

Sixteenth Sunday

After Pentecost



September 13, 2026

A Prayer Upon Entering

*Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe.
As I cross this threshold, I enter as if the ground itself were paved with gold,
for the place whereon I stand is holy ground.
Calm my spirit, quiet my rushing thoughts, and still my heart.
Help me to lay aside the noise and burdens of the world, for you are here.
May this space be a sanctuary of peace,
and may my heart be a living temple of your Holy Spirit.
Let no shout or rush disturb this sacred hour,
but let reverence, awe and love fill me as I approach your presence.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

(Traditional prayer on the doors of English churches)

Welcome to Grace

We give thanks that you have come to worship with us at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, and pray that you will receive God's awesome GRACE, mercy and love as we receive Word and Sacrament, the means of grace!

We invite our guests and visitors to worship with us often! If you will, we invite guests to take a welcome bag at the Welcome Desk to learn more about Grace and fill out a Welcome Form in the bulletin or at the Welcome Desk to let us know you were worshipping with us today. Visitor/Member Information sheets may be returned to the pastor, an usher, or placed in the offering.

The complete worship service is contained in this worship folder. Large print worship folders and Busy Bags for our very young worshipers are available from the ushers! We love having children in worship! Should parents have need of nursery during worship, our professionally staffed nursery for childcare is available. Please see an usher for directions.

Our worship space is equipped with a hearing assistance system to accommodate those with hearing difficulties. Please ask the sound technician (at the rear left of the worship space) for a receiver, if desired. Printed copies of the sermon are available at the ushers table in the entry-way, if desired.

Please remember to turn off or silence personal communication devices. We ask that you not bring food or drink into the worship space.

In accordance with the Biblical mandate and our Lutheran tradition, we seek to worship God "in Spirit and in truth...for these the Father seeks to worship him!" (John 4:23-24). If you are not familiar with liturgical worship, it is "the work of the people," as God speaks, the

ministers speak and the congregation responds in a spoken, chanted and sung dialogue!
Everything in our worship is focused on God and His incarnate, embodied presence in our midst!
We pray that you will experience the Word made flesh as we worship today!

To establish and maintain a spirit of reverence, we remind worshipers to please greet one another and fellowship in the gathering space before entering the sanctuary, where others will be preparing their hearts and minds for worship. We appreciate your understanding!

Little Lambs Children's Ministry is available at either worship service, after the Gospel reading for children ages 3 through third grade During Little Lambs Children's Ministry children and their leader go to the Nursery to enjoy age appropriate Biblically-oriented activities during the Sermon, creed and prayers. They return during the offering to join us for Holy communion! This gives little ones a Bible break during the service, while allowing parents to focus on the sermon!

We invite you to learn more about our congregation at www.grace43081.org and the North American Lutheran Church (NALC) at www.thenalc.org!

PRELUDE

"Lord of All Hopefulness" - *arr. David Cherwien*

"Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive" - *arr. Cardon Burnham*

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

ENTRANCE HYMN “All Creatures of Our God and King (v. 1-4)”



The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The score is divided into three systems. The first system contains the first four verses of the hymn. The second system contains the 'Al-le-lu-ia' refrain, which is repeated four times with different lyrics. The third system contains the final verse of the hymn. The piano accompaniment is written in the bass clef and provides a harmonic foundation for the vocal parts.

1 All crea-tures of our God and King, Lift up your voice with
 2 O rush-ing wind and breez-es soft, O clouds that ride the
 3 O flow-ing wa-ters, pure and clear, Make mu-sic for your
 4 Dear moth-er earth, who day by day Un-folds rich bless-ings

us and sing: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
 winds a-loft: Oh, . . . praise him! Al-le-lu-ia!
 Lord to hear. Oh, . . . praise him! Al-le-lu-ia!
 on our way, Oh, . . . praise him! Al-le-lu-ia!

O burn-ing sun with gold-en beam And sil-ver moon
 O ris-ing morn, in praise re-joice, O lights of eve-
 O fire so mas-ter-ful and bright, Pro-vid-ing us
 The fruits and flow'rs that ver-dant grow, Let them his praise

Refrain

with soft - er gleam:
ning, find a voice.
with warmth and light,
a - bun - dant show.

