

For in this
HOPE
we were
SAVED.

Romans 8:24



Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

July 23, 2023

“Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we are a vibrant congregation that shares the love of Christ with each other, the community, and the world.”

Holy Communion

Based on *Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting Four*
Congregational responses are in bold print

We welcome all our visitors, members, friends and family to this morning's celebration of the Word and Sacrament. We gather each week to worship, study and share fellowship so we can joyfully serve others. We especially welcome those new to our worship. If you are looking for a church home, we would love to tell you more about Grace! Please fill in a visitor card and place it in the offering plate.

We ask that all who commune fill in a communion card.

We have Gluten Free Communion Wafers available.

Please inform Communion Assistant of your need.

Restrooms: Located to your left as you face the rear of the church.

During worship, you'll notice parts of the service in regular type, which are spoken/prayed by various worship leaders. Then there are the parts you and the rest of the congregation respond and/or pray in bold type. All of us are participants as we worship God! When asked to stand, please do so as you are able.

As Jesus welcomed all in the crowds who gathered around him, so he welcomes us.



Gathering

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the Father, ✙ the Son, and the Holy Spirit, one God,
who greets us in this and every season,
whose word never fails,
whose promise is sure.

Amen



Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

Have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have turned from you
and given ourselves into the power of sin.**

We are truly sorry and humbly repent.

**In your compassion forgive our sins, known and unknown,
things we have done and things we have failed to do.**

**Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit,
so that we may live and serve you
in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of ✙ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen

Gathering Hymn: *"We Plow the Fields and Scatter"*

#681, Page 4

We Plow the Fields and Scatter

1 We plow the fields and scat - ter the good seed on the land,
 2 You on - ly are the mak - er of all things near and far.
 3 We thank you, our cre - a - tor, for all things bright and good,

but it is fed and wa - tered by God's al - might - y hand,
 You paint the way - side flow - er, you light the eve - ning star.
 the seed - time and the har - vest, our life, our health, our food.

who sends the snow in win - ter, the warmth to swell the grain,
 The winds and waves o - bey you, by you the birds are fed;
 No gifts have we to of - fer for all your love im - parts,

the breez - es and the sun - shine, and soft re - fresh - ing rain.
 much more to us, your chil - dren, you give our dai - ly bread.
 but what you most would trea - sure—our hum - ble, thank - ful hearts.

Refrain

All good gifts a - round us are sent from heav'n a - bove.

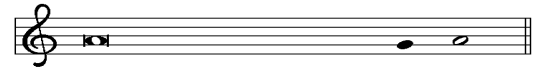
We thank you, Lord, we thank you, Lord, for all your love.

Text: Matthias Claudius, 1740–1815; tr. Jane M. Campbell, 1817–1878, alt.
 Music: WIR PFLÜGEN, Johann A. P. Schulz, 1747–1800

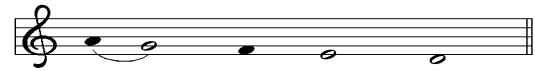
Greeting

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

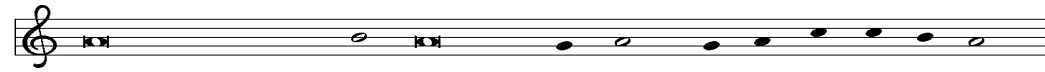
And also with you.



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



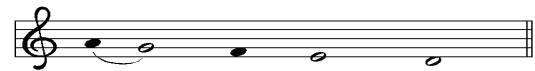
Lord, have mer - cy.



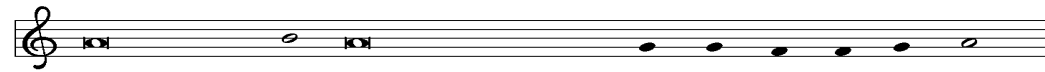
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

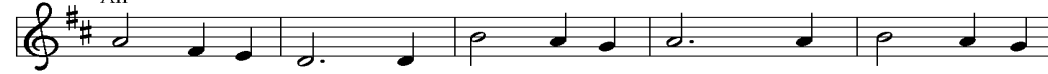
Canticle of Praise

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

We sit.

