



Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

July 2, 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

God of Our Fathers

1 God of our fathers, whose al - might - y hand
 2 Your love di - vine has led us in the past;
 3 From war's a - larms, from dead - ly pes - ti - lence,
 4 Re - fresh your peo - ple on their toil - some way;

leads forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band
 in this free land by you our lot is cast;
 make your strong arm our ev - er sure de - fense.
 lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day;

of shin - ing worlds in splen - dor through the skies:
 oh, be our rul - er, guard - ian, guide, and stay;
 Your true re - li - gion in our hearts in - crease;
 fill all our lives with heav'n - born love and grace

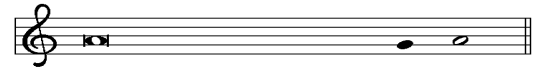
our grate - ful songs be - fore your throne a - rise.
 your word our law, your paths our cho - sen way.
 your boun - teous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.
 un - til at last we meet be - fore your face.

Text: Daniel C. Roberts, 1841–1907, alt.
 Music: NATIONAL HYMN, George W. Warren, 1828–1902

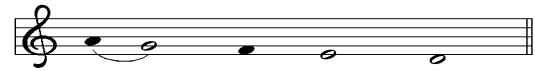
Greeting

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

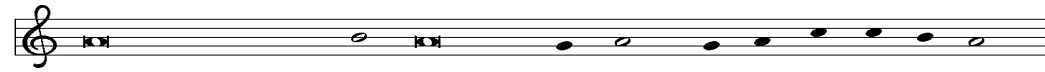
And also with you.



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.



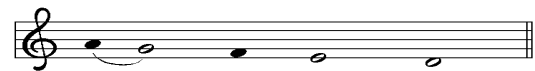
Lord, have mer - cy.



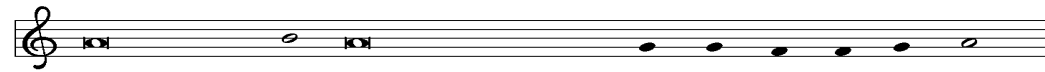
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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.**

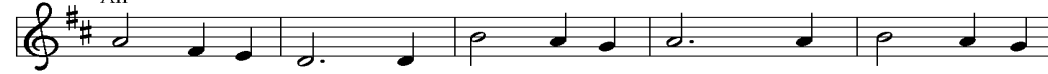
Canticle of Praise

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.

O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

We sit.

Word



First Reading: Jeremiah 28:5-9

A reading from Jeremiah:

⁵The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD; ⁶and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. ⁷But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We stand.

Psalm: Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18

We read responsively

¹I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever;
with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

**²I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;
your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.**

³You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one,
I have sworn to my servant David:

**⁴I will establish your descendants forever,
and build your throne for all generations."**

¹⁵Happy are the people who know the festal shout,
who walk, O LORD, in the light of your countenance;

**¹⁶they exult in your name all day long,
and extol your righteousness.**

¹⁷For you are the glory of their strength;
by your favor our horn is exalted.

**¹⁸For our shield belongs to the LORD,
our king to the Holy One of Israel.**

Second Reading: Romans 6:12-23

A reading from Romans:

¹⁵What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means!

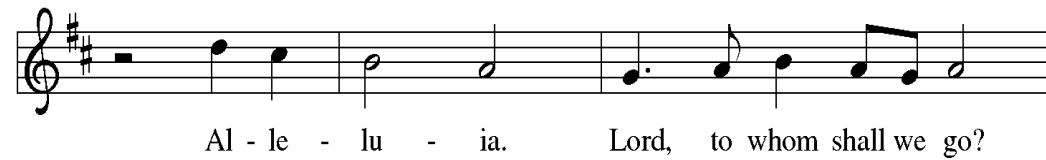
¹⁶Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, ¹⁸and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

Continued

²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: Matthew 10:40-42

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew:

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ⁴⁰“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; ⁴²and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

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: “*Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus*”

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Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, and with pa - ti - ence bear our cross.
 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death he con - quered death,
 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en from the dead

through a world that would de - ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure.
 Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; where he is there is no loss.
 he will free us from de - struc - tion, give to us im - mor - tal breath.
 that to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus, you are now our head,

On - ward in his foot - steps tread - ing, trav - 'lers here, our home a - bove,
 Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter, we shall reap ce - les - tial joy;
 Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion that would lead us in - to sin;
 we are your own liv - ing mem - bers; where you live, there we shall be

full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Sav - ior's bid - ding.
 all dis - com - forts that an - noy shall give way to mirth here - af - ter.
 and the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate of heav - en.
 in your pres - ence con - stant - ly, liv - ing there with you for - ev - er.

