

August 23, 2020 Grace Lutheran Church, Boulder, Colorado Rooted in Grace + Reaching out in Christ's Love

Welcome to Grace!

We are glad you are joining us online for this worship service. Our liturgy is printed in this worship folder so that you can follow along on <u>Zoom with the live Worship Service</u> or afterward on <u>the Grace</u> <u>Boulder website</u>.

In response to Christ's boundless love for all, members of Grace share that love by inviting all – regardless of ethnicity or race, educational or religious background, economic, physical, mental or social condition, gender identity or sexual orientation – to come and participate in the life of Grace.

In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.

PARTICIPATING MINISTERS IN THE WORK OF GRACE	
Presiding Minister	Pastor Matthew Weber
Assisting Minister	Carol Codrescu
Lector	Hiroko Akima
Organist	Boyd Hamilton
Choir Director & Pandemic Worship Cantor	Michael Hoffman
Special Music	Boulder Renaissance Consort
Office Administrator	Amy Stewart McIntosh

Lessons and propers for this day are reprinted from Words for Worship 2019, Year C © 2018 Augsburg Fortress.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

1001 13th Street, Boulder C0 80302 Phone 303.442.1883 Fax 303.442.4403 A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

> www.graceboulder.org | office@graceboulder.org Pastor: matthew@graceboulder.org

GATHERING

MUSICAL INVITATION TO WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. **Amen.**

Reconciling God,

we confess that we do not trust your abundance,

and we deny your presence in our lives.

We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts.

We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.

We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.

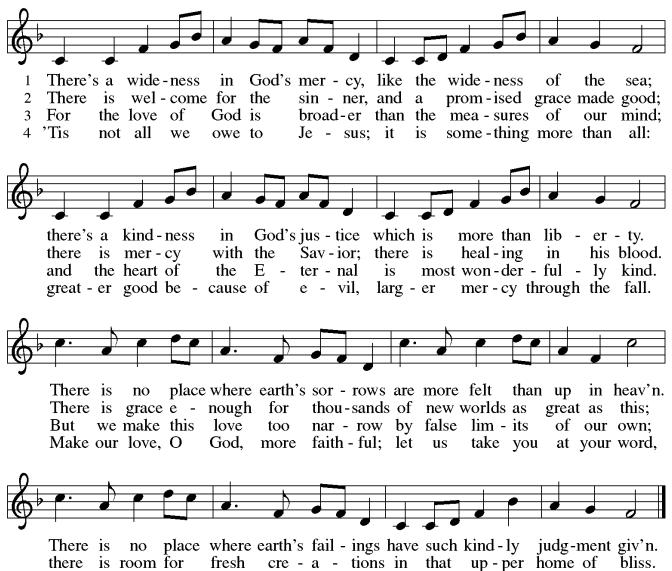
We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us.

We sin in thought, word, and deed.

By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

Beloved of God,
by the radical abundance of divine mercy
we have peace with God through + Christ Jesus,
through whom we have obtained grace upon grace.
Our sins are forgiven.
Let us live now in hope.
For hope does not disappoint,
because God's love has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit. Amen.

GATHERING SONG



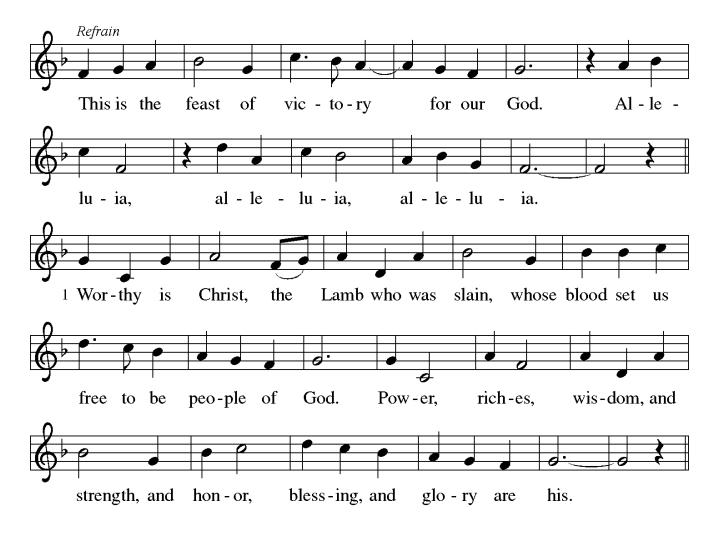
and we mag-ni - fy its strict-ness with a zeal God will not own. and our lives will be thanks-giv - ing for the good-ness of the Lord.

GREETING

The grace of our risen Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

THIS IS THE FEAST





PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**.

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 51:1-6

Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers comfort to Zion. God's deliverance will come soon and will never end.

