

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

*Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
September 17, 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

Dedication of Church Roof, Awning, Entrance, Painting and Repairs

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.

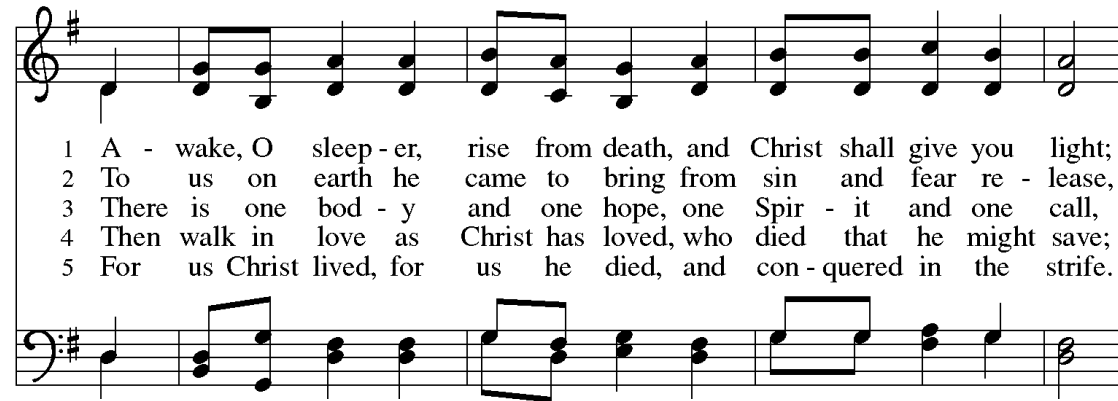
Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

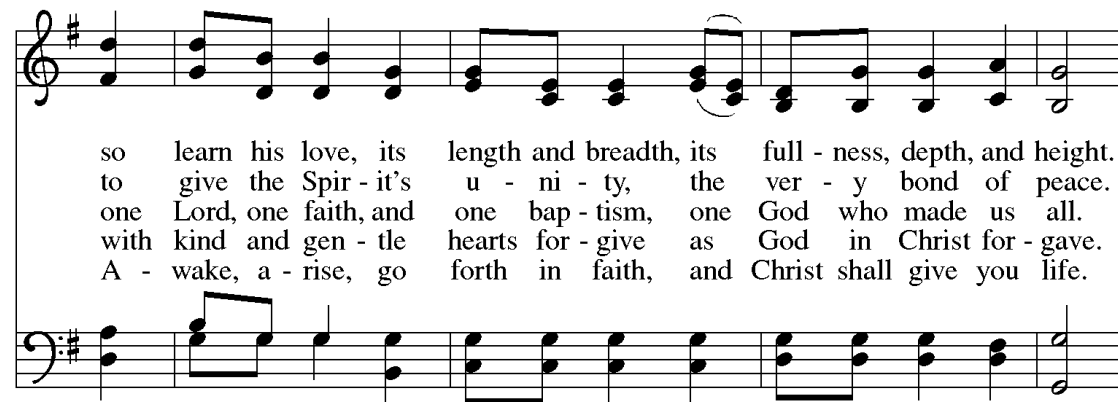
Gathering Hymn: *"Awake, O Sleeper, Rise From Death"*

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Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,
3 There is one bod - y and one hope, one Spir - it and one call,
4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
5 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con - quered in the strife.



so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.
to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.
one Lord, one faith, and one bap - tism, one God who made us all.
with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.
A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984
Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829
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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



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



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



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

Kyrie

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;



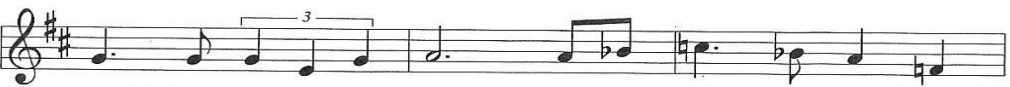
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



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, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

We sit.

Word

First Reading: Genesis 50:15-21

A reading from Genesis:

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 103:1-13

We read responsively.

¹Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

²**Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits —**

³who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

⁴**who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**

⁵who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

⁶**The LORD works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.**

⁷He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.

⁸**The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

⁹He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever.

¹⁰**He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

¹¹For as the heavens are high above the earth,

so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

¹²**as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.**

¹³As a father has compassion for his children,

so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.

Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12

A reading from Romans:

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions.

²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

Continued

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

We stand.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew:

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

Gospel
Reading

Children's Message

Pastor Pingel

Sermon

Pastor Pingel

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

We stand.

Hymn of the Day: "Forgive Our Sin As We Forgive"

#605

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive



- 1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray;
- 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
- 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
how tri - fling oth - ers' debts to us; how great our debt to you!
then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–1987, alt.
Music: DETROIT, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844
Text © Oxford University Press 1969.

