

The
Parable
of the
WEDDING
BANQUET

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

*Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
October 15, 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

(All Creation Sings—Setting 12)

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 looks upon us in compassion,
forgives our sin,
and heals our lives.

Amen.


Silence is kept for reflection.

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

Have mercy, O God,
**against you, you alone,
we have sinned.**
**In your compassion,
cleanse us from our sin
and take away our guilt.**
**Create in us a new heart
and give us a steadfast spirit.**
**Do not cast us away,
but fill us with your Holy Spirit
and restore your joy within us.**
Amen.

As tender as parent to child,
so deep is God's compassion for you.
As high as heaven is above earth,
so vast is God's love for you.
As far as east is from west,
so far God removes your sin from you,
renewing your life through Jesus Christ.
Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.
Blessed be God forever!


God Extends an Invitation
Nuestro Padre nos invita




Nues-tro Pa - dre nos in - vi - ta a la me - sa de la
God ex - tends an in - vi - ta - tion to the ta - ble of cre -



vi - da, don - de hay vi - no, luz y pan; y no -
a - tion, where there's wine and light and bread. Here we



so - tros nos reu - ni - mos, y lo nues - tro com - par - ti - mos, pues a -
gath - er in thanks - giv - ing and we of - fer all our liv - ing. Here the



sí es la co - mu - ni - ón; pues a - sí es la co - mu - ni - ón.
feast of life is spread; here the feast of life is spread.

Text: Miria T. Kolling; English and Spanish tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923
Music: NUESTRO PADRE, Miria T. Kolling
Spanish and English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.
Music © Miria T. Kolling.

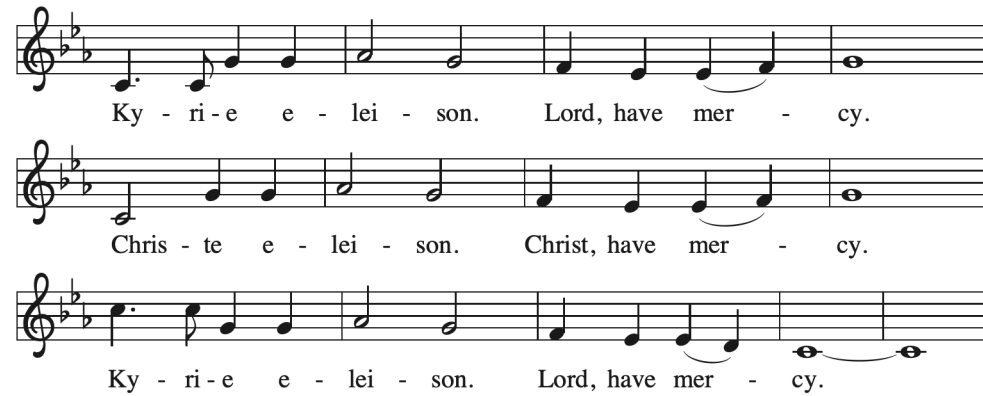
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Greeting

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



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Kyrie

Hymn of Praise



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;



yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.



Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;



ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.



Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;



yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

We sit.

Word

First Reading: Isaiah 25:1-9

A reading from Isaiah:

¹O LORD, you are my God;
I will exalt you, I will praise your name;
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.
²For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of aliens is a city no more,
it will never be rebuilt.
³Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.
⁴For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.
When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,
⁵the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

Continued

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.
⁷And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
⁸he will swallow up death forever.
Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.
⁹It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 23

We read responsively.

¹The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.
²**He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;**
³he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
⁴**Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff — they comfort me.**
⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.**

Second Reading: Philippians 4:1-9

A reading from Philippians:

¹My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord.

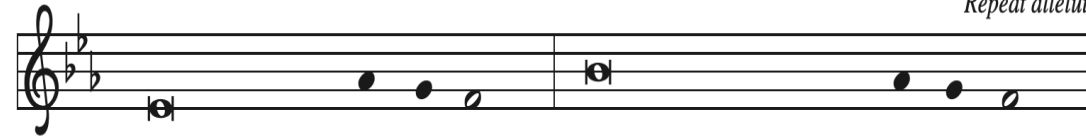
Thanks be to God.

We stand.

Gospel Acclamation



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



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew:

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ²“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ ⁵But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another

Continued

to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' ¹⁰Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹²and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen."