Word



First Reading: Isaiah 44:6-8

A reading from Isaiah:

⁶Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:
I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.
⁷Who is like me? Let them proclaim it,
let them declare and set it forth before me.
Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.
⁸Do not fear, or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!
Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 86:11-17

We read responsively

¹¹Teach me your way, O LORD,
that I may walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

¹²**I give thanks to you, O LORD my God, with my whole heart,
and I will glorify your name forever.**

¹³For great is your steadfast love toward me;
you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

¹⁴**O God, the insolent rise up against me;
a band of ruffians seeks my life,
and they do not set you before them.**

¹⁵But you, O LORD, are a God merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

¹⁶**Turn to me and be gracious to me;
give your strength to your servant;
save the child of your serving girl.**

¹⁷Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame,
because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

Second Reading: Romans 8:12-25

A reading from Romans:

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We stand.

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew:

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field;²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ ²⁸He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

Children’s Message

Pastor Pingel

Sermon

Pastor Pingel

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

We stand.

Hymn of the Day: “Come Ye Thankful People, Come”

#693, Page 11

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

1 Come, ye thank-ful peo-ple, come; raise the song of har-vest home.
 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un-to his praise to yield;
 3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har-vest home;
 4 E-ven so, Lord, quick-ly come to thy fi-nal har-vest home.

All be safe-ly gath-ered in ere the win-ter storms be-gin.
 wheat and tares to- geth-er sown, un-to joy or sor-row grown.
 from his field shall in that day all of-fens-es purge a-way;
 Gath-er then thy peo-ple in, free from sor-row, free from sin,

God, our mak-er, doth pro-vide for our wants to be sup-plied.
 First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap-pear.
 give his an-gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
 there, for-ev-er pu-ri-fied, in thy gar-ner to a-bide.

Come to God's own tem-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home.
 Lord of har-vest, grant that we whole-some grain and pure may be.
 but the fruit-ful ears to store in his gar-ner ev-er-more.
 Come, with all thine an-gels, come, raise the glo-rious har-vest home!

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt.
 Music: ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR, George J. Elvey, 1816-1893

Apostles' 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 to the dead.
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**

Apostle's Creed in Swahili

**Ninamwamini Mungu, Baba Mwenyezi,
Muumba wa mbingu na dunia;**

**Na Yesu Kristo, Mwana wake wa pekee,
Bwana wetu, aliyetwaa mwili kwa tendo
la Roho Mutakatifu, akazaliwa na Bikira
Maria. Akateswa zamani za Pontio
Pilato, akasulibiwa, akafa, akazikwa,
akashuka kuzimuni mwa wafu,
akafufuka katika wafu siku ya tatu,
akapanda mbinguni, anakaa kwa
mukono wa kuume wa Mungu,
Baba Mwenyezi, ndipo atakuja tena
kuhukumu wazima na wafu.**

**Ninamwamini Roho Mutakatifu, Kanisa
kikristo takatifu, ushirika wa watakatifu,
ondoleo la zambi, ufufuko wa mwili, na
uzima wa milele. Amina**

The
Apostles'
+ Creed +

Prayers of Intercession

Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Each portion of the prayers end with these words

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

We sit.

Meal

Offertory

We offer our thanks to God for "ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of God's gracious love" by our offerings. The offering plates will be passed by the ushers from the center aisle.

(Please place visitor cards and communion cards in the offering plate.)

We stand.



Offertory Response

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927
Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

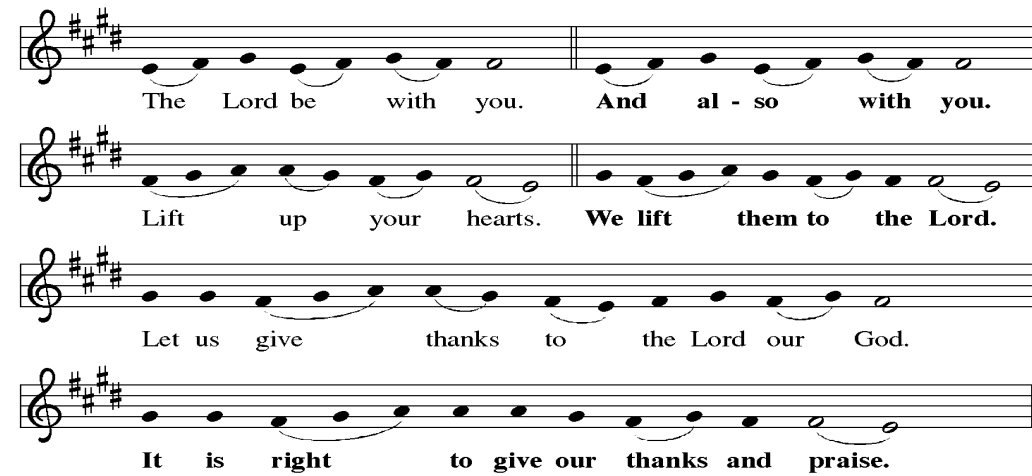
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Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

