Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Do not exalt yourself in the king's presence, and do not claim a place among great men; it is better for him to say to you, "Come up here," than for him to humiliate you before a nobleman.

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church September 6, 2015



Our mission at Grace is to teach the inspired and inerrant Word of God, to proclaim that Jesus Christ is the crucified and risen Savior of the world and to nurture believers for lives of Christian service.

We are very pleased that you have joined us for worship today at Grace-Tucson! We pray that this time will be a blessing for you as God comes to you with his Word and promises and as you offer him your thanks and praise.

Worship Notes

The **order of service** we follow is printed out in this worship folder. You'll notice that the service is a dialogue between God and us, his people. The pastor speaks to God along with the congregation and also speaks the Word of God to the people.

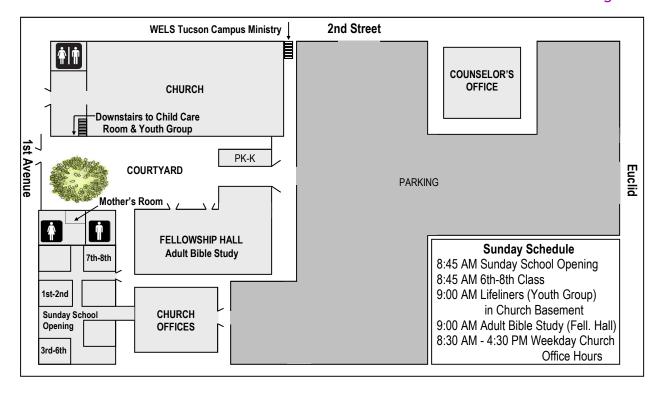
Hymns are found in our hymnal, *Christian Worship*, which is the red book in the pew rack in front of you.

Large print hymn sheets are available in the entryway. You may also ask an usher or greeter to get one for you.

We believe that many blessings come from having families worship together and we love to have **children in worship!** If you need to calm a restless child, you may:

- stand for a few moments in the entryway, sometimes that's all that's needed:
- go down the stairs to the left in the entryway—they will lead down to the Child Care Room where you will still be able to hear the service;
- visit the private Mother's Room across the courtyard in the women's restroom—you will be able to hear the service there also.

Printed copies of the sermon are available in the entryway. CDs of the entire worship service will be made upon request from the sound technician in the balcony. It only takes a few minutes to copy. You may also find sermons and services in print, audio and video on our website: www.GraceLutheranSAZ.org



SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

Christian Worship

WELCOME

HYMN

Father, We Praise You Christian Worship #581

Please stand

Minister: The grace of our Lord (†) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the

fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Congregation. And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

- M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.
- C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.
- M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

LORD, HAVE MERCY Kyrie

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



PRESERVICE MUSIC:

7:45 AM—Be Thou My Vision
Arr. by Victor
Labenske

"Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise, Thou mine Inheritance, now and always: Thou and Thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art."

10:00 AM— Faith Bv Jim Brickman

We come before the true God only because of his mercy and not because we deserve to come. We confess our unworthiness and rejoice to hear the assurance of forgiveness.

Kyrie—We sing our penitential confession to our Triune God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit, asking for his mercy. The name Kyrie is shortened from the Greek Kyrie Eleison, which means "Lord have mercy."

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



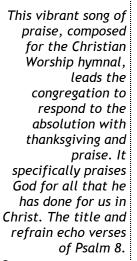
M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.



O LORD, OUR LORD





PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your neverfailing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Please be seated

THE WORD

The First Lesson is frequently a reading from the Old Testament. It shares a common theme with the Second Lesson (often from one of the epistles) and the Gospel.

FIRST LESSON

Do not exalt yourself in the king's presence, and do not claim a place among great men; it is better for him

Proverbs 25:6, 7 (NIV)

to say to you, "Come up here," than for him to humiliate you before a nobleman.

SECOND LESSON

My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism. Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in shabby clothes also comes in. If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my dear brothers: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? But you have insulted the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? Are

James 2:1-13 (NIV)

they not the ones who are slandering the noble name of him to whom you belong? If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. For he who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker. Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment!

The Verse of the Day is a familiar or significant Scripture text framed with alleluias.



Please stand

GOSPEL

One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched.

When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable: "When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, 'Give this man your seat.' Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say

Luke 14:1, 7-14 (NIV)

to you, 'Friend, move up to a better place.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all your fellow guests. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

The congregation stands out of respect for the words of Christ our King.