Faith - ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.
 Je - sus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.
 Je - sus, here with you I die, there to live with you on high.
 Je - sus, let me faith - ful be; life e - ter - nal grant to me.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–1681; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, alt.
 Music: LASSET UNS MIT JESU ZIEHEN, Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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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

Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

A brief silence.

Each portion of the prayers end with these words

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of 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 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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures. The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes with some rests.

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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures. The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes with some rests.

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

Communion ministers may be sent to take the sacrament from this gathering to those who are absent.

Gracious God, you took the form of a servant, offering yourself as food, comfort, and strength to a sick and hurting world. Anoint with a servant heart those who take your word and Sacrament to our sisters and brothers. Grant grace, mercy, healing, and hope to those who feast on your body and blood and receive your words of new life. May we all recognize that we have a place and a home in the body of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen.

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: "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"

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Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain,
 2 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,
 3 O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the years

for pur - ple moun - tain maj - es - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain:
 who more than self their coun - try loved, and mer - cy more than life:
 thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears:

A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold re - fine,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - 'ry flaw,

and crown thy good with broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.
 till all suc - cess be no - ble - ness, and ev - 'ry gain di - vine.
 con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.

Text: Katherine L. Bates, 1859–1929
 Music: MATERNA, Samuel A. Ward, 1848–1903



Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today

Altar Flowers:	<i>Jim & Gloria Nelson</i>
Altar Guild:	<i>Jean Morgan</i>
Assisting Minister:	<i>Marsha Howard</i>
Communion Assistant:	<i>Kathy Bump</i>
	<i>Tami Radecke</i>
Council Person of the Week:	<i>Linda Meyer</i>
Offering Steward:	<i>Pat Brady</i>
	<i>Jean Morgan</i>
Ushers:	<i>Pat Brady</i>



*Chancel flowers this morning
are given to the glory of God*

Next Sunday's Schedule and Lessons

July 9, 2023

Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

Holy Communion

10:00 a.m.

Pastor Paul Pingel

Presiding and Preaching

Zechariah 9:9-12

Psalm 145:8-14

Romans 7:15-25a

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30



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)

Lisa Gray

Susan Myers

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

Heather Bolden Guinn, Friend of Betty Karol Wilson

Jen Kearney, Friend to Many at Grace

Maxine McKinney, Friend of Grace

Susan Pingel, Sister of Pastor Pingel

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

Kathy Johnson

Sandy Johnson

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

Bill Aldridge, Friend of the Kites

Cathy Cunningham, Friend of the Lynches

Mike Cunningham, Friend of the Lynches

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

Regan Grant, Friend of Richard and Kathy Bump

David Jones, Friend of Gail and Sandy Johnson

Chris Jordan, Cousin of Mike Myers

James Pingel, Brother of Pastor Pingel

Steve Rolland, Father of Kathy Meicke

Arta Smith, Friend of the Bumps

Sue Smoot, Friend of the Radeckes

Kay Truslow, Friend of the Trauschts

Continued

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

Family of Doris Beck, Friend of the Pingels
Family of Timothy Bradford, Friend of Grace from Christ Tabernacle
The Family and Friends of Laura DeLapp, Friend of Cindy Trauschts
Family of Bucky Lang, Friend of the Trauschts and Nancy Dowdy
Family of Matthew Lang, Friend of Many Grace Members
Family of Jimmy Owens, Member of Grace
Family of Tim Smith, Brother of Rev. Pat Nabers
Family of Officer Mark "Chris" Wagner II

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Congregation Members Celebrating Birthdays

Virginia Dolan (7/2)	Ginny Dolan (7/2)
Phiston Shabani Riziki (7/4)	Joan Ranzini (7/6)
Zander Bandy (7/7)	Maribeth Faivre (7/9)
Zoey Mahoney (7/9)	

<u>The Needs of the World</u>	<u>The Church</u>
Numerous storms and damage, from the Northeast to Texas	Grace's Strategic Planning
Many Instances of War and Conflict around the World (Ukraine, Syria, Myanmar, Ethiopia, Sudan)	The United Methodist Church and our neighbor UMC churches in Waynesboro
Our President, Vice-President, Senators, Congress, Governor and local leaders as they work for the Common Good	We pray for the upcoming Power in the Spirit Event at the Virginia Synod and for all participants and leaders
The immigration crisis at our U. S. borders; refugees in the millions around the world	Virginia Synod Bishop-Elect Rev. Dr. Phyllis Milton
	<u>Our Neighbors</u>
	Our Neighbors in the Berkeley Glenn Area



