



ROMANS 13:10, ESV

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

*Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
September 10, 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.”*

Service of Holy Communion

(Based on Bread of Life, Setting V—With One Voice)

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

We stand.

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.

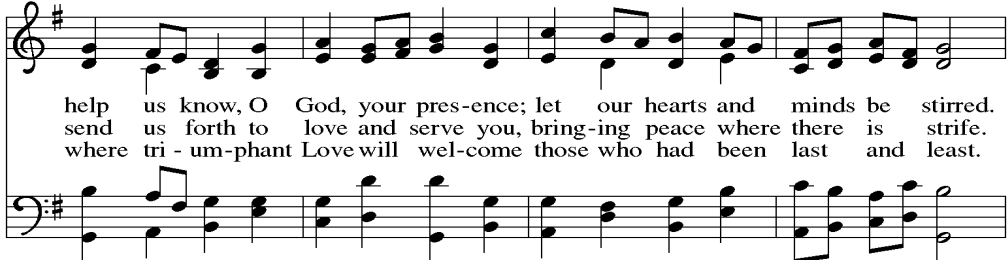
Gathering Hymn: *“As We Gather at Your Table”*

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As We Gather at Your Table



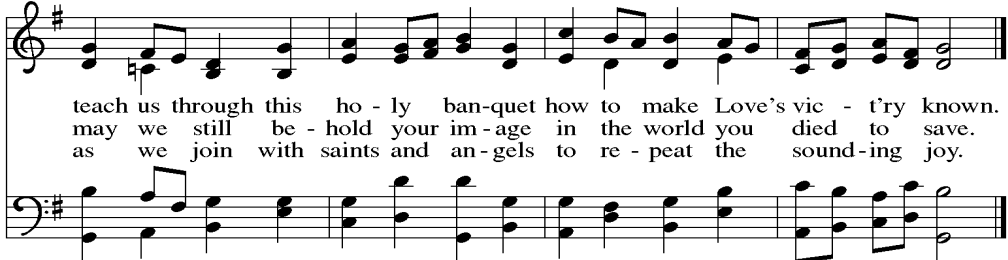
1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,
2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;
3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
where tri-um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;
There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,



teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.
may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944
Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932
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Prelude

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Kyrie

Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

Ⓐ Chri - ste e - le - i - son: Ⓞ Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:

Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

HYMN OF PRAISE

The Hymn of Praise or another appropriate hymn may be sung.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



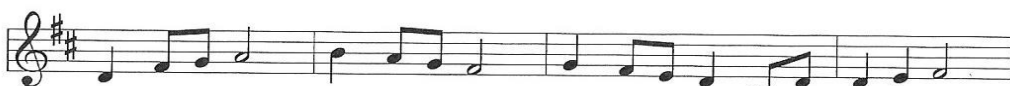
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



① Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



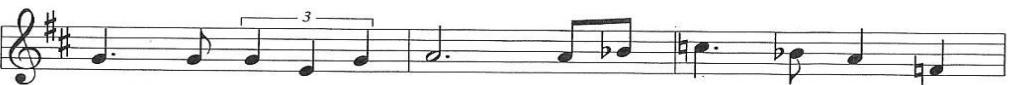
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



② Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



☐ For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

We sit.

Word

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-11

A reading from Ezekiel:

⁷So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" ¹¹Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 119:33-40

We read responsively.

³³Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, and I will observe it to the end.

³⁴**Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.**

³⁵Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.

³⁶**Turn my heart to your decrees, and not to selfish gain.**

³⁷Turn my eyes from looking at vanities; give me life in your ways.

³⁸**Confirm to your servant your promise, which is for those who fear you.**

³⁹Turn away the disgrace that I dread, for your ordinances are good.

⁴⁰**See, I have longed for your precepts; in your righteousness give me life.**

Second Reading: Romans 13:8-14

A reading from Romans:

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We stand.