¹Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the LORD.
Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug.
²Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many.
³For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. ⁵I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. ⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

PSALM: Psalm 138

¹I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.

²I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;

for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.

³When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.
⁴All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD, when they have heard the words of your mouth. ⁵They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD.
⁶The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.

⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;

you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

⁸You will make good your purpose for me;

O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

SECOND READING: Romans 12:1-8

In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, Godpleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.

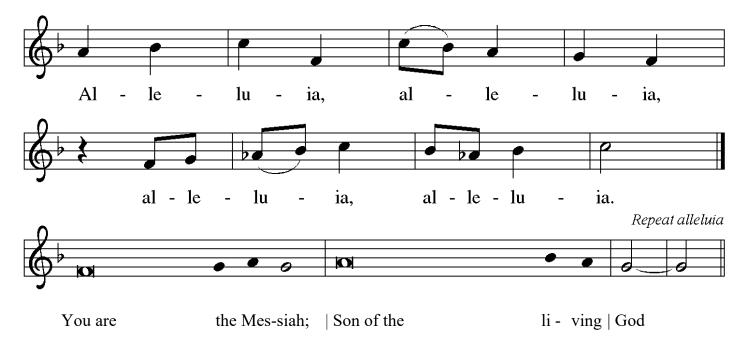
¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter,

in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 16th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter

answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Pastor Matthew Weber



APOSTLE'S CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Confident in your care, O God, and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Lord our rock, you are our foundation in Jesus Christ, your Son, whom we confess as the living God. Prepare and equip your church for its mission in bearing witness to Christ, both here at home and throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You call forth praises from the far reaches of the universe to the smallest of creatures. Join our songs to theirs, that a spirit of praise and thanksgiving will arouse us to cherish this wondrous home you give us. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord. Direct the leaders of countries, legislators and magistrates, mayors and councils, to walk in your ways. Help leaders regard those in need with mercy and compassion. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Though we walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve us, deliver us, and fulfill your purpose for us. According to your steadfast love, grant healing and wholeness to those who are bereaved, in trouble or adversity, or sick and in need of care. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You call us into community with one another. Help us remember that we, though many, are one in Christ. May we recognize in ourselves and in one another the unique gifts you have given us for the building up of the church for the sake of the world. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You are the everlasting Rock from which we were hewn, and you restore your people to joy and gladness. In blessed memory and hope, we thank you for the lives of our beloved dead. Bring us with them to our heavenly home. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL Your stewardship at Grace is more important now than ever. Without in-person Worship Services where offerings are collected, we hope that you will take the extra time to fulfill your pledges. Please visit the Grace Boulder Stewardship page to learn more. **SPECIAL MUSIC** Courtly Masquing Ayre #8 John Adson **Boulder Renaissance Consort OFFERTORY** Create In Me ELW 188 a clean heart, O Cre-ate in me God, and right re - new а with - in spir - it Cast a - way from your me. me not Spir - it pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly from me. Re the store un - to me joy of your sal va tion, with up hold your free Spir - it. and me -

OFFERING PRAYER

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Water and word, wine and bread one bread, one cup: these are signs of your abundant grace uniting us as one in You. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

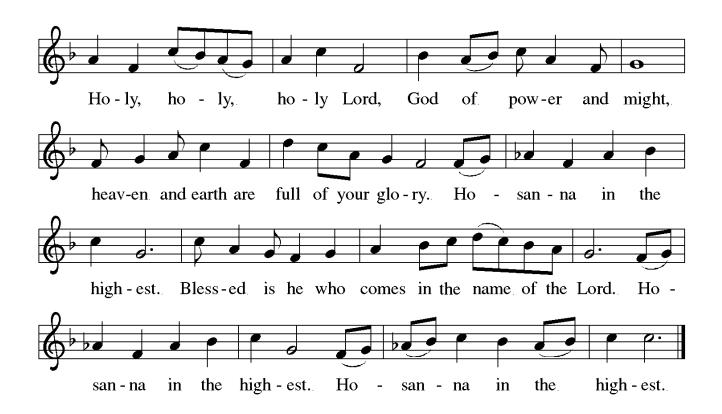
The Lord be with you. And also with you.

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy....

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



To you indeed be glory, almighty God, because on the night before he died, your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread; gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup; gave thanks, he gave it to them saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood poured out for you; do this as often as you drink it to remember me.

With this bread and this cup we proclaim the mystery or our faith.

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

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and our celebration, that we may be fed with the body and blood of your Son and be filled with your life and goodness. To you O God be all honor and glory today and always.

Amen.

Lord, remember us in your mercy and teach us to pray:

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.