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:

July 2 Church Council
August 6 Altar Guild



Grace Council Elects President and Vice-President –At its June 20th meeting, Grace Council re-elected Robin Crowder to serve as President of Grace Council for an additional one (1)-year term; and elected Allison Fink as Vice-President of Grace Council for a one (1)-year term. Ron Almarode continues as Treasurer of Grace congregation. Nancy Dowdy, our Grace Administrative Secretary, served as Secretary of Grace Council by providing minutes for each of our meetings. Robin, Allison and Ron will be installed for their new term on Sunday, July 9th.



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 Judy 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.



Grace on the "ground floor" - Grace has been working with other local congregations to establish an Assistance Ministry that helps all Waynesboro congregations to pool their resources to:

- Better help local people and families in crisis with rent and other assistance
- Have one place where people in need can go, rather than "shop" all the churches
- Establish a database so as many people as possible are helped, with no duplication of services
- Offer casework services to families so they can receive the help they need to move from living in crisis to functional living, more able to focus on children and the more routine challenges of daily life.

Grace Council on May 16th approved our congregation as a "charter member" of this Assistance Ministry. We will be a part of putting together the policies on how the fund is used. Currently approximately 10 other congregations have expressed interest, with the hope that we continue to grow the number of participating churches. Please pray for this Ministry, and getting it up and running as soon as possible, as the need is great!



"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



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.






Project Esperanza Fund Drive—Last year, Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church and Christ Tabernacle Church of God in Christ worked together to donate \$5520 to Project Esperanza. This year, our goal is to raise \$6000, enough money to support ten deserving students for a full year. We are already halfway to that goal, thanks to a \$2000 pledge from the Grace Endowment Fund and a \$1000 pledge from an anonymous donor. The Grace/COGIC Christian Coalition for Equity and Justice and the Grace All God’s Children groups are sponsoring this fund drive but invite all members and friends of the two congregations to contribute.

Grace members can contribute directly to the Church, noting the money is contributed in support of Project Esperanza as a memo. We will collect funds throughout June and July, with the fund drive ending on August 3, 2023. 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 Dominican Republic. It also provides housing, food, and family structure for a group of vulnerable youth and young adults. In collaboration with two universities, the project provides small business grants and loans to promote artistic training and a pathway to sales for the population it serves. More information is available at the project’s web site:
<https://esperanzameanshope.org/>



Life of Grace Church
July 2-9, 2023

Day of the Week	Date	Time	Event
Sunday	07/02	10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 3:30 p.m.	Fifth Sunday After Pentecost Service of Holy Communion In Person and via You Tube Pastor Paul Pingel Presiding and Preaching First Sunday Fellowship—Church Council Pastor—Vespers at Summit Square
Monday	07/03		Nancy Dowdy Off Carolyn Hite in Church Office
Tuesday	07/04		 Church Office Closed
Wednesday	07/05	10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Prayer Group (Chapel) Yoga (Seminar Room)
Thursday	07/06	8:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Grace Walkers Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall) CCE&J Group Meeting at Grace
Friday	06/30		
Saturday	07/01	11:00 a.m.	Yoga (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday	07/02	10:00 a.m.	Sixth Sunday After Pentecost Service of Holy Communion In Person and via You Tube Pastor Paul Pingel, Preaching and Presiding

Monday

1 Samuel 1:1-20
 Acts 1:1-14
 Luke 20:9-19
 Morning Psalm 145, Evening 112

**Thursday**

1 Samuel 2:27-36
 Acts 2:22-36
 Luke 20:41—21:4
 Morning Psalm 147:13-21, Evening 27

Tuesday

1 Samuel 1:1-21—2:11
 Acts 1:15-26
 Luke 20:19-26
 Morning Psalm 146, Evening 86

Friday

1 Samuel 3:1-21
 Acts 2:37-47
 Luke 21:5-19
 Morning Psalm 148, Evening 139

Wednesday

1 Samuel 2:12-26
 Acts 2:1-21
 Luke 20:27-40
 Morning Psalm 147:1-12, Evening 4

Saturday

1 Samuel 4:1b-11
 Acts 4:32—5:11
 Luke 21:20-28
 Morning Psalm 149, Evening 111

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

[facebook.com/gelc.elca](https://www.facebook.com/gelc.elca)

[youtube.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro](https://www.youtube.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro)

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