Gospel Acclamation



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

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

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew:

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

Children's Message

Pastor Pingel

Sermon

Pastor Pingel

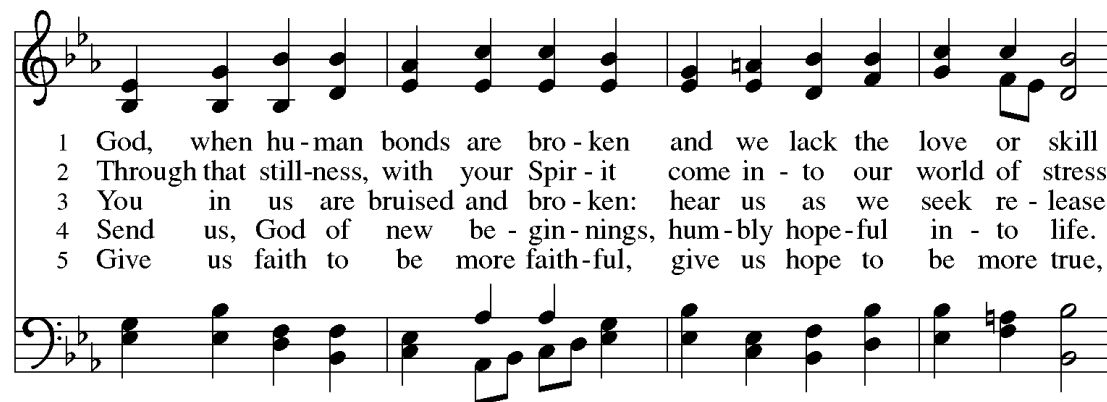
Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

We stand.

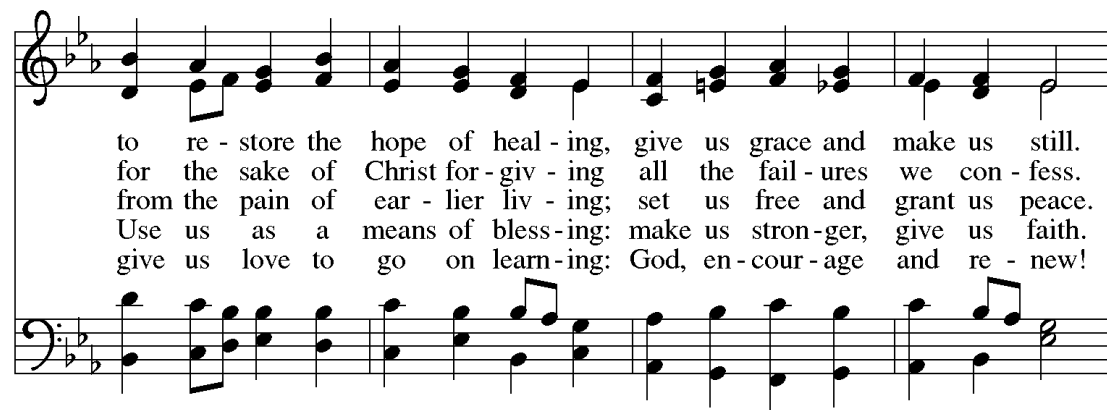
Hymn of the Day: "God, When Human Bonds Are Broken"

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God, When Human Bonds Are Broken



1 God, when hu-man bonds are bro-ken and we lack the love or skill
2 Through that still-ness, with your Spir-it come in-to our world of stress,
3 You in us are bruised and bro-ken: hear us as we seek re-lease
4 Send us, God of new be-gin-nings, hum-bly hope-ful in-to life.
5 Give us faith to be more faith-ful, give us hope to be more true,



to re-store the hope of heal-ing, give us grace and make us still.
for the sake of Christ for-giv-ing all the fail-ures we con-fess.
from the pain of ear-lier liv-ing; set us free and grant us peace.
Use us as a means of bless-ing: make us stron-ger, give us faith.
give us love to go on learn-ing: God, en-cour-age and re-new!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823-1889

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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

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

A brief silence.

Each portion of the prayers end with these or similar words.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.
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 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 now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
Lord, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.**

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

**God of power, God of plenty,
all things belong to you.
We bring your gifts to the table,
that all might be fed.
Form us into the body of your Beloved,
Jesus Christ, our Savior.
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.



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, God of pow - er and
might, heav - en 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

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 in 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 in remembrance of me.

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

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

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

Jesus invites you to this table.
Come, eat and live.
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.



☩ 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

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.

We stand.

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.

