

Liturgy at Grace Lutheran Church
Holy Cross Sunday
Evangelical Lutheran Worship



Sunday, September 13, 2026 10:30 A.M.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

PRELUDE

GATHERING HYMN Lift High the Cross Hymn #660

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.**

Kyrie

JAMES MACMILLAN

Andante ♩ = 80

Organ

mp Lord, have mer-cy. *mf* Lord, have mer-cy. *mf* Christ, have

10 *mp* mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. *mp* Lord, have mer-cy. *mp* Lord, have mer-cy.

Gloria

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in D major (one sharp). It is divided into two parts: 'PRIEST / CANTOR' and 'ALL'. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes measure numbers 3, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 17. The lyrics are: 'Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace to peo - ple of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we a - dore you, we glo - ri - fy you, we give you thanks for your great glo - ry, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Je - sus Christ, On - ly Be - got - ten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, you take a - way the sins_ of the world, have_ mer - cy on us; you take a - way the sins_ of the world, re - ceive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Fa - ther, have mer - cy on us. For_ you a - lone are the_ Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - - - men.'

PRIEST / CANTOR ALL

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace to peo - ple of good will.

3 We praise you, we bless you, we a - dore you, we glo - ri - fy you,

7 we give you thanks for your great glo - ry, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

9 Lord Je - sus Christ, On - ly Be - got - ten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther,

11 you take a - way the sins_ of the world, have_ mer - cy on us;

12 you take a - way the sins_ of the world, re - ceive our prayer; you are seated at the

(13) right hand of the Fa - ther, have mer - cy on us. For_ you a - lone are the_

(14) Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High Je - sus Christ,

17 with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - - - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross so that he might draw the whole world to himself. To those who look upon the cross, grant your wisdom, healing, and eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

Word

God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

Numbers 21:4b-9

[From Mount Hor the Israelites set out,] ^{4b} but the people became discouraged on the way. ⁵ The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” ⁶ Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷ The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸ And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” ⁹ So Moses made a serpent of bronze and put it upon a pole, and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

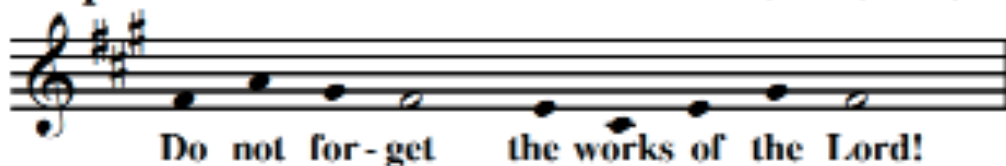
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 78: 1-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38



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R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!

Hearken, my people, to my teaching;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
I will open my mouth in a parable,
I will utter mysteries from of old.

R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!

While he slew them they sought him
and inquired after God again,
Remembering that God was their rock
and the Most High God, their redeemer.

R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!

But they flattered him with their mouths
and lied to him with their tongues,
Though their hearts were not steadfast toward him,
nor were they faithful to his covenant.

R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!

But he, being merciful, forgave their sin
and destroyed them not;
Often he turned back his anger
and let none of his wrath be roused.

R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-24

¹⁸ The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*Please stand*

"We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your Cross you have redeemed the world." (†)

Alleluia*Tone VII*

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HOLY GOSPEL**JOHN 3:13-17**

The Holy Gospel according to John the third chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹³ “No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷ “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY

Rev. Khader Khalilia

Silence for reflection

HYMN OF THE DAY

O, Praise the Gracious Power

Hymn #651

THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from
the virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

United with the great cloud of witnesses throughout the ages, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