Oh, praise him! Oh, praise him!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The Liturgy of The Word

THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

C And also with you.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

HYMN OF PRAISE *(Men verse I, Women verse II)*

♩ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. [I] Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was
slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.
♩ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. [II] Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and
strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.
♩ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. [I] Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and
join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or, glo-ry, and

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

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

al-le-lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia. ☩ For the Lamb who was

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

☩ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

☩ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

O Lord our God, you reveal yourself chiefly in showing mercy and pity. Grant us the fullness of your grace, that, pursuing what you promise, we may share your heavenly glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." ¹⁶So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died: ¹⁷'Say to Joseph, "Please forgive the

transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.” And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, “Behold, we are your servants.” ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, “Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones.” Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

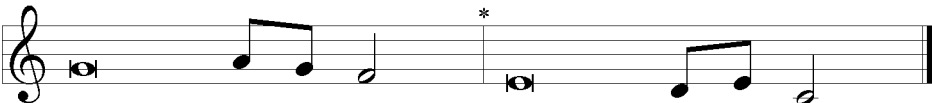
Psalm 103:1-12

Refrain



The LORD is full of com - pas - sion and mer - cy.

Psalm Tone



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

C ²**Bless the LORD, | O my soul,
and forget not | all his benefits.**

L ³He forgives | all your sins
and heals all | your infirmities;

C ⁴**He redeems your life | from the grave
and crowns you with mercy and | lovingkindness; Refrain**

L ⁵He satisfies you | with good things,
and your youth is renewed | like an eagle's.

C ⁶**The LORD ex- | ecutes righteousness
and judgment for all who | are oppressed.**

L ⁷He made his ways | known to Moses
and his works to the chil- | dren of Israel.

C ⁸**The LORD is full of compas- | sion and mercy,
slow to anger and | of great kindness. Refrain**

L ⁹He will not al- | ways accuse us,
nor will he keep his an- | ger forever.

C ¹⁰**He has not dealt with us according | to our sins,
nor rewarded us according | to our wickedness.**

L ¹¹For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,
 so is his mercy great upon | those who fear him.
 C ¹²As far as the east is | from the west,
 so far has he removed our | sins from us. **Refrain**

SECOND READING: Romans 14:1-12

¹As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand. ⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸For if 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, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. ¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? 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 confess to God." ¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

ALLELUIA VERSE (*John 6: 68*)



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

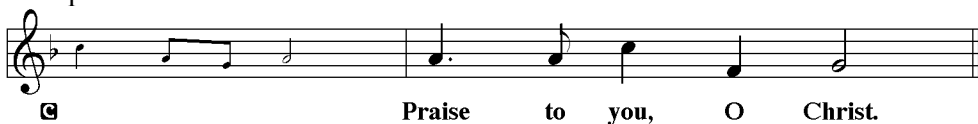
HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.



²¹Peter came up and said to {Jesus}, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times. ²³Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³²Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

LITTLE LAMBS- At this time, Little Lambs Children's Ministry is available for children ages 3 through third grade at both services after the Gospel reading. The children leave the sanctuary with the teacher and enjoy an age appropriate Biblically oriented lesson and activity. They return during the offering to join us for Holy Communion.

SERMON: "The Forgiving Community!"

The Rev. David Wendel

After the sermon, a time of silence for reflection.

Please be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“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.

APOSTLES' CREED

A We confess our Christian faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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.**

THE PRAYERS

A Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

After each petition:

A Lord, in your mercy;

C Hear our prayer.

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Remember in our prayers... Martha Crist, Jan Perry, Cynthia Bertelsen, Terry Riesen, Eddie Hardick, Jan Boughton, Lon Landis, David Doll, Don Melick, Tom Zawodny, Betty Milner, Rod Rice, Sue Ross, Mary Ross, Jim Ross, and the family of Jim Bartholomew

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always. (*Matthew 5: 22-24; John 20: 19*)

C And also with you.

***You may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace,
and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.***

Please be seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE MEAL

MUSICAL OFFERING

8:15 "How Beautiful" - Twila Paria

Heather Bush - Vocal Solo, Linda Hoch - Piano

11:00 "By Faith and Not by Sight" - arr. Lloyd Larson

Grace Singers Chancel Choir

Please stand as the offering is brought forward.

