

WELCOME

ADVENT | CHRISTMAS | EPIPHANY | LENT | EASTER | **PENTECOST**

To our visitors We are glad you have joined us to share in the gifts of our gracious Lord as we worship Him together in spirit and truth by receiving His Word and Sacraments. We invite you to pick up information and our Wittenberg Way newsletter at our welcome desk. If you have questions concerning the Christian faith or the Lutheran tradition, please let us know as our pastor would love to speak with you.

Children are welcome in our services Grace is a church family and we believe like any family we learn by doing things together. Bulletins are available for children that coincide with the liturgical calendar and scripture readings. We encourage parents to guide their children throughout the service, helping them to learn the language of the faith through the liturgy. A nursery with sound is located in the hallway outside the sanctuary to the right just before the glass door to the courtyard.

Holy Communion Our fellowship in the Lord’s Supper follows the Lutheran tradition grounded in the teaching of Holy Scripture. As one baptized into the Name of our Triune God and confessing the real presence of Christ’s body and blood in the Supper for the forgiveness of sins you are warmly invited to join us around the table for Holy Communion. If you are not communing but wish to be blessed, then simply cross your arms at the rail and you will be blessed by the celebrant.

Giving to Grace

- Your weekly envelopes or those in the pews
- Online from your bank website
- Scan the QR code to the right
- On the Grace Giving Page at gracesandiego.com
- Time & Talents - contact Pr. Brian



Please silence cell phones and be mindful of those preparing for worship.

Restrooms are available in the hallway outside the sanctuary.



AS WE GATHER

Today, we remember Stephen, the first martyr of the church. He told the truth about Jesus, and people got so mad they killed him. That’s the bad news. But the good news—the very best of news—is that even while they hurled rocks, Stephen saw heaven open and Jesus standing for him. Death didn’t get the last word. Jesus did. That’s the heart of today’s service: the blood of the martyrs speaks, but the louder voice belongs to Christ—the crucified and risen One who stands for us too

Collect:

O Lord, keep Your Church in Your perpetual mercy; and because without You we cannot but fall, preserve us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Acts 7:51-60

⁵¹“You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. ⁵²Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered,⁵³ you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.” ⁵⁴When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. ⁵⁵But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶“Look,” he said, “I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” ⁵⁷At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, ⁵⁸dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰Then he fell on his knees and cried out, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he fell asleep.

DIVINE SERVICE Setting 1

<i>Lord Jesus Christ Be Present Now</i>	<i>Paul Manz</i>
<i>I Know That My Redeemer Lives</i>	461
(verses 1-4, 8)	
Confession & Absolution (kneel)	151
Kyrie	943
Gloria	946
Salutation and Collect	156
Reading	Genesis 4:8-11
Gradual	
Reading	Acts 7:51-60
Alleluia	156
Gospel	Luke 23:32-43
Children’s Homily	
Anthem	Renee Thompson, clarinet
	<i>Now the Silence</i>
Sermon	Rev. Brian Thomas
“The Blood of the Martyrs Still Speaks”	
Acts 7:51-60	
Nicene Creed	158
Prayer of the Church	
Offertory Hymn	
<i>By All Your Saints in Warfare</i>	517
(verses 1, 4, 3)	
Preface	160
Sanctus	161
The Words of Our Lord (kneel)	162
Memorial Acclamation (2x)	
Christ has died,	
Christ is risen,	
Christ will come again.	
Lord’s Prayer	162
Pax Domini	163
Agnus Dei	163
Eucharist	
Psalm 116:1-9	
<i>The Lamb</i>	547
Thank the Lord	164
Post Communion Collect	166
Benediction	166
Lift High the Cross	837
<i>Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty</i>	<i>Paul Manz</i>
* bold indicates standing	

Worship Assistants	
Pastor	Rev. Brian Thomas
Director of Music	Dale Sorenson

Serving Today	
Elder	Daryl Newton
Altar Guild	Michael Tow
Crucifer	Andrew Gertz
Lector	Daryl Newton
Cantor	John Barber
Usher	Jackson Huntley
Serving 9/28/25	
Elder	Ted Nilsen
Altar Guild	Jack and Judy George
Crucifer	Greta Rucks
Lector	Deaconess Doris Snashall
Cantor	Sandi Garcia
Usher	Harold Nichols

Prayer List
<p>FOR STRENGTH AND HEALING Dave, Arleen, Eddie, Mark Steve, Kristi, Charlie, and Floyd</p> <p>FOR OUR MISSIONARIES & SEMINARIANS Rev. Dr. Tardelli Voss, Vicar Rowan Turner, and Vicar William Baker</p> <p>FOR OUR MILITARY MEMBERS Rev. Mario Ancira, Micah Burge, Hannah Downey, Nathan Farish, Matthew Morgan, Joshua Simmons, and Jeff & Jordan Gruetzmacher, <i>(If you are in the military, please email your info to be added to the prayer list. gjordan@gracesandiego.com</i></p> <p>FOR THOSE UNABLE TO ATTEND Joyce Rochester, Herb & Marge Foelber, and Janice Keitel</p>

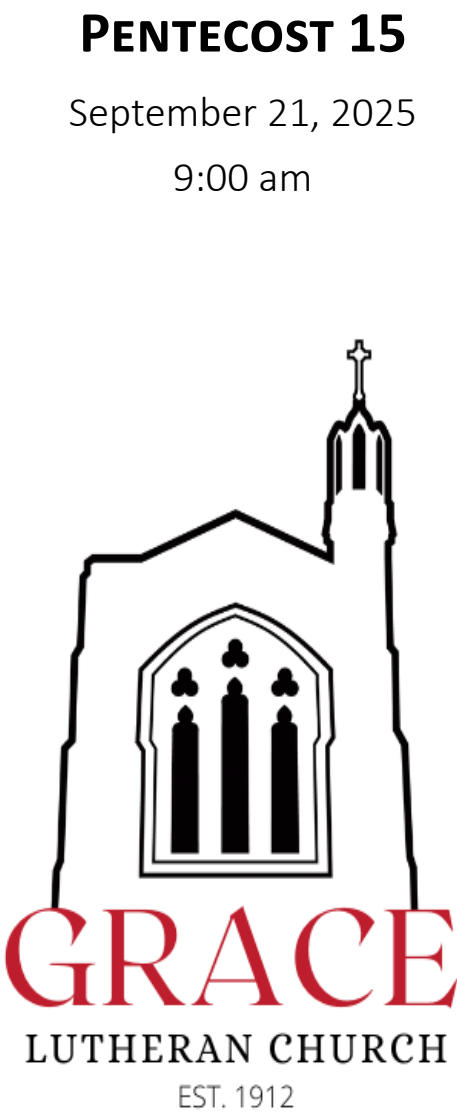
ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHOIR IS STARTING Please see Dale Sorenson if you are interested.

SUNDAY SCHOOL for children five and above meets at 10:15 a.m. in the Den. Children under five can join us in the nursery.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS a Bible study on Ecclesiastes meets in the St. Mark’s classroom at 10:15 .

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY on the book of Acts meets in the St. Mark’s Classroom from 10:00-11:00am



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Proclaiming the Good News of God's grace in Jesus Christ