For the church. For bishops, pastors, deacons, and all the baptized. For chaplains, missionaries, and those who serve in specialized settings. Guide us in the way of the cross, and lead us in paths of faithful service. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For the world. For oceans and lakes, rivers and wetlands. For trees and mountains, parks and wildlife refuges. Restore places damaged by fire or flood, windstorm, or earthquake. Shelter your whole creation from harm. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For the nations and their leaders. Bring an end to warfare, violence, and injustice. Teach us to live in peace with one another. Lift up those who live under oppression. Watch over those who flee their homes in search of safety and freedom. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For those in need. For those yearning for meaning and purpose. For those who lack stable employment or safe housing. For those who grieve, and for those who are ill. Heal their wounds and comfort them in their distress. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For this assembly. For Sunday school teachers and preschool directors. For students and teachers in public and private schools. Fill us all with zeal for learning. Energize us to give ourselves away in love for our neighbors. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Gracious and merciful God, on this twenty-fifth anniversary of September 11, we remember before you those who died, those who gave their lives in service to others, and all whose lives were forever changed. Comfort all who still bear the wounds of grief and loss. We give you thanks for the courage, sacrifice, and compassion shown in the midst of devastation. By your Holy Spirit, renew us in our baptismal calling to love our neighbors, serve those in need, and bear faithful witness to Christ.

Strengthen all who protect and serve our communities and keep us steadfast in the hope of the resurrection. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

With thanksgiving, we remember Helena, the mother of Constantine, and all who have gone before us in faith. Bring us with them through the promise of the holy cross into the hope and joy of the resurrection. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the company of your saints we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your eternal mercy and love; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

GREETING OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The assembly sits after exchanging the peace.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, Peace be with you. You may consider a gesture without physical touch, perhaps a slight bow, or crossing over the chest, as a symbol of an embrace.

**Please consider an offering to Grace Lutheran Church by clicking at this link:*
<https://secure.myvanco.com/YQ3P/home> or scan the QR code below.



OFFERTORY MUSIC I Come to the Cross

Noel Dexter

OFFERTORY VERSE *Please stand.*

YOU ARE HOLY (DU AR HELIG)

Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more

än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.

Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here

väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

²
Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,

du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!

Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!

ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray: God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

This musical score is for a hymn titled 'GREAT THANKSGIVING'. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.'

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... We praise your name and join their unending hymn...

Sanctus

Moderato ♩ = 92-96

Organ

mp Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of

mf hosts, God of hosts. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na

mf in the high - est. Blessed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the

ff Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

This musical score is for a hymn titled 'Sanctus'. It is in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The tempo is marked 'Moderato' with a metronome marking of ♩ = 92-96. The score includes an organ part and a vocal part. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts, God of hosts. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.' The score includes dynamic markings: *mp* (mezzo-piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *ff* (fortissimo).

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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 for 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 for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ

may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.
Amen.

OUR FATHER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

AT THE DISTRIBUTION

All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion. In this Sacrament we receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ for our forgiveness and salvation as we celebrate our unity with Christ and all the saints.

Slowly **Agnus Dei**

8 Organ *mp* Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have

mer - cy_ on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy_ on

15 *mf* *mp* us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, grant us peace.