**God of field and forest, sea and sky,
you are the giver of all good things.
Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,
and multiply your graciousness in us,
that the world may be fed with your love,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen**

Great Thanksgiving

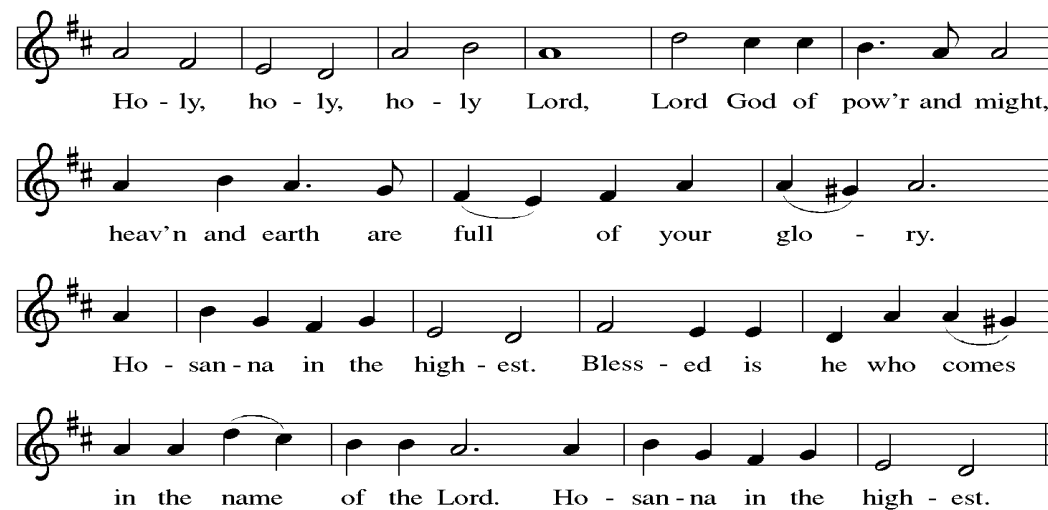


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
 who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
 who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross,
 opened his arms to all.

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 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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection and ascension,
 we wait his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills
 of all who share this heavenly food,
 the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
 to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory,
 now and forever.

Amen

Lord's Prayer

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**

Invitation to Communion

All people are called to Christ's table.
Come, eat what is good.
Thanks be to God.

We sit.

Baba Yetu

Baba Yetu uliye mbinguni, jina lako litukuzwe;
ufalme wako ufike,
utakalo lifanyike
duniani kama mbinguni.
Utupe leo mkate wetu wa kila siku,
utusamehe makosa yetu,
kama nasi tunavyowasamehe waliotukosea.
Usitutie katika kishawishi,
lakini utuopoe maovuni.
Amina.



The
LORD'S
Prayer

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

The Holy Communion

We sit.

OUR LORD BIDS YOU WELCOME TO THIS HOLY MEAL! At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. Here we receive Christ's body and blood and God's gifts of forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation to be received by faith for the strengthening of faith. In this sacrament the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. This real presence is a mystery. Admission to the Sacrament is by invitation of the Lord — regardless of Church denomination — to those who are baptized. (Taken from the ELCA statement on worship. The Use and Means of Grace ©1997)

Ushers will invite you to come down the center aisle. Receive the bread from the pastor or assisting minister, then turn to the side you have sat on, and receive the wine/grape juice from the communion assistant at the altar rail. Place your empty cup in the trays at the end of the railing, and return to your pew via the side aisle.