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



Please be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

O God of Mercy, God of Might Christian Worship #499

SERMON Luke 14:1, 7-14

The Honor In Humility

- 1. Humility is learned from the honorable Christ
- 2. Humility considers others worthy of honor...and shows it

The Nicene Creed was first developed in 325 at the First Council of Nicea. It was written to reaffirm the Biblical teaching of the divinity of Jesus, God's Son. Like the Apostles' and Athanasian Creeds, the Nicene Creed is a confession of what the Bible teaches.

NICENE CREED

C: 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. 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, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

Please be seated



If you prefer, use your smart phone to give online by scanning this QR code.

OFFERTORY MUSIC:

7:45 AM-

Make Me a Servant Arr. by Kelly Willard

> 10:00 AM— Blest Be the Tie That Binds Arr. by Lynn L. Petersen

OFFERING

Members of Grace respond to their Savior's love with offerings that are given joyfully, generously, regularly, and in a way that is proportionate to how the Lord has blessed them. Their cheerful gifts support the mission and ministry of our congregation. If you are a guest today, please know that we do not expect you to contribute to our congregation's work. However, if you would like to give an offering to the Lord in response to his love to you, we are happy to receive it and put it to work in God's kingdom.

Please fill out the Friendship Register located in the red folder at the end of the row and pass it along. Thank you!

Please stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M: Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all we praise and thank you for your saving Word and for your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and to drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.
- C: Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.

M: Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

C: Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

7:45 AM — Please continue on page 9 with the Words of Institution.

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.



M: Lift up your hearts.



Matthew 6 and Luke 11 record how Jesus taught his disciples to pray. We use his example prayer as part of our public worship, trusting that he will hear and answer our prayers.

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

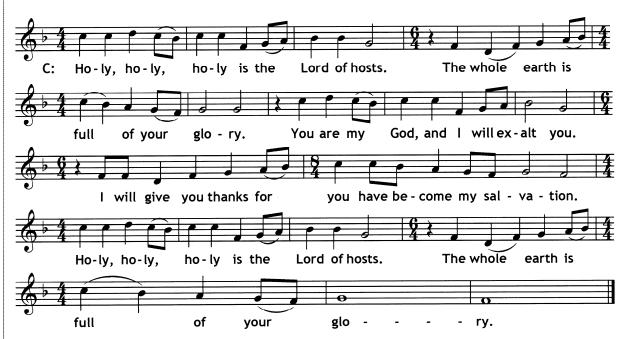


C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY Sanctus

This ancient worship song is based on songs of praise recorded in Isaiah 6 and Psalm 118.



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

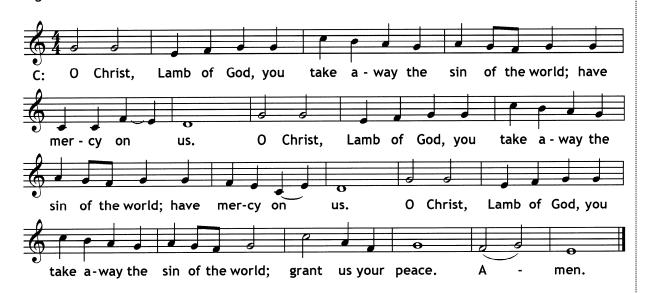
M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.







Please be seated

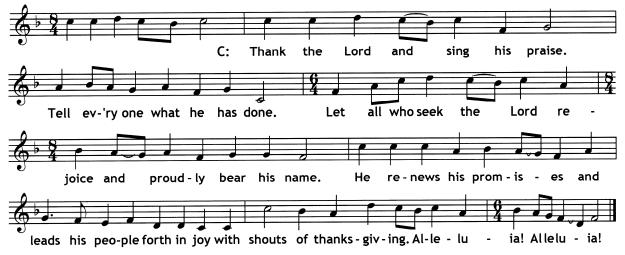
DISTRIBUTION

The Bible teaches that the Lord's Supper is a unique communion of Christ and the individual believer as well as a coming together of people who hold to the same beliefs. Because of these Scriptural truths, we practice **Member Communion** at Grace. Those who are confirmed members of Wisconsin Synod congregations (WELS) are invited to receive the Lord's Supper with us.

If you are not a WELS member but have an interest in receiving Holy Communion, please speak with one of our pastors after church today or at another time. We are aware that there are a number of other teachings about Holy Communion, and we want it to be a blessing for you, so we would look forward to sharing with you what God says about this Sacrament.

Please stand

THANK THE LORD



We provide glutenfree communion wafers for those with wheat allergy, gluten-sensitivity or celiac disease. These wafers are stored and handled separately to avoid cross-contamination. They are "bread" as Scripture requires and are consecrated along with the rest of the bread. For those requiring gluten-free wafers, please take one from the container on the stand located at the front rail as you approach for communion. Simply hold it so that the pastor can see it at the time of distribution.