**Blessed be your name, O God,
for we have feasted on your Word,
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.
Strengthened by this food,
send us to gather the world to your banquet,
where none are left out and all are satisfied.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.**

Sending

Blessing

The God of glory,
✝ Jesus Christ, name above all names,
and the Spirit who lives in you,
bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Sending Song: *“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”*

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Dismissal

Go in peace. God is at work in you.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

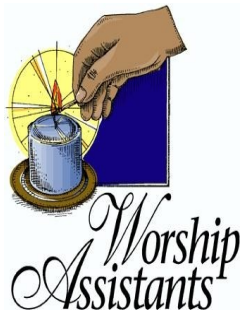
1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
 2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922.
 Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.



Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today

Altar Flowers:	<i>The Martin Family</i>
Altar Guild:	
Assisting Minister:	<i>Linda Meyer</i>
Communion Assistant:	<i>Allison Fink Gloria Nelson</i>
Council Person of the Week:	<i>Linda Meyer</i>
Offering Steward:	<i>Pat Brady Vivian Proctor</i>
Ushers:	<i>Fred Biggers David Proctor</i>

Next Sunday's Schedule and Lessons

September 17, 2023

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Holy Communion
10:00 a.m.

Pastor Paul Pingel

Presiding and Preaching

Genesis 50:15-21

Psalms 103:8-13

Romans 14:1-12


Matthew 18:21-35



Altar Flowers

Chancel flowers are given this morning to the glory of God and in memory of Lois and Winston Martin

*Keith, Ann, Sara and Trey
Jeff, Jean and Jacob*



Prayer List

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)

Sylvia Almarode
Robin Crowder

Genevieve Arneson
Janet Parmer

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

Sherry Aldinger, Friend of the Radeckes
David Carpenter, Friend of Donna Gum
Dean Donnelley, Friend of the Almarodes
Sheldon Waggy, Brother of Carolyn Hite

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

Kirsten Schwiesow's, Daughter of David and Nancy,
continued healing and positive medical results
Brad and Wilda Keefer's 65th wedding anniversary

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

Emily Almarode
Phyllis Kite

Marge Cloutier
Glenn Myers

Sandy Johnson
Tom and Carol Varner

Continued

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

Gary Barrette, Brother of Bob Barrette
Rebekah Bircher, Friend of Betty Karol Wilson
Caitlin Binda Bomar, Friend of Many in Our Community
Natalie Dodge and Family (2 year old cancer patient), Friend of the Almarodes and Warrens
Sandie Hammel, Friend of Gail Johnson
Carrie Humphreys, Former Grace Member
Dick Longworth, Friend of the Trauschts
Jennifer McDonald, Friend of the Radeckes
Taunya McDonald, Friend from Christ Tabernacle
Phoenix Oberg, Friend of Sarah Kite
James Pingel, Brother of Pastor Pingel
Charles and Ruth Ann Williams, Friends of Gail and Sandy Johnson

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

Family of Jen Kerney, Friend of Many at Grace
Family of Roy Kramer, Uncle of Pastor Paul
Family of Jim Mays, Uncle of Mike Myers

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Congregation Members Celebrating Birthdays

Sydney Rankin (9/10)	Antoinette Eckstrom (9/10)
Karlton Stein (9/11)	William Proctor (9/12)
Brad Keefer (9/14)	Anne Barnes (9/14)
Jane Stein (9/16)	

 IN OUR 
Thoughts and Prayers

The Needs of the World

Prolonged drought in our area; recovery from Hurricane Idalia and Maui fires

A War-weary world - conflict in Ukraine, Yemen, Sudan, Myanmar

God's Work Our Hands weekend - the work and service of many in the ELCA this weekend

The work of our elected Representatives in Congress resuming this Fall

The work of our local Government: City of Waynesboro, Augusta County, Nelson County employees

The Church

Grace's Strategic Planning

Our friends in Christ at Main Street United Methodist Church, following their vote to remain in the United Methodist Church

**Virginia Synod Bishop
Rev. Dr. Phyllis Milton,
beginning her term as
bishop**

Our Neighbors

Our Neighbors near the Orchard Creek Area



Nametag September! - We have name tags out in the narthex, and encourage you to wear a nametag! It's a way to put a name to faces we see often, but do not know as well; and it is a way to make welcome those visiting with us. We'll see how it goes and either continue this practice or enjoy the September emphasis!



First Sunday Fellowship is TODAY! Our Hospitality Book Study Group will be our host, and will share more about the upcoming Wednesday Community Potlucks starting the 13th (see notice below)!