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: "Now We Join in Celebration"

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Now We Join in Celebration

1 Now we join in cel - e - bra - tion at our Sav - ior's in - vi - ta - tion,
 2 Lord, as round this feast we gath - er, fill our hearts with ho - ly rap - ture!
 3 Lord, we share in this com - mu - nion as one fam - 'ly of God's chil - dren,

dressed no more in spir - it som - ber, clothed in - stead in joy and won - der;
 For this bread and cup of bless - ing are for us the sure pos - sess - ing
 rec - on - ciled through you, our broth - er, one in you with God our Fa - ther.

for the Lord of all ex - is - tence, put - ting off di - vine tran - scen - dence,
 of your lov - ing deed on Cal - v'ry, of your liv - ing self, our vic - t'ry,
 Give us grace to live for oth - ers, serv - ing all, both friends and strang - ers,

stoops a - gain in love to meet us, with his ver - y life to feed us.
 pledge of your un - fail - ing pres - ence, fore - taste here of heav' n - ly glad - ness.
 seek - ing jus - tice, love, and mer - cy till you come in fi - nal glo - ry.

Text: Joel W. Lundeen, 1918-1990
 Music: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662
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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 the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

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

God of grace
Hear our prayer.

Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

Peace

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

We sit.

Meal



Offertory

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

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

We stand.

Offertory Song

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 the 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: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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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'r and
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy". It consists of six staves of music in a single system, all written in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are printed below the notes. The first staff begins with the lyrics "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and". The second staff continues with "God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your". The third staff has "glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.". The fourth staff says "Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the". The fifth staff continues with "Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.". The sixth and final staff concludes with "Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est." and ends with a double bar line.

Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy God,
you alone are holy,
you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:
beyond the stars;
beneath the sea;
within each cell;
with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water;
by night and day;
across the wilderness;
out of exile;
into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life;
near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner;
among the poor;
with us now.

We thank you, O God.

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 the 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 his love for us
on the way,
at the table,
and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering;
within this meal;
among your people;
throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks
to you, holy God,
through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit,
in your church,
without end.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray
as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us;
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. 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: *“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*

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Dismissal

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

Postlude

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Sent Forth by God's Blessing

1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, our true faith con-fess-ing,
2 With praise and thanks-giv-ing to God ev-er-liv-ing,

the peo-ple of God from this dwell-ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face—

The sup-per is end-ed. Oh, now be ex-tend-ed
our faith ev-er shar-ing, in love ev-er car-ing,

the fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.
em-brac-ing God's chil-dren, the whole hu-man race.

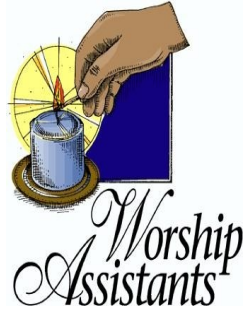
The seed of Christ's teach-ing, re-cep-tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now

reach-ing, shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.
lead us; u-nite us as one in this life that we share.

Your grace shall in-cite us, your love shall u-nite us
Then may all the liv-ing with praise and thanks-giv-ing

to work for your king-dom and an-swer your call.
give hon-or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.
Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune
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Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today

Altar Flowers:	<i>Lew, Donna & Rudy Yobs</i>
Altar Guild:	<i>Lisa and Glen Gray</i>
Assisting Minister:	<i>Kathy Bump</i>
Communion Assistant:	<i>Allison Fink</i>
	<i>Linda Meyer</i>
Council Person of the Week:	<i>Donna Yobs</i>
Offering Steward:	<i>Pat Brady</i>
Ushers:	<i>Karen Walck</i>
	<i>Rew Walck</i>

Next Sunday's Schedule and Lessons

October 22, 2023

Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost

Holy Communion
10:00 a.m.

Pastor Paul Pingel
Presiding and Preaching

Isaiah 45:1-7


Psalm 96:1-9

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Matthew 22:15-22



*Chancel flowers are given this morning
to the glory of God and
in loving memory of Anne R. Yobs*



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)
Grace Members with Covid

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

- Sherry Aldinger**, Friend of Radeckes
- Bill Aldridge**—Friend of the Kites
- Mike Arbaugh**—Friend of Linda Tomey
- Mia Eckstrom**, Granddaughter of Jack & Antoinette Eckstrom (knee surgery)
- Zaneta Freeman**, Sister of Debra Freeman Belle
- Doug Price**, ELCA Deacon
- Michael Sathe**, 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)

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 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
Sandie Hammel, Friend of Gail Johnson
Neil Harris, Friend of the Trauschts
Marcy Haywood, Friend of the Trauschts
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
Ruth Phelke, Mother of Lisa Edens and Friend of Gail and Sandy Johnson
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 Wayne Comer—Grandfather of Ty & Hannah (Lundstrom) Comer

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Congregation Members Celebrating Birthdays

Aaron Lynch (10/15)
Ron Myers (10/19)

Susan Morrison (10/19)
Cabell Caister (10/20)



Peace in the World

The Israeli and Palestine conflict - that ancient hatreds might be overcome by God's Grace, even and especially among those who invoke God's name in the conflict.