Grape juice is available for those who for health or medical reason require it instead of wine. Please speak with a pastor about providing grape juice for you on future Sundays.

PRAYER

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So I will put my name on [them], and I will bless them."

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.



Please be seated

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN

Oh, that the Lord Would Guide My Ways Christian Worship #462

THOSE ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher	Pastor Ron Koehler
Worship Leader	Pastor Sam Clemons (7:45 AM)
Communion Assistants	Pastor Nathan Kassulke (10:00 AM)
	Spiritual Needs Elder, Jacob Kassulke (10:00 AM)
Accompanists	Stephanie Kania (7:45 AM)
	Teri Guenther (10:00 AM)
	Vic Thornton, Vernon Neal (7:45 AM)
Jon Dongos	ke, Jonathan Ganster, Danny Koehler (10:00 AM)
	Jon Miller, Rick Street (10:00 AM)
	Jeremy Snavely (10:00 AM)
Altar Prep Team	Elaine Goldie, Karen Grorud, Gisela Kittel

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Member Information Sheets Needed!

We are still in need of information sheets from a large portion of the congregation. These forms allow you to share contact information as well as information about your family, your gifts and talents, and ways that you would be interested in serving at church. Please drop them off in the gray box (in the Courtyard) or mail them to the church office. You can also fill out an online version of the forms at www.GraceLutheranSAZ.org/profile. Thank you for your help!

Divine Call Declined

After much prayer and careful deliberation, Daniel T. Schmidt has announced his decision to decline the Call extended to him to serve as Grace's Mission Pastor to Sahuarita. We wish him God's blessings as he continues his service in Oconomowoc, WI. We also trust that God will continue to bless our congregation as we continue the calling process and await the man the Lord of the Church has in mind to serve us. The next Call Meeting will be next Sunday, September 13 at 3:00 PM at Grace-Tucson.

Thursday Women's Bible Study: Jude

Join Pastor Koehler this Thursday, September 10 in the Grace-Tucson fellowship hall for a look at the book of Jude. This letter is one of the least known books of the New Testament. No lessons from Jude are even included in the normal Sunday readings for worship. Come find out more about this intense little letter and how it will help you to fight to hang on to your faith in these last times!

HANDBELL CHOIR Beginning Soon!

Handbell Choir will begin rehearsing on September 14. Practices are held on Mondays at 4:30 in the church basement. Anyone interesting in giving bells a try is invited to come! If you have questions or would like more information, please contact director Melissa Newbrey (702-469-0993) or music coordinator Beth Kassulke (520-260-3649).

POSTLUDE:

7:45 AM— Something For Thee Arr. by Janet Rand

"Give me a faithful heart—Likeness to Thee, That each departing day Henceforth may see Some work of love begun, Some deed of kindness done, Some wand'rer sought and won, Something for Thee."

10:00 AM— The Gift of Love Arr. by The O'Neill Brothers

Though I may speak with bravest fire, And have the gift to all inspire, And have not love, my words are vain, As sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess,
And striving so my love profess,
But not be given by love within,
The profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control, Our spirits long to be made whole. Let inward love guide every deed; By this we worship, and are freed.

Men's Fellowship

A monthly men's fellowship group is beginning with a kick-off brunch at the Good Egg on River & Oracle this Saturday, September 12 at 9:45 AM. There will be a short devotion and discussion on what events the group would like to do this year. Please **RSVP by this Wednesday, September 9** to Cora in the church office (623-6633) if you plan on attending. For any other questions regarding the men's group please call Boz Lomasney at 440-251-4704.

Women of Grace Brunch Meeting

There will be a Women of Grace brunch meeting on Saturday, September 19 at 10 AM in the Grace-Tucson Fellowship Hall.

Please bring "brunch" food to pass (cold cuts, salads, finger sandwiches, egg dishes, relish trays, bars & cookies, etc.)

Join us for food, fellowship and "future." It's time once again to move forward to a blessed new season at Grace! Questions? Call or text Diane Kramm at 440-8564.

Fiesta Sahuarita

Grace is participating in this year's Fiesta Sahuarita, an annual event just down the road from Grace -Sahuarita at Anamax Park. This is a great opportunity for us to greet the community and introduce them to our church! The Fiesta is Saturday, September 26, noon until 9 PM. The event includes live music, food trucks, games, arts and crafts, and a waterslide. Grace will have a booth at the festival and will be looking for volunteers from all the Grace locations to help staff the booth for an hour or two at a time. Boz Lomasney will be at the booth most of the day, so the volunteers are additional help. There will be lots to see and do at the Fiesta, so anyone wanting to come staff the booth for a bit can then enjoy the rest of the activities as well! If you'd like to help please contact Diane Kramm at pdkramm@earthlink.com or call/text her at 440-8564.