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen

The Communion Blessing

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

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

**We thank you, generous God,
for the refreshment we have received
at your banquet table.**

**Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world,
through the one who is our dearest treasure,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen



Sending

Farewell and Godspeed

Blessing

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 Song: *"On What Has Now Been Sown"*

#550, Page 20

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the harvest.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

On What Has Now Been Sown

1 On what has now been sown your bless-ing Lord, be - stow; the
2 To you our wants are known, from you are all our pow'rs; ac -
3 Oh, grant that each of us, now met be - fore you here, may

pow'r is yours a - lone to make it sprout and grow. O Lord, in
cept what is your own and par-don what is ours. Our prais - es,
meet to - geth - er thus when you and yours ap - pear, and fol - low

grace the har - vest raise, and yours a - lone shall be the praise!
Lord, and prayers re - ceive and to your word a bless - ing give.
you to heav'n, our home. E'en so, A - men! Lord Je - sus, come!

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.
Music: DARWALL'S 148TH, John Darwall, 1731–1789



Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today

Altar Flowers:	<i>Rew and Karen Walck</i>
Altar Guild:	
Assisting Minister:	<i>Gloria Nelson</i>
Communion Assistant:	<i>Andrew Sell</i> <i>Karen Walck</i>
Council Person of the Week:	<i>Stephen Van Stee</i>
Offering Steward:	<i>Pat Brady</i>
Ushers:	<i>Fred Biggers</i> <i>David Proctor</i>



*Chancel flowers this morning
are given to the glory of God
and in honor of our daughter,
Sarah's birthday*

Next Sunday's Schedule and Lessons

July 30, 2023
Ninth Sunday After Pentecost
Holy Communion
10:00 a.m.

Pastor Paul Pingel
Presiding and Preaching

1 Kings 3:5-12
Psalm 119:129-136
Romans 8:26.39
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52



Please print your new prayer concerns before worship on the sheet in the white notebook located in the back of our Worship area. Please ask ushers if you need assistance. **Names on the prayer list will remain on for four weeks**, in an effort to make the prayer list current to the life of Grace congregation and the community and world around us. If the need is longer term, please notify the church office, and the person in need will be transferred to the "Ongoing Need for Prayer" list.

Prayer Request for Members (Remain on List for four (4) weeks)

Claire Biggers

Susan Myers

Prayer Request for Relatives/Friends (Remain on List for four (4) weeks)

Taunya McDonald, Friend from Christ Tabernacle

Sophie Wilson, Friend of Donna Gum

Joys and Celebrations (Remain on List for 4 weeks*)

Ongoing Need for Prayer for Members (Remain on List for three (3) months)

Marge Cloutier

Sandy Johnson

Ongoing Need for Prayer for Relatives/Friends (Remain on List for three (3) months)

Bill Aldridge, Friend of the Kites

Gary Barrette, Brother of Bob Barrette

Cathy Cunningham, Friend of the Lynches

Mike Cunningham, Friend of the Lynches

Natalie Dodge (2 year old cancer patient), Friend of the Almarodes

Chris Jordan, Cousin of Mike Myers

James Pingel, Brother of Pastor Pingel

Members/Friends Grieving (Remain on List for four (4) weeks*)

Family of Doris Beck, Friend of the Pingels

Family of Bob Knemoller, Member of Grace

Family of Matthew Lang, Friend of Many Grace Members

Family of Tim Smith, Brother of Rev. Pat Nabers

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Congregation Members Celebrating Birthdays

Bobby Hite (7/23)

Diane Lundstrom (7/23)

Cynthia Trauscht (7/24)

Sloane Franklin (7/27)

Gail Johnson (7/30)

The Needs of the World

Extreme weather conditions around the world; severe temperatures, crippling drought, and extreme rains elsewhere.

Many areas of war and tension around the world

"The poor, the widow, the orphan, the alien:" paying attention to the biblical call for us to care for others

Those in medical professions - doctors, nurses, surgeons, specialists, CNA's, social workers, and support personnel - maintenance, cleaning staff, kitchen staff.