Those in peril from severe weather, hurricanes, earthquake and floods

Peace in the World—Those whose lives are shattered by war; those victimized by human trafficking

The prayer of Jesus—That we may find unity in Christ, and in our nation's laws and living, that all people—regardless of color, ethnicity, and gender—might find a way forward together in the love of God, and beyond the fears and anxieties of our time.

Our elected officials and those serving in all areas of government (federal, state, and local); and for decisions and work that serve the common good.

Victims of the Morgan State University Shooting in Maryland

The Church

Indigenous Peoples and the ELCA's Truth and Healing Movement

For our partners in Refugee ministry at Westminster Presbyterian Church

Our Neighbors

Our Neighbors near the Orchard Creek Area

Special Needs



Did you know that we have **medical equipment and supplies** available for your use? Walkers, wheelchairs, shower chairs, crutches, etc. are all available in our storage room. If you have a need, come by the church office and see if we can help you out.

Also, if you have used, clean medical equipment and supplies that you no longer need, please consider donating them.



A Word You Don't Want to Say, but We Must! That word is **COVID**. We've had a number of members who have been sick in recent days and weeks. We are coming into a time when Health experts tell us to expect more cases. With this in mind please note the following:

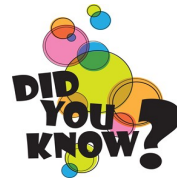
1. If you have any symptoms, or have tested positive, please stay at home. YouTube worship services are available Live every Sunday for those who are sick.
2. If you have COVID, please wait until you test negative - usually 5-10 days - until you return to worship.
3. Please note that FREE tests kits are available from **covid.gov**. Or you can find test kits at local pharmacies or grocery stores. for about \$8 - \$10.



Grace Baptism Class — We are meeting Thursdays (see calendar for time). The class will run through October 26th. The class will cover: History of Baptism; History of Baptismal Practice, and The Baptismal Font; Its Location and Design, and Possible Renovation or Redesign.



Bishop's Installation in Waynesboro - This Saturday, October 21st, Bishop Phyllis Blair Milton will be installed at a worship service at First Presbyterian Church at 1:00 p.m. You are invited! Then, Grace will host a reception following the worship service; as with Bishop Humphrey, we will have a tent in front of Grace with refreshments. Many thanks to Sylvia Almarode and Fred Biggers, who have done extensive work to help prepare for the day!



Quarterly Community Information Ministry Fellowships - The Quarterly 3rd Sunday Fellowship scheduled for this morning has been **cancelled**. We will inaugurate the first Quarterly Fellowship in January 2024 on the 3rd Sunday. Our apologies for the change!



Reformation Sunday is also Confirmation Sunday! We celebrate that Kiera Mahoney will Affirm her Baptism into Christ's death and resurrection, and be Confirmed on Reformation Sunday, October 29th! A Reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall. Come and join in the celebration October 29th!



Community Potluck at Grace—This meal is for community members to gather for fellowship and provide an opportunity for fellowship and building relationships 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. Come and eat—bring a dish, bring a friend!



Youth Host an ELCA National Youth Gathering Yard Sale! "We are having a church yard sale Saturday, November 4, from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon—rain or shine! It is an indoor yard sale. All proceeds go to support our youth in attending the ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans in summer 2024. Please show your support for our youth by either donating items for the yard sale or shopping yard sale items on November 4!" Please begin dropping your items at Grace in the office beside the library, Room #211.



Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Grace members, along with our quilters, cut 630 9" x 9" flannel squares! They will be distributed to countries throughout Africa including: Ghana, Zimbabwe, Liberia, Uganda, Namibia and Rwanda. Samples of the Sanitary Kits are assembled and taken to the schools. Young women are taught to assemble their own kits. As there is an ongoing need, I would like to continue to cut and collect squares. There is no limit to the number of squares to be sent and no deadline. Please be encouraged to contribute and support this worthwhile outreach project!

Square requirements: **Prewashed, flannel** (no fleece, felt or plush). Cut into 9" x 9" squares. Place in plastic container at the back of the Nave. If you have questions, etc., please contact Gloria Nelson.