Interactive Faith Bible Studies

Starting this Wednesday, September 9 at 6:00 PM, there will be three Bible study opportunities to take advantage of in Tucson, Vail and Saint David (see locations below). We will be using the WELS Interactive Faith Bible Study on the life of Elisha, led by Professor Keith Wessel. This will be a five week class which will be streamed live starting at 6 PM. This class gives us an opportunity to study God's Word in a comfortable small-group environment. If you are unable to make it to a class, log in with other Christians at: http://www.wels.net/interactivefaith. Thank you to the three hosts willing to open up their home for this class.

Locations:

Eric & Julie Prigge 5391 S. Black Falls Dr Tucson, AZ 85747 (520)269-6860 Ron & Kathy Silver 741 S. Desert Haven Rd Vail, AZ 85641 (520)762-3255 Mike & Frances Lindquist 380 W. Branding Iron Ct Saint David, 85630 (520)226-7201



Grace is one congregation at FOUR places!

Enjoy worship, Bible study and activities at Grace locations in Benson, Sahuarita, Tucson and Vail.

This Week at Grace • Sept 6-Sept 13

TUCSON Today Worship Services/Communion	WednesdayMidweek Bible Study: Church History10:00aMidweek Bible Study: Church History6:30pThursdayNEW! Women's Bible Study: Jude9:00aSaturdayMen's Fellowship at the Good Egg (River/Oracle)9:45aSundayWorship Services7:45 & 10:00aCoffee Fellowship following both services6:30pChildren's Sunday School8:45aYouth Confirmation Class8:45a
SAHUARITA Today Worship Service/Communion	Lifeliners (High School Group): Bible Study
Saturday Men's Fellowship at the Good Egg (River/Oracle)9:45a Sunday Worship Service	VAIL Today Bible Study: Church-Mission-Ministry
BENSON Today Worship Service	WednesdayBible Study: Interactive Faith Bible Study

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Phone 623-6633 Fax 623-1514

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Cora Stuhr

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Samuel M. Clemons revsmc@gracelutheransaz.org

At Grace-Vail & Grace-Benson

Colin M. Rieke revcmr@gracelutheransaz.org

At Grace-Sahuarita

Ronald G. Koehler, III revrgk3@gracelutheransaz.org

Bible-Based Counselor

Cinda Drescher cinda@gracelutheransaz.org Phone 882-3773

Music Coordinator

Beth Kassulke music@gracelutheransaz.org Phone 293-2935

Office Assistant

Debbie Koehler assistant@gracelutheransaz.org Phone 623-6633

TODAY

Welcome Grace Guests!

If you are a guest at Grace today, we are very happy to have you worship with us! If you would like more information about Grace or have questions about becoming a member of our congregation, please visit the Welcome Table in the courtyard. If this is your first time at Grace, please stop there to pick up a gift just for being our guest this morning.

Holy Communion

There are before-communion and after-communion prayers in our Christian Worship hymnal on p. 11, and a personal preparation guide on p.156 to help prepare you to receive the Lord's Supper. If you are a guest with us today, please see p. 10 in today's worship folder under "Distribution" for information about our practice of Member Communion.

You Are Invited

You are invited to a coffee fellowship this morning in the courtyard following both services. Fellowship after 10:00 AM worship is hosted by Nadine Rentschler & Amy Rudd. We hope you'll take advantage of this opportunity to greet your brothers and sisters in Christ.

Altar Flowers

The flowers beautifying our worship this morning have been given by Bob & Nadine Rentschler in memory of their parents.

NEXT SUNDAY

Next week's Scripture Lessons for Devotional Reading this Week

Genesis 12:1-8 Philippians 3:4b-11 Luke 14:25-33

Sermon Text & Theme

Genesis 12:1-8
Father Abraham,
Our Model of Faith

Communion Register Sign-In

If you are a Grace member, we ask on communion Sundays that you please write your name on one of the communion register sheets located at the entrances to church if you plan on receiving the Lord's Supper. This helps us maintain a record for the spiritual care of our members. Thank you.

English as a Second Language

The 15th year of our English as a Second Language program begins Monday, September 14 at 6:30 PM in the Grace-Tucson Fellowship Hall. If you know of anyone who might be interested in participating please let them know! *ESL runs Mondays and Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30 PM September through May.*



Grace Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), a group of nearly 400,000 men, women, and children in nearly 1,300 congregations across the United States and Canada united by a common faith in Christ's saving love. We are committed to a common calling—encouraging each other in our faith and sharing God's gift of a Savior with the rest of the world.