gmail.com

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
Office: 218-486-5880; Cell: 701-730-5051
livinggracehawley@gmail.com
PO Box 477, Hawley, MN 56549
Worships at The Garrick Theater,
509 Front Street, Hawley, MN 56549

Sunday, October 31, 2021

Reformation Sunday - Virtual Holy Communion Worship Service

Led by Pr. Hope Deutscher and Pr. Jim Greene

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

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work.

Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

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:

October 31: Noisy Offering – Backpack Program at REACH and Barnesville. 8 AM Gran, 9:30 AM Rollag, 9:30 AM Living Grace; 10:30 AM Sunday School – music time, followed by Trunk or Treating in the Rollag Parking Lot; 11 AM Park

Monday, November 1: 9:30 AM Gran Ruth Circle; 7 PM Women's Book Study

Wednesday, November 3: 10 AM Bible Study; 11 AM Staff Meeting; 12 PM Rollag Seniors; 1 PM Barnesville Ministerial; 6 PM Confirmation Meal; 6:45 PM Confirmation

Thursday, November 4: 10:30 AM Worship at Valley Care & Rehab, Barnesville

Sunday, November 7: 8 AM Gran; 9:30 AM Rollag and Living Grace; 10:30 AM Sunday School; 11 AM Park – *Don't forget Daylight Saving Time Ends*

Monday, November 8: 7 PM Youth and Education Committee

Youth:

Wednesdays: 6 PM Confirmation Dinner; 6:45 PM Confirmation

Sundays: 10:30 AM Parish Sunday School at Rollag

Oct. 31: Sunday School will include a Trunk or Treat Event

Kids are encouraged to dress up in their favorite costume! Adults/families/churches are invited to bring a “trunk” and host handing out candy. If you would like to donate candy or goodies, please leave them at Rollag Church outside the Parish Office or contact Pr. Hope. *If you are not feeling well or are quarantined, please stay home.*

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, November 1 and 15: Women’s Book Study – “The Rock, The Road, and the Rabbi” by Kathie Lee Gifford*
- *7 PM Monday, November 22: Paul Tillich Bible Study*

Prelude: *How Firm a Foundation*

Pam Aakre, Piano

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

God, like a loving parent you give us life then encourage us to spread our wings and go out into the world and make life better for all. Unfortunately, we can become blind to your guidance or don’t want to help people we don’t like. Forgive us when we build walls instead of bridges; when we work to separate instead of join together; when we condemn instead of forgive. Forgive us for all the fears, doubts, and sins which try to blind us and help us to be whole and holy for you.

Children of a Loving God, may we learn to notice and let go of every thought, word, or action which puts walls between us and others. May we give thanks for how God casts our sins as far as the east is from the west, setting us free to go and be wise care-takers of all we’ve been blest with. May we love as we are loved by our Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter.

Hymn: *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* (ELW #504; LBW #712)

Pam Aakre, Piano; Sam Helgeson, Trumpet

Verse 1: *A might-y for-tress is our God, a sword and shield vic-to – rious;
He breaks the cruel op-pres-sor’s rod and wins sal-va-tion glo-rious.
The old sa-tan-ic foe has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dread-ful might he arms him-self to fight.
On earth he has no e – qual.*

Verse 4: *God’s Word for-ev-er shall a – bide, no thanks to foes, who fear it;
For God him-self fights by our side with weap-ons of the Spir-it.
Were they to take our house, goods, hon-or, child, or spouse,
Though life be wrenched a-way, they can-not win the day.
The king-dom’s ours for-ev – er!*

Children’s Message

Pr. Hope Deutscher

Scripture: Romans 3:19-28

Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. ²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. ²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Message Pr. Jim Greene

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

Hymn: God Whose Almighty Word (ELW #673 / LBW#400)

Pam Aakre, Piano

Verse 1: *God whose almighty word chaos and darkness heard
And took their flight; hear us, we humbly pray, and where the
Gospel day sheds not its glorious ray, let there be light.*

Verse 2: *Christ, who once came to bring, on your redeeming wing,
Healing and sight; health to the troubled mind, sight where
Illusions blind; oh now, to humankind let there be light.*

Verse 3: *Spirit of truth and love, life-giving, holy dove,
Speed forth your flight; move on the water's face bearing the lamp of grace,
And in earth's darkest place let there be light.*

Gospel: John 8:31-36

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

³⁴Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

Message Pr. Hope Deutscher

Contact Pastor Hope at livinggracehawley@gmail.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

God is ever faithful and has blessed us with so much. With grateful hearts, let us offer back to God what we have, with love and thanksgiving.

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

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

God of grace - Make us free to be the church in the world. Form our mission and ministry in ways that truly and tangibly give new life, hope, and grace in abundance. Make us free to be people of purpose. Let our eyes and ears be open to hear your Word, see your presence and be transformed as your church, driven to witness to the gospel. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of grace - Make us free to be one with your creation. Fill us with your Spirit and lead us to find better ways to honor what you have given us. Help us to abandon wasteful habits. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of grace - Make us free to be brothers and sisters. Shatter the distinctions that create hatred and fear. Open our eyes to see one another as people who bear the image and likeness of Christ. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of grace - Make us free to be whole and healthy persons. Give respite to caregivers, infuse medical workers with skill, inspire scientists to find cures, and make us well in mind, body, and soul. ... May all those in need feel your eternal, compassionate and life-giving presence in their lives. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of grace - Make us free to be still and know you. Join our voices with the all the saints, especially those who have gone before us and now sing in one heavenly choir. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting in your mercy and goodness, we bring before you these prayers and whatever else you see that we need, and we pray together in the name of the one who sets us free, Jesus Christ...

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

God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being; Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead; Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Dismissal:

May we go in peace and serve the Lord: **As we Celebrate, Share, and Show God's Love!**

Hymn: *How Firm a Foundation* (ELW # 796 / LBW #507)

Pam Aakre, Piano and Pr. Hope Deutscher, Flute

- Verse 1:** *How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?*
- Verse 2:** *"Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
The flames shall not hurt you; I only design;
Upheld by my righteous, om-nip-o-tent hand."*
- Verse 3:** *"When through fi-ry trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace, all sufficient shall be your supply
The flames shall not hurt you; I only design
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine."*
- Verse 4:** *"throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove
My sov-'reign eternal, unchangeable love;
And then, when gray hairs shall their temples adorn,
Like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne."*

Thank you for worshipping with us!