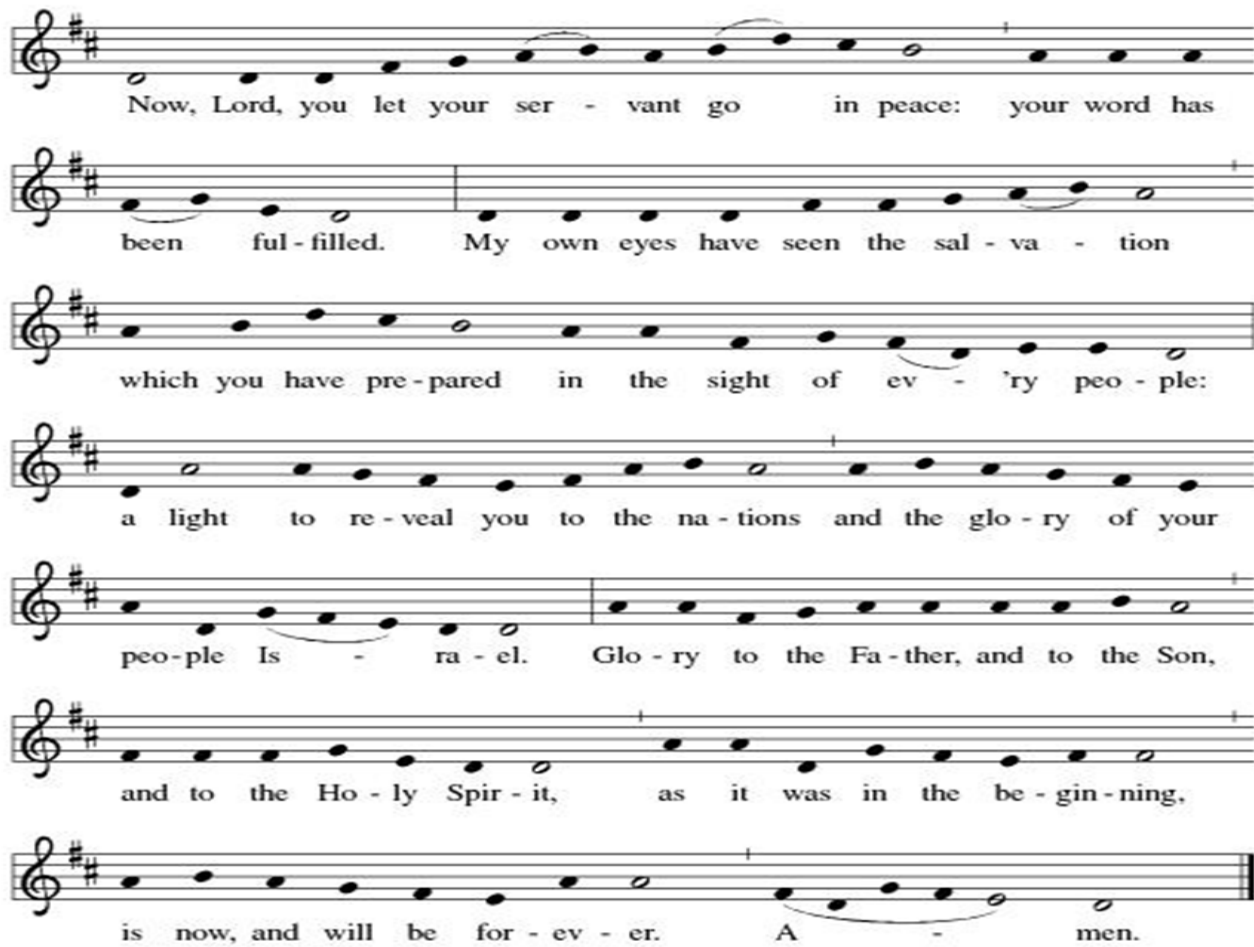
MUSIC AT COMMUNION	There in God's Garden	Hymn #342
	I Am the Bread of Life	Hymn#485

POST COMMUNION BLESSING *Please stand.*

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Now, Lord



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace: your word has
been ful - filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion
which you have pre - pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple:
a light to re - veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son,
and to the Ho - ly Spir - it, as it was in the be - gin - ning,
is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Music: Plainsong, adapt. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

BENEDICTION *Please stand.*

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Sing, My Tongue

Hymn#356

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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LEADERS IN TODAY'S LITURGY

Presiding and Preaching

Assisting Minister

Crucifer

Greeter

Lector

Intercessor

Usher

Organist

Choir

Rev. Khader Khalilia

Deacon Eric Johnson

Karin Morales

Madison Morales

Shareen Mitchell

Katie Jamison

Linda Pergola

Roy Feldhusen

Christina Swanson

Celina Randazzo

Branch Worsham

Collin Ellsbury

PARISH NOTES – September 13, 2026

Welcome in the Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! We appreciate your joining us as we celebrate the love given to us through God's beloved Son. If you wish to be included on our mailing list, please sign the guest book or inform an usher or the pastor. Also, please join us for conversation and refreshments in the lower level after worship. May you feel richly blessed this day!



~ Nancy Camarata, Anthony Serrano, The Family of Richard Boyle, John DeLuca, Beatrice Sarchapone, Maria Marsala, Roger Stern, Karen O'Brien, Phil Scherer, Milly Reistad, Pat Boyle, Steve Cerame, Diane Kerl, Family of Sandy Romano, Ruth Lundy, Dot Coy, Don Coy, Joshua Suzuki, Stanley Lieberman, Thomas Maulick, James Quigg, Norina Lundy, Carmen Delgado, Peter Syrdahl

Please let us know if you are in need of prayer.

Today we are using "Mass setting: St. Anne's Mass by James Macmillan".

"The Word In Season" devotionals for October, November and December 2026 are now available on the foyer table.

Please note: All checks should be made out to Grace Lutheran Church.