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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.

DEUTERONOMY 26:10. NRSV



So now I bring
the first of the
fruit of the ground
that you, O Lord,
have given me.

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: *"Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing"*

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Dismissal

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

Postlude

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Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing



1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -
2 Scat - tered flock, one shep - herd shar - ing, lost and lone - ly,
3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -



vo - tion voic - ing: glo - ry be to God on high!
one voice hear - ing, ears at - ten - tive to your word;
lert and liv - ing in your Spir - it, strong and free.



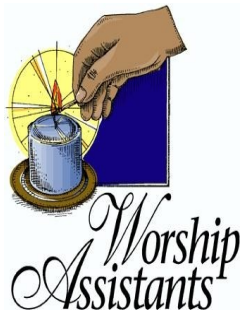
Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this eu - cha -
by your blood new life re - ceiv - ing, in your bod - y,
Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in



rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
firm be - liev - ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.
ev - 'ry na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - l'wers be.

Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902–1983, alt.
Music: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt.
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Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today

Altar Flowers:	<i>The Martin Family</i>
Altar Guild:	<i>Kathy Meicke</i>
Assisting Minister:	<i>Kathy Bump</i>
Communion Assistant:	<i>Andrew Sell</i>
	<i>Karen Walck</i>
Council Person of the Week:	<i>Allison Fink</i>
Offering Steward:	<i>Pat Brady</i>
	<i>Robin Crowder</i>
Ushers:	<i>Jack Eckstrom</i>
	<i>Esme Hilker</i>
	<i>Jim Nelson</i>

Next Sunday's Schedule and Lessons

September 24, 2023

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Holy Communion
10:00 a.m.

Pastor Paul Pingel

Presiding and Preaching

Jonah 3:10—4:11

Psalm 145:1-8


Philippians 1:21-30

Matthew 20:1-16



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)

Robin Crowder

Janet Parmer

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

David Carpenter, Friend of Donna Gum

Sean Donnelley, Friend of the Almarodes

Neil Harris, Friend of the Trauschts

Marcy Haywood, Friend of the Trauschts

Cinzia Occhioni, Niece of Linda Meyer

Sheldon Waggy, Brother of Carolyn Hite

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

Brad and Wilda Keefer's 65th wedding anniversary

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

Emily Almarode

Genevieve Arneson

Marge Cloutier

Sandy Johnson

Phyllis Kite

Glenn Myers

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 Chucky Bergdorf, former Assistant Principal at Kate Collins
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
Family of Ellen Moyer, Member of Grace

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Congregation Members Celebrating Birthdays

Cathy Crowder (9/17)
Tami Radecke (9/20)
Esme Hilker (9/21)

Gary Morrison (9/18)
Fred Biggers (9/21)
Tom Sheaffer (9/22)



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

Earthquake in Morocco and Flooding in Libya affecting tens of thousands of lives and families

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



Dinners of Eight Are Back! Members and friends of Grace are invited to sign up for Dinners of Eight – a monthly time of informal fellowship and getting to know each other better as a family of faith.

The plan is to schedule Dinners of Eight soon for the autumn months. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the back of the church along with copies of a Frequently Asked Questions sheet. Hosting is not a requirement to participate. The only obligation is to enjoy an evening of fun, good food, visiting with old friends and making some new ones. Don't let the name fool you: Dinners of Eight is *not* for couples only; it's for couples, singles, and families with kids.

For more information, contact the coordinator, Mark Radecke, at radecke@susqu.edu.



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!



Valley Music Academy "Celebration of Music" - will be held this afternoon at Constitution Park from 3:30-6:30 p.m. Come and enjoy the many performers from VMA who will be playing!



Community Potluck at Grace—We are excited that 46 Grace and community members gathered for fellowship and an opportunity for fellowship and building relationships with others in our community on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.! 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 are 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!



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!



Rise Against Hunger Food Packing Event – was held Saturday, September 9, at Kate Collins! 230 or more helped with this event and over 30,000 meals were packed. It was an outstanding event. Thank you to everyone who helped!



Adult Sunday School will resume today 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!



All God's Children has resumed meeting on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of every month at 7:00 p.m. 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 p.m. 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.



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



Dedicating our Building Renovations and Repairs—We dedicate our new roof, revised entrance awning, refinished exterior walls and revised office entrance as part of worship this morning. Thanks to our Property Team (Fred Biggers, Ron Myers and Rew Walck) for being good stewards of this building rededicated to God's Mission for us in this world!



Thanks to all who have cut prewashed, flannel, 9"x9" squares for hygiene kits. We will take as many squares as you may wish to cut!! Please return all squares by Sunday, October 1. If you are donating flannel, please have it to the church by September 24 so we have time to cut the squares.