College Care Packages—Each November a small group of Grace members gather to pack boxes of goodies for our college students around the time of their Fall semester final exams. It's a short term task each year, and the students really appreciate being remembered by their congregation back home. We are looking to step down and seeking another leader or co-leaders to take on this fun task. We will "mentor" you through this Fall and help with organizing, as needed. If you are interested and have any questions, please contact Linda Meyer (lameyer@cfw.com or 540-256-2277) or Caroline Biggers



GRACE ELC - WARM COLD WEATHER SHELTER—This is an exciting time as we prepare to welcome our neighbors in need of shelter to "our home" here at Grace. We will host up to 20 of our homeless neighbors from December 4 - 11, 2023 - showing Christ's love through Hospitality. We provide shelter, three (3) meals per day and ensure our guests know they are welcome, safe and secure. In preparation, WARM is hosting training - and all are invited to attend. From WARM:

- We have finally finalized our training dates, and we encourage not just our coordinators to come, but your volunteers as well! Our first training date will be a dry run to explain the flow of an evening at the shelter, and will be hosted at Fishersville United Methodist Church on October 24th from 6:15 p.m. -7:30 p.m.
- Our second training session is tentatively scheduled for November 7th at 5:00 p.m., at the WARM administrative offices located at 1025 Fairfax Avenue. This session will be hosted by WARM and Larry Friedman to discuss the basics of Crisis Intervention and how it relates to our guests at the Cold Weather Shelter.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Susan Myers before/after service or call/text 434-760-1660 ... so we can give WARM a heads-up on how many will attend. Co-Coordinators Donna Yobs and Susan Myers



Grace Walkers—Location to park for the Greenway, for the time being, has been changed to Constitution Park, 215 Elroy Street, Waynesboro. Meeting time to walk is still at 8:30 a.m.



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).



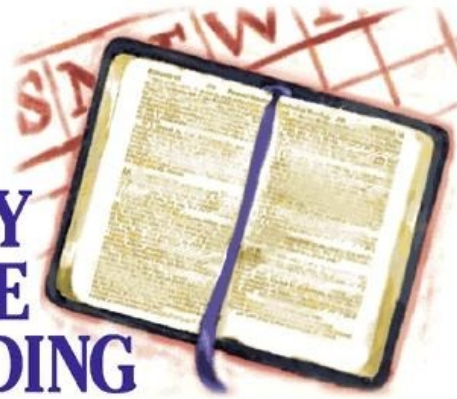
Food Pantries - Thanks, and Continuing Need—Many thanks to those who have donated Peanut Butter, Mac 'n Cheese, Personal Hygiene items, and Dried Rice and Beans to our local food pantries. We have made thirty-seven deliveries thus far, sixteen to Main Street United Methodist, and twenty-one to Calvary United Methodist, Stuarts Draft, with the donations gratefully received in the midst of great need. **Overall, we have given well over 3,920 pounds of food!** If you can help, please donate to our box set inside the office door for you to drop off.

OCTOBER 2023

October 15-22, 2023

Day of the Week	Date	Time	Event
Sunday	10/15	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:10 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	 Adult Sunday School Twentieth 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) Quarterly Community Information Support Fellowship 
Tuesday	10/17	9:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	 Quilting Group (Fellowship Hall) Church Council (Conference Room)
Wednesday	10/18	10:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m. 11:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Prayer Group (Chapel) Encircle Regional Managers' Meeting (Fellowship Hall) Grace Women's Book Group (Stella, Bella & Lucy) Community Potluck (Fellowship Hall)   Choir Practice Yoga (Seminar Room)
Thursday	10/19	8:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m.	 Baptism CLASS Grace Walkers  CCE&J Group Meeting (Grace Conference Room) Grace Baptism Class (Seminar Room)
Saturday	10/21	11:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	Prayer Vigil for Racial Reconciliation (Constitution Park) Yoga (Seminar Room)  Bishop Ordination at First Presbyterian Church Reception at Grace
Sunday	10/22	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:10 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	 Adult Sunday School Twenty-First 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) 

DAILY BIBLE READING



Monday

2 Kings 5:1-19
1 Corinthians 4:8-21
Matthew 5:21-26
Morning Psalm 145, Evening 112

Tuesday

2 Kings 5:19-27
1 Corinthians 5:1-8
Matthew 5:27-37
Morning Psalm 146, Evening 86

Wednesday

2 Kings 6:1-23
1 Corinthians 5:9—6:11
Matthew 5:38-48
Morning Psalm 147:1-12, Evening 4

Thursday

2 Kings 9:1-16
1 Corinthians 6:12-2-
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18
Morning 147:13-21, Evening 27

Friday

2 Kings 9:17-37
1 Corinthians 7:1-9
Matthew 6:7-15
Morning Psalm 148, Evening 139

Saturday

2 Kings 11:1-20a
1 Corinthians 7:10-24
Matthew 6:19-24
Morning Psalm 149, Evening 111

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**

facebook.com/gelc.elca
youtube.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro
Internet: www.gracewaynesboro.org
Telephone: 540.949.6171