THE OFFERTORY



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 now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

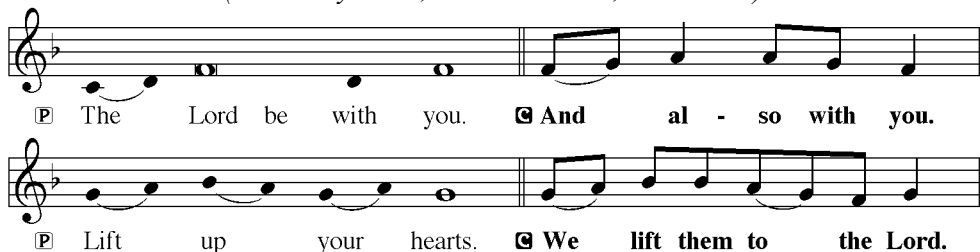
OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Blessed are you

C O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

(2 Timothy 4: 22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136)



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.
P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and salutary . . . *The Presider continues with the preface, concluding:...*we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

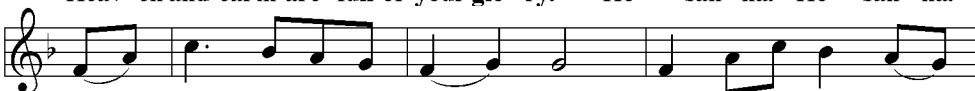
THE SANCTUS (*Isaiah 6: 3; Matthew 21: 9*)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.



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 EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God; you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will and accomplished our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving Passion and Death, his glorious Resurrection and Ascension, and his promise to come again, we give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, not as we ought, but as we are able; and we implore you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving, and with your Word and Holy Spirit, to bless us, servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine; that we who share in the Body and Blood of your Son may be filled with heavenly peace and joy, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be sanctified in soul and body, and have our portion with all your saints.

C All honor and glory are yours, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, now and forever. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6: 9-13)*

C 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.

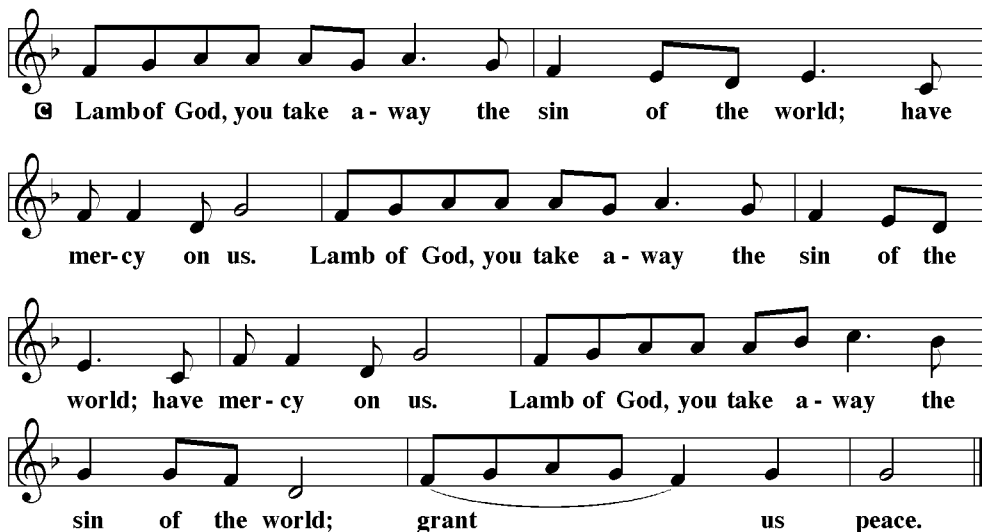
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD/THE FRACTION

A time of silence...

P Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. *(John 1:29)*

C Blessed are those who are invited to the supper of the Lamb! *(Revelation 19:9)*

LAMB OF GOD (*John 1: 29*)



Please be seated.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS



All who are baptized, have received the Lord's Supper and believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine that become our Lord's Body and Blood, are welcome to commune. Children or adults who do not commune are encouraged to come forward to receive a blessing!