The Church

Grace's Strategic Planning

The United Methodist Church and our neighbor UMC churches in Waynesboro

**Virginia Synod Bishop-Elect
Rev. Dr. Phyllis Milton**

Our Neighbors

Our Neighbors in the Berkeley Glenn Area



Rise Against Hunger Food Packing Event- Grace is coordinating a **Rise Against Hunger** food packing event with some area churches. The event will be held on **Saturday September 9** at Kate Collins Middle School in Waynesboro. It will start at 10 am and be completed in about two hours. The last event Grace coordinated was pre-covid and there were over 20,000 meals packed. The event is a fun morning with a variety of processing stations including mixing food, weighing food packages, sealing food packages, packing boxes of bagged food and runners who move items to each station. It is an event that everyone can help with. Grace Mission Outreach Team will be using a grant that we received from the Mission Endowment to help support this event. Watch for sign-up sheets coming in August or you can register online at www.events.riseagainsthunger.org/Waynesboro2023. Our goal for the event is to pack 20,000 to 25,000 meals based on support from area churches. Remember to bring a hat or baseball cap because we are packing food. They do provide hairnets. If you have any questions, please contact Jerry or Gwen Kite.



The “**First Sunday Fellowships**” are in full swing! Each “first Sunday” of the month, one of our volunteer groups at Grace will hold a gathering in the Fellowship Hall after worship. There will be the opportunity for the groups to explain what their group does, who is involved, answer questions, and have fellowship and a few light refreshments. Please sign up in the Nave for your group so the congregation can learn more about what goes on in the life of our church! A sign-up sheet has been placed in the back of the church with enough dates for at least 19 counted groups, which are listed! Please see Sylvia Almarode if you have any questions.

Schedule for 2023 First Sunday Fellowships Hosts:

- **August 6** **Altar Guild**
- **September 10*** **Hospitality and Grace**
- **October 1** **Quilters**

**Date change due to Labor Day*



“**Homework Toolboxes**” - It might be hard to imagine, but school will open for the coming year on August 9. As in the past, the Salvation Army is requesting aid in filling preschool and kindergarten “Homework Toolboxes”. The items needed for these boxes are:

- Pencil Boxes/Pouches
- Colored Pencils
- Blunt Tipped Scissors
- Glue Sticks
- Erasers
- Individual Pencil Sharpeners
- Pencils
- Slim Colored Markers
- Crayons

Please return your donated items to the box located in the hallway outside the church office by **Thursday, July 27**, so that they can be delivered to the Salvation Army in time for the opening of school on August 9.

In lieu of buying supplies, checks may be sent to the Salvation Army, P. O. Box 1065, Waynesboro, VA 22980. Write “Homework Toolboxes” on the memo line. Thank you! Amy Warren



Called Grace Congregation Meeting on Sunday, June 30th - This called meeting concerns a Bequest from the Ty Elliott estate. Grace member Tripp Franklin, Managing Partner at the Wharton, Aldhizer & Weaver, PLC Law Firm, will make a presentation to the congregation about the process of our receiving the bequest from the estate, and answer any questions you may have. We are blessed to receive and steward these funds from the Elliott family in order to continue living out God's Mission for us at Grace. Please plan on remaining after worship for this important informational meeting.



What's Happening Around Grace?! The Property Committee's preparation to address a number of issues around Grace is underway!

- Scraping, repairs and repainting outside the church building is well underway! This includes power washing stone and concrete surfaces.
- The A-frame canopy over the side entrance to the worship space has been completed. Try to make it move! It's sturdy and has stopped making creaking sounds!
- A secure entry system for the Office Entrance Door is being installed this week (possibly completed this week).
- A new roof is still ahead of us, but scheduled to happen in the next few weeks.

Many thanks to Fred Biggers, Ron Myers and Rew Walck for their planning and research. If you have questions about the contractors and their work, please let them know.



Baptism on Sunday, August 6th! Jackson Chaffin, a 23 year old who has been visiting with us regularly, will be baptized during worship on Sunday, August 6th! In Holy Baptism "*...by water and the Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the Church, the body of Christ.*" (*Liturgy of Holy Baptism, ELW, p. 227*) We rejoice that the Holy Spirit is gathering Jackson into our life together here at Grace!