Eternal Candle and Altar Flowers:

It is \$10 per week to sponsor the Eternal Candle and \$40 per floral arrangement for the altar.

The Eternal Candle for September is lit in loving memory of John Pergola with love from his family

Blessed Birthday Wishes for September to:

Sept. 6 - Jack Caldwell
Sept. 13 - Evald Olsen
Sept. 14 - Ron Smith
Sept. 17 - Amelia Hazel
Sept. 26 - Ana Crespo
Sept. 29 - Kirsten D'Aquino

Today's Festival Celebration

Please join us in the fellowship hall directly after service today for

The Feast of the Holy Cross

Meal graciously sponsored by the Wong family with our thanks!

September–October Mission Project

Lutheran Disaster Response

During September and October, our congregation will support **Lutheran Disaster Response**.

Our gifts help the Church respond quickly to disasters and remain with communities through the long work of recovery. As Christ has shown mercy to us, we are called to show mercy to our neighbors in need.

To give, please make your check payable to **Grace Lutheran Church** and write “**ELCA Disaster Response**” in the memo line. You may also use a special offering envelope available in the back of the narthex and mark it “**Lutheran Disaster Response.**”

Faith Formation

First Holy Communion Classes

First Holy Communion classes will begin on **Sunday, September 13, at 9:40 AM** in the meeting room. Children and their families will learn about the gift of the Sacrament of Holy Communion, where Christ gives us His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins.

Classes will run for **4–6 weeks**, and participants will receive their **First Holy Communion during worship on Sunday, November 8.**

To enroll your child, please speak with **Pastor Khader**

Sunday School – Please note that Sunday School will resume on **Sunday, September 13, 2026**, at **9:40 a.m.**

Virtual Bible Study – TBA

Confirmation Class – Please note that Confirmation Class will resume on **Sunday, September 13, 2026**, at **9:30 a.m.** in the Church Office.

Weekly Events at Grace Lutheran

Sundays	10:30 am	Worship Service
	11:30 am	Coffee Hour
	12:00 pm	Greek Apostolic Church Service
Wednesdays	7:00 pm	Sons of Bill (Men’s AA Meeting) – <i>In-person</i>
Saturdays	1:30 pm –	Al-Anon Meeting – <i>In-person</i>



Join us for a fun-filled Oktoberfest celebration
and support the church organ fund!

Oktoberfest

FOOD • MUSIC • DRINKS

SATURDAY, OCT 17

LOCATION: Grace

939 83rd St., Brooklyn, NY 11228

Doors open at 5:30 PM • Event begins at 6:00 PM

Tickets: \$30 Adult, \$10 Child

All proceeds benefit the Organ Fund.

Scan the QR
code to buy
online



Call (718) 833-7700
to get your tickets
in person.



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CELEBRATING THE INSTALLATION OF

ERIC JOHNSON

AS DEACON OF GRACE
LUTHERAN CHURCH OF BROOKLYN

REFORMATION SUNDAY

SUNDAY

OCTOBER 25, 2026

10:30 AM

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF BROOKLYN**

939 83rd Street

Brooklyn, NY 11228

Reception Immediately

Following the Service

Hosted by
Grace Lutheran Church of Brooklyn
The Rev. Khader Khalilia, Pastor

(718) 833-7700
GRACEBK.ORG



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
939 83rd Street Brooklyn, New York 11228-2817
Office: 718.833.7700 Fax: 718.833.6165
Visit our website at **gracebk.org**
Office Hours: Mon-Tues-Thurs 10am-1pm

NEW Church Emails:

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Kirsten d'Aquino	Kirsten@gracebk.org
Office	Connect@gracebk.org

Facebook: Grace Lutheran Church of Brooklyn

Instagram: Gracelutheranchurhofbrooklyn

Like Us  on Facebook and receive updates.

The Rev. Khader Khalilia
Eric Johnson
Kirsten d'Aquino
Leticia Da Silva
Tammy Johnson
Vanessa Vega
Alice Mulligan

Pastor
Deacon
Director of Music
Director of Youth Ministry
Administrator
RSJ Nursery School Director
OS Nursery School Director

*Opening our doors and serving the community by transforming lives through the
powerful teachings of Jesus Christ.
Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church.*