Community Potluck at Grace starting Wednesday, September 13th, at 6:00 p.m. We are excited to begin weekly Community Potlucks at Grace in September. These meals are meant to be a time of fellowship for Grace members and an opportunity to build relationships with other folks in our community. We will be inviting people in our community that would enjoy a time of fellowship as well as those who struggle to have enough food. Come and eat—bring a dish, bring a friend! Find out more details at the September First Sunday Fellowship (held today) hosted by the Hospitality Book Group.



Baptism—History, Celebration, and Font! - You are invited to take part in a class on Holy Baptism. We'll look at the history of Baptism, from Jesus' words in the Bible to its importance in the early Church, its practices through the years, all the way to present day! **SIGN UP** on the sheet in the Nave; and we will begin later this month, depending on what day works best for all who sign up!



Completed Building Project! Many thanks to our Property Team for coordinating wonderful work done on Grace's roof, exterior trim and walls, entry awning and security door at the office entrance! We'll dedicate this work next Sunday, September 17th, as a part of worship.



Confirmation starts today! Grace Confirmation Class participants Libby Caister (3rd year), Esme Hilker (1st year), and Reva Sloane Franklin (1st year), will begin Confirmation Class with Pastor Paul in the next few weeks! They'll be studying the Old Testament. Pray for our Confirmands and Pastor as they study and learn together this year! (And pray for Kiera Mahoney who will be confirmed on Reformation Sunday!)

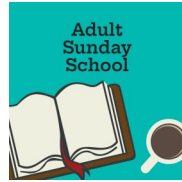


All God's Children will resume meeting on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of every month at 7:00 pm on **Monday, September 11th** and discuss Toni Morrison's only short story, *Recitatif* (including the 2022 Introduction by Zadie Smith). The story concerns two girls, Twyla and Roberta, one is Black and the other White. However, the author never reveals which one is Black and which one is White. The reader must decide, leading to the moral lesson that racial differences are arbitrary and may be constructed according to one's own personal prejudices and biases. We will discuss our assessments at the meeting.

We are always delighted to welcome new members. If you want to be added to the mailing list, please let Rick Bump know (rcbump0621@gmail.com).



The Church World Service 2023 **CROP Hunger Walk** is Sunday, September 24 at 2:00 pm beginning in Ridgeview Park. Our fundraising goal this year is \$1,000. Online donations can be made to our team, Grace Lutheran Waynesboro at <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/waynesborova>. One quarter of all monies raised locally stays in our area and supports the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank, Disciples Kitchen and VPAS Meals on Wheels. Karen Walck will be in the back of the nave if you would like a collection envelope and to accept donations. Please join our team to walk on September 24. If you have any questions, please call Karen at 765-480-9920.



Adult Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 17, at 8:30 a.m. We will be exploring the gospel according to Mark, looking ahead to the season of Advent, when we enter a new church year and hear from this gospel in worship. Call Pastor Karen Van Stee at 325-0736 for more information. All are welcome!



News for the young and young at heart - After a short break for the summer, **Sunday School** for our children, 2nd thru 6th grade, will resume on **today**, in the Sunday School classroom. We will meet each Sunday after worship from 11:15 a.m. until Noon. The class follows the lectionary so we will have an opportunity each week to expand on the gospel reading through study, games, and crafts.

Steve and Pastor Karen Van Stee will conduct **Acolyte and Crucifer Training** in the near future. There is an interest/sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary for the next few Sundays. These important positions greatly enhance the worship experience and provide a relatively stress-free way to start getting involved with the worship service. This training will be held after Confirmation and Children's Sunday School Sunday, September 17. Lunch will be provided and is open to all who feel called to more involvement in the church. Call Steve at 540-325-0772 for questions or more information.



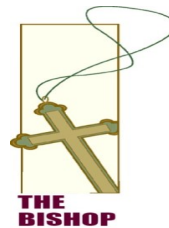
Quilting—The Grace Quilters will be returning to the regular Tuesday quilting day on September 12. Last year, over 60 quilts were donated, with 54 sent to Lutheran World Relief. Quilting is a delightfully hands-on ministry and the more hands we have, the more quilts we can complete. We invite you to join us on Tuesdays in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m. If you are more comfortable, another way to participate is by providing cotton fabric. A solid color works best and with no stains. If you know a quilter that would like to participate, please contact Gwen Kite at 540 910-0508 or email at gwenma2002@yahoo.com.