Ellen Moyer Memorial Service - A service giving thanks for Ellen Moyer's resurrection life will be this Saturday, September 23rd at 1:00 p.m., with a reception following. Please keep the Moyer family in your prayers.



New Setting at Grace debuts October 1st - The ELCA created a new supplemental hymnal called *All Creation Sings* in 2020. Covid delayed its use in many congregations, including ours. It is the most recent hymnal addition to the Red ELW (Evangelical Lutheran Worship), which we began using *seventeen years ago!* There are new Worship Settings, and we'll begin using one of the Settings Sunday, October 1st. ***We'll meet at 9:48 a.m. before worship the next two Sundays, September 24th and October 1st, to begin hearing and singing the liturgy before its first use on the 1st.***



Children's Sunday School - is available after worship from 11:15 to Noon downstairs in the Sunday School Room (where VMA meets). We use the Readings from each Sunday (called the Lectionary) to expand on the children's learning through study, games and crafts.



Acolytes

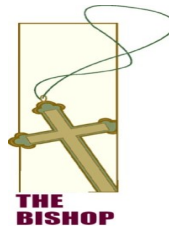
Acolyte and Crucifer Training - Those interested, please look for the email from Stephen and Pastor Karen Van Stee about the date of training, which will be after Confirmation and Children's Sunday School, with lunch provided!



Quilting—The Grace Quilters have returned to the regular Tuesday quilting day. 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.



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-Coordinator



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.



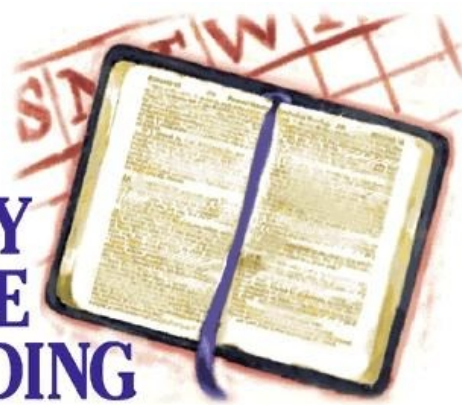
Lutheran Disaster Response - *Hawaii Fires; Hurricane Idalia, Flooding, as well as International events like the Morocco earthquake and Libyan flood/dam breaks:* there many people in need of disaster response. Your gifts are 100% used to help those in need. Designate "Lutheran Disaster Response" on any donation you make through Grace.



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	09/17	8:30 a.m.	 Adult Sunday School 	
		9:45 a.m.		
		10:00 a.m.		
		11:00 a.m.		
		11:10 a.m.		
		11:15 a.m.		
3:30 p.m.	 VMA Celebration of Music—Constitution Park			
Tuesday	09/19	9:30 a.m.	 Quilting Group (Fellowship Hall)	
		7:00 p.m.		Congregational Council (Conference Room)
Wednesday	09/20	10:00 a.m.	 Prayer Group (Chapel)	
		10:00 a.m.		Encircle Regional Managers' Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
		6:00 p.m.		Community Potluck (Fellowship Hall)
		6:00p.m.		Yoga (Seminar Room)
		7:30 p.m.		Choir Practice 
Thursday	09/21	8:00 a.m.	 Newcomers (Fellowship Hall)	
		8:30 a.m.		Grace Walkers
		12:30 p.m.		Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall)
		6:00 p.m.		CCE&J Meeting at Christ Tabernacle 
Saturday	09/23	11:00 a.m.	 Yoga (Fellowship Hall)	
		1:00 p.m.		Ellen Moyer's Memorial Service and Reception
Sunday	09/24	8:30 a.m.	 Adult Sunday School 	
		9:45 a.m.		
		10:00 a.m.		
		11:10 a.m.		
		11:15 a.m.		K-5 Sunday School (Sunday School Classroom)

DAILY BIBLE READING



Monday

1 Kings 1:(1-4) 5-31
Acts 26:1-13
Mark 13:14-27
Morning Psalm 5, Evening 82

Tuesday

1 Kings 1:32—2:4 (5-46a) 46b
Acts 26:24—27:-8
Mark 13:28-37
Morning Psalm 42, Evening 102

Wednesday

1 Kings 3:1-15
Acts 27:9-26
Mark 14:1-11
Morning Psalm 89:1-18, Evening 1

Thursday


1 Kings 3:16-28
Acts 27:27-44
Mark 14:12-26
Morning 97, Evening 16

Friday

1 Kings 5:1—6:1, 7
Acts 28:1-16
Mark 14:27-42
Morning Psalm 51, Evening 142

Saturday

1 Kings 7:51—8:21
Acts 28:17-31
Mark 14:43-52
Morning Psalm 104, Evening 138

CHURCH  COUNCIL

Grace Church Council 2023-24

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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