Grace's Congregational Council has approved sponsoring a second mission trip to **CICRIN**, the Nicaraguan Christian Children's Center and School. The dates are February 2-10, 2024 and the tentative price is the same as this year: \$1,995 per person. Those who think they might be interested can speak with Grace members who were part of this year's team: Chuck and Judi Goodrich, Linda Meyer, Pastor Pingel, and trip leaders Mark and Tami Radecke. Anyone wanting to have a FAQ sheet emailed to them can contact Mark Radecke at radecke@susqu.edu.



Project Esperanza Fund Drive Update—We have surpassed our \$6000 goal and have raised enough money to fully sponsor 12 children at \$600 per child, with donations and pledges totaling \$7225. **If you still plan to donate, please be sure all donations are in by August 3rd.** Grace members can contribute directly to the Church, noting the money is contributed to support Project Esperanza as a memo.

The mission of Project Esperanza is to form a global community focused on creating positive change and a sustainable future for Haitian refugee and immigrant youths in the Dominican Republic through education and empowerment. For the past 16 years, Project Esperanza has served the Haitian refugee and immigrant population of Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic in the areas of education, social aid, and community development. The project runs two schools serving 275 Haitian immigrant children in the DR. More information is available at the project's web site: <https://esperanzameanshope.org/>



Food Pantries - Thanks, and Continuing Need—Many thanks to those who have donated Peanut Butter, Mac 'n Cheese, Personal Hygiene items, and Dried Rice and Beans to our local food pantries. We have made ***thirty-four deliveries*** thus far, fifteen to Main Street United Methodist, and nineteen to Calvary United Methodist, Stuarts Draft, with the donations gratefully received in the midst of great need. **Overall, we have given well over 3,654 pounds of food!** If you can help, please donate to our box set inside the office door for you to drop off.



Life of Grace Church
July 23-30, 2023

Day of the	Date	Time	Event
Sunday	07/23	10:00 a.m.	Eighth Sunday After Pentecost Service of Holy Communion In Person and via You Tube
Wednesday	07/26	10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Prayer Group (Chapel) Yoga (Seminar Room)
Thursday	07/27	8:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	Grace Walkers Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall)
Friday	07/28		
Saturday	07/29	11:00 a.m.	Yoga (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday	07/30	10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Ninth Sunday After Pentecost Service of Holy Communion In Person and via You Tube Pastor Paul Pingel , Preaching and Presiding Called Congregational Meeting After Worship (See bulletin note)

Monday

1 Samuel 10:17-27
 Acts 7:44—8:1a
 Luke 22:52-62
 Morning Psalm 5, Evening 82

Tuesday

1 Samuel 11:1-15
 Acts 8:1b-13
 Luke 22:63-71
 Morning Psalm 42, Evening 102

Wednesday

1 Samuel 12:1-6 (7-15) 16-25
 Acts 8:14-25
 Luke 23:1-12
 Morning Psalm 89:1-18, Evening 1

Thursday

1 Samuel 13:5-18
 Acts 8:26-40
 Luke 23:13-25
 Morning Psalm 97, Evening 16

Friday

1 Samuel 13:19—14:15
 Acts 9:1-9
 Luke 23:26:31
 Morning Psalm 51, Evening 142

Saturday

1 Samuel 14:16-30
 Acts 9:10-19a
 Luke 23:32-43
 Morning Psalm 104, Evening 138



Robin Crowder, President (540-476-0180)

Allison Fink, Vice-President (540-448-0985)

Jack Eckstrom (240-344-3176), Jerry Kite (540-910-3372),

Linda Meyer (540-256-2277), Jean Morgan (540-649-4422),

Susan Myers (434-760-1660), Stephen Van Stee (540-325-0772),

Karen Walck (765-480-9920), Donna Yobs (650-248-4882)

Cabell Caister, Youth Member

Ron Almarode, Treasurer

Charles Goodrich, Financial Secretary

Rev. Paul Pingel, Pastor, Email: pastorpingel@gmail.com

Mike Myers, Organist, Director of Music, Email: mickhdking@aol.com

Nancy Dowdy, Administrative Secretary, Email: Grace.lc@comcast.net

Office Hours: 8:00—11:30 a.m. and 12:30—2:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday **Closed Friday**

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youtube.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro

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