Handbell Choir—anyone interested in joining the handbell choir, please contact Sam Moyers.



Grace ELC and WARM Cold Weather Shelter (CWS) - We are beginning to plan our contributions to the Waynesboro Area Refuge Ministry's Cold Weather Shelter. The CWS coordinates with churches in our area to provide food and shelter to our homeless neighbors. Estimates indicate there are over 80 people in our area in need of these services. Grace ELC has been asked to host up to 20 of our homeless neighbors for the week of **December 4 - 11, 2023**. Please pray for this important ministry as we enter the planning stage. More info is coming soon! Peace - Susan Myers and Donna Yobs, CWS Co-Coordinators



Bishop's Installation in October! Bishop-Elect Phyllis Milton's Installation and Reception will be in Waynesboro, VA on Saturday, October 21st, at 1:00 p.m; and Grace - as we did with Bishop Humphrey six years ago - will host the reception. Stay tuned for more detailed information as we are moving forward with catering, tents, and set-up.



Lutheran Disaster Response in Hawaii - Our Lutheran Disaster Response team responds for the long term, and all reports out of Hawaii expect a year's-long response *need*. Your gifts will be 100% given to the need in Maui. Make checks to Grace with "Maui - U.S. Wildfires" in the memo line.



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-six*** deliveries thus far, sixteen to Main Street United Methodist, and twenty to Calvary United Methodist, Stuarts Draft, with the donations gratefully received in the midst of great need. **Overall, we have given well over 3,815 pounds of food!** If you can help, please donate to our box set inside the office door for you to drop off.

Day of the Week	Date	Time	Event
Sunday	09/10	10:00 a.m.	Grandparents Day Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost Service of Holy Communion In Person and via You Tube Pastor Paul Pingel, Preaching and Presiding  Hospitality Ministry  First Sunday Fellowship Hospitality and Grace Committee Confirmation Class (Seminar Room)  K-5 Sunday School (Sunday School Classroom)
		11:00 a.m.	
		11:10 a.m.	
		11:15 a.m.	
Monday	09/11	7:00 p.m.	All God's Children (Conference Room)
Tuesday	09/12	9:30 a.m.	Quilting Group (Fellowship Hall)
Wednesday	09/13	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Group (Chapel) Community Potluck (Fellowship Hall)  Yoga (Seminar Room) Choir Practice 
		6:00 p.m.	
		6:00p.m.	
		7:30 p.m.	
Thursday	09/14	8:30 a.m.	Grace Walkers Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall) Virginia Organizing (Conference Room) CCE&J Meeting
		12:30 p.m.	
		5:30 p.m.	
		6:00 p.m.	
Friday	09/15		Church Office Closed
Saturday	09/16	9:00—5:00	Boundaries and Healthy Communication Workshop (Fellowship Hall) Prayer Vigil for Racial Reconciliation (North Park) Yoga (Fellowship Hall)
		11:00 a.m.	
		11:00 a.m.	
Sunday	09/17	8:30 a.m.	Adult Sunday School  Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost Service of Holy Communion In Person and via You Tube Pastor Paul Pingel, Preaching and Presiding Confirmation Class (Seminar Room) K-5 Sunday School (Sunday School Classroom)
		10:00 a.m.	
		11:10 a.m.	
		11:15 a.m.	

**Monday**

2 Samuel 17:24—18:8
Acts 22:30—23:11
Mark 11:12-26
Morning Psalm 145, Evening 9

Tuesday

2 Samuel 18:9-18
Acts 23:12-24
Mark 11:27—12:12
Morning Psalm 146, Evening 7

Wednesday

2 Samuel 18:19-33
Acts 23:23-35
Mark 12:13-27
Morning Psalm 147:1-12, Evening 134

Thursday

2 Samuel 19:1-23
Acts 24:1-23
Mark 12:28-34
Morning Psalm 147:13-21, Evening 130

Friday

2 Samuel 19:24--43
Acts 24:24—25:12
Mark 12:35-44
Morning Psalm 148, Evening 40

Saturday

2 Samuel 23:1-7, 13-17
Acts 25:13-27
Mark 13:1-13
Morning Psalm 149, Evening 90



Grace Church Council



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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