DISTRIBUTION

This is the table of God. We invite all who are hungry for God's presence in their lives to receive this gift of mercy and forgiveness at the table.

Those of you who are with others in your home, please serve one another saying, "The body of Christ, given for you" and "The blood of Christ, shed for you." Those of you who are watching by yourself, I invite you to wait until I say those words to you before you eat the bread and drink the wine.

If you don't have bread, or you don't have wine or grape juice, Martin Luther reminds us that God is fully present in each element – that receiving only the bread or only the wine is entire forgiveness.

Further, those of you who might not receive communion for whatever reason, please recognize and understand that God's forgiveness and mercy and love are fully and completely provided to you in ways additional to Holy Communion.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's Grace. **Amen.**

SENDING

PRAYER

God of the welcome table, in this meal we have feasted on your goodness and have been united by your presence among us. Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts so that we may share your unifying love with all, through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.

Amen.

BLESSING

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator, + Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love.

Amen.



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Courtly Masquing Ayre #4 Boulder Renaissance Consort Shirley Carnahan Melody English Josh McGirk Anne Peterson Martin Wachter Madeline Zanetti

John Adson

Scripture Readings for Next Sunday, August 30

Jeremiah 15:15-21; Psalm 26:1-8; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28



GRACE NOTES a guide to parish life at Grace

We pray for those who are ill: Carol Painter, Bob Stec (former co-worker of Tom Lawson fighting COVID19), Allan Wolfe, Jacquie Poe (friend of Sandi Stahl); those undergoing treatment: Tom Graziano (friend of Tom Lawson), Ron Lundal (family friend of the Lawsons), John Gamble, Patrick Fallin (friend of Hiroko Akima), Coral Fay MosbØ (sister of Karen O'Loughlin), Paul Herzegh (friend of the Zabels), Elizabeth Farr, Deena Steward (daughter-in-law of the Stewards), Cheryl Fenske Prudic (niece of the Stewards), Mary Dorsett (former member of Grace); hope and healing: Leon Fjestad (Anne Peterson's brother admitted to a memory care nursing home), Fran Dzilvelis (Ashley (neé Stahl) Dzilvelis' motherin-law) who was hospitalized this week, friends and family of Jan Adams grieving her death last week, friends and family of Dave Linder grieving his death July 25, friends and family of Richard Raedeke grieving his death July 12, Blaine Gorrell (great-grand nephew of Donna Rohde preparing for surgery in September), John and Nelda Gamble (grieving the death of their friend Arline Fernandez last month), Tom Kresler (friend of Tom Lawson recovery from surgery), Christian Mueller (grandson of Anne and Stan Peterson working on the COVID19 ward at St. Joseph's hospital), Diana Anderson (former Grace member), Barry Miller (friend of the Gambles now in Hospice Care), Rodney McLenon (friend of the Zabels), Beaudin Larabee (friend of the Zabels), Ray Haux (former Grace member now in Hospice care), Mieko Akima, Myrna Montgomery (grandmother of LCM student Arin Moriarty), Mark Woods (friend of Deb Valerio), Ruth VanderMinden, Pamela Kast (sister-in-law of Patty's sister), Rick Beckman (brother of Kim).

The designated offering for August is: **<u>Boulder Shelter for the Homeless</u>**.

The Boulder Shelter for the Homeless provides opportunities for housing solutions, safe shelter, food, and support services for up to 160 individuals year around. Founded in 1982, the Boulder Shelter is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization located in Boulder, Colorado.

Their Mission is to create avenues to stable housing for our community's homeless adults, from a foundation of supportive and safe shelter. Their Core Values are to: treat all with dignity, offer support and opportunity, practice responsible stewardship, and achieve results through competence and creativity.

Thanks to the **Grace Foundation**, all gifts through our designated offerings will be matched dollar for dollar in 2020, up to \$2,000/month. Please make your check to "Grace Lutheran Church" and add "PiM: Boulder Shelter for the Homeless" to the memo line.

Wednesday Evening Prayer Services Added

Sunday morning liturgies can't be in-person for now. So we're adding an evening prayer liturgy to our schedule at Grace. Every other Wednesday evening we'll meet at 5:30 pm in the courtyard for a service of instrumental music, prayer, scripture, and silence. The next of these services will happen on Wednesday, August 26.

Because there's only so much space in the courtyard, and because we have to make sure there's enough room for households to remain at least six feet apart from each other, you'll have to <u>sign up here</u> ahead of time. You can also use the <u>Sunday</u> <u>Worship Services</u> Zoom link to participate remotely from home.

The next service is Wednesday, August 26 at 5:30 pm in the Grace courtyard. Bring your lawn chairs/water/bug spray/sunscreen, wear a mask, and come for a Wednesday Evening Prayer liturgy. (<u>But sign up first!</u>)

A Note from Pastor Matthew

As some of you know, I recently celebrated a birthday. And it was kind of a milestone birthday – the number in the tens column changed from four to five. We had a (outdoor, physically distanced) party with fried chicken and pies. It was a good party.

But that's not what I'm thinking about. I'm thinking about significant events in someone's life, like having a 50th birthday, which often give us an opportunity to pay attention to what's changed in life. For me, 50 was not a big deal in that regard, because this birthday comes less than 18 months after I experienced a life-changing injury (more on that another time, if you're interested).

The point is that significant events give us as individuals the chance to as the question, "Who am I in the world today?"

Of course, significant events give groups and organizations the same opportunity. We as a nation addressed that question in the wake of the 9 11 attacks. The turmoil and disagreement in this nation in the 1960s which was made evident by the Civil Right Movement and surrounding the conflict in Vietnam certainly prompted some national introspection.

And this global pandemic we're living through now is going to have a similar effect on our world. I don't know where we'll end up at the end, but I know that we will have a different perspective on our identity as a global community.

Also, communities and groups that are smaller than the entire world will also, I believe, participate in some intentional or unintentional introspection and questioning about identity. I'm gonna vote that we at Grace do that work intentionally.

Maybe you've already been thinking and talking about this. If not, I say we start with a couple questions, and then I'll offer some reflection on reality that might shape our answers:

- Who are we as the people of God at Grace?
- How does our identity shape how it is that we exist in the world?
- What might need to change about who and how we are in response to the COVID-19 pandemic?

We're not going back to normal any time soon. I don't like to think that, because normal is comfortable for me. But I'm finally coming around to believing that it's true. We aren't going back to normal any time soon.

And I bet that when we are finally able to go back to normal, it won't be normal. I believe that enough time will have passed that normal won't be familiar. And that normal will be different. And that it'll take a while to figure out again what is normal.

And while it makes me uncomfortable, I think it's a good thing, because a little discomfort gives us the disorientation we need so God's Holy Spirit can work Her way in to our community in surprising, helpful, and hopeful ways.

We can talk more about these things over the next weeks and months. In the meantime, remember to be well, wash your hands, and keep on trusting in Jesus.

 \sim pr. M

Rooted in Grace

Lectionary Bible Study continues on Wednesday, August 26 at 10:30 am <u>via</u> <u>Zoom</u>. The study focuses on the lectionary texts for the next Sunday's worship, taking a deeper dive than is possible within the constraints of the service. Join us for spirited discussion and fellowship time!

The readings for Sunday, August 30, 2020 are:

- Isaiah 51:1-6 The enduring foundation of God's salvation
- Psalm 138 O Lord, your steadfast love endures forever. (Ps. 138:8)
- Romans 12:1-8 One body in Christ, with gifts that differ
- Matthew 16:13-20 *The profession of Peter's faith*

If you would like to be placed on the distribution list, <u>please contact Amy</u> in the Grace office.

Shelby and Nick Vanderborgh, on their 60th wedding anniversary, offer praise and thankgiving to Him who gives perfect gifts. Dio Gratias.

Reaching Out in Christ's Love

Thank you for your donations* of blank greeting cards for the inmates of <u>New</u> <u>Beginnings</u>. Your cards allow the women to communicate with loved ones.

Remember <u>Harvest of Hope</u> food pantry when you shop for groceries this week. Our donations* make a difference for those who struggle to find food each week.

* If you have access to the church building (through a key or door code), you can drop off donations in the regular locations in the narthex. Pastor Matthew will make sure they get to where they're supposed to get to.

If you don't have access to the church building or if you don't feel comfortable entering the church building, please contact Pastor Matthew to arrange a pick up.

This Week at Grace

Sunday, August 23 9:30-11:30 am Office Administrator Hours, Remotely 10 am Worship Service via Zoom

Monday, August 24 12-2:30 pm Office Administrator Hours, Remotely

<u>Tuesday, August 25</u> 12-2:30 pm Office Administrator Hours, Remotely

Wednesday, August 26
10:30-11:30 am Lectionary Bible Study via Zoom
12-1 pm Staff Meeting via Zoom
12-2:30 pm Office Administrator Hours, Remotely
5:30 pm Mid-Week Prayer Service (sign up here) or via Zoom

<u>Thursday, August 27</u> 12-2:30 pm Office Administrator Hours, Remotely

<u>Friday, August 28</u> 12-2:30 pm Office Administrator Hours, Remotely

Saturday, August 29 Worship Packet Deliveries

<u>Sunday, August 30</u> 9:30-11:30 am Office Administrator Hours, Remotely **10 am Worship Service via Zoom**