The Lord's sacramental Blood is available in individual glasses and common cup. As the communion assistants approach, simply indicate which you prefer by a nod of the head or pointing to individual cups or chalice. Grape juice is available in the center ring of each tray. Please place empty individual glasses in the basket provided to either side of the altar area. Gluten-free hosts are available for those who require them. Indicate your preference to the minister administering the hosts.

Private prayer before receiving Holy Communion: O merciful Lord, I do not presume to come to your Table, trusting in my own righteousness, but in your many and great mercies. I am not

Private prayer after receiving Holy Communion: Almighty God, you provide the true Bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that as I have received the Sacrament of His Body and Blood, He may abide in me, and I in Him, and that all who have received may be filled with the power of His endless life. By your grace, help me to walk worthy of my calling, and to learn to bring glory to your name in all things. Amen.

Linda Hoch

"Bread of Life, Good Shepherd, Tend Us" - *arr. David N. Johnson*

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

C Amen.

A Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

C A - men

And be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ... give you peace.

In the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit ✠

RECESSIONAL HYMN “All Creatures of Our God and King (v. 5-7)”

5 O ev’ryone of tender heart,
Forgiving others, take your part,
Oh, praise him! Alleluia!
All you who pain and sorrow bear,
Praise God and lay on him your care. *Refrain*

Refrain Oh, praise him! Oh, praise him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

6 And you, most kind and gentle death,
Waiting to hush our final breath,
Oh, praise him! Alleluia!
You lead to heav’n the child of God,
Where Christ our Lord the way has trod. *Refrain*

7 Let all things their Creator bless
And worship God in humbleness.
Oh, praise him! Alleluia!
Oh, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One, *Refrain*

THE RITE OF SENDING

Children Go in peace, serve the Lord!
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Linda Hoch

"All Creatures of Our God and King" - arr. Mark Sedio

Offering: An offering plate will be placed by the baptismal font for offerings to be presented during the offering procession. Offerings may be placed in the plate before or after the service.

Flowers are given by...

*Bill and Twyla Ridder in celebration of grandchild Rowen Ridder’s birthday.
Paul and Karen Grant in celebration of our 25th anniversary.*

WELCOME, GUESTS! We welcome you as our guest in our church home and invite you to continue to worship with us. We invite guests to take a welcome bag at the Welcome Desk to learn more about Grace and fill out a Welcome Form and place it in the offering or hand it to an usher to let us know you were worshipping with us today.





Scan to *Simply Give*

This QR code connects you to the mobile version of Grace's online giving page to give you a quick and easy way to access our giving without having to type out a long web address. Through this link, you can create a one-time or on-going donation and to specify where you want your gift to be applied. It's easy, fast, and secure. If you're able, we also encourage you to set up recurring giving. You can now give:

- online <https://grace-evangelical-luther.subspla.sh/87gkvf2>,
- through the app (<https://subsplash.com/grace-evangelical-luther/app>) or
- Scan the QR code to *Simply Give* today.

Financial Update: If you would like a copy of the full monthly Treasurer's report as presented to Council, please reach out to the Treasurer, Jim Caldwell and it will be emailed to you.

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost, September 6: 8:15: 67; 11:00: 79; total: 146

MUSIC NOTES

“Lord of All Hopefulness” – arr. David Cherwien

This hymn by Jan Struther (1901-1953) was first published in *Songs of Praise* (London, 1931). It is organized like a collect, the church’s “collecting” of petitions in a short form of a prayer with an address, a phrase that describes the attribute of God under consideration, and a petition related to it. The themes develop from God as Lord of hopefulness, eagerness, kindliness, and calm, and relate to our daily round of waking to sleeping.

“Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive” – arr. Cardon Burnham

Regarding this hymn, the author Rosamund Herklots (1905-1987) writes: “The idea of writing the ‘Forgiveness’ hymn came to me some years ago when I was digging up docks in a long-neglected garden. Realizing how these deeply-rooted weeds were choking the life out of the flowers in the garden, I came to feel that deeply-rooted resentments in our lives could destroy every Christian virtue and all joy and peace unless, by God’s grace, we learned to forgive. Her hymn first appeared in two collections in 1969, *100 Hymns for Today* (supplement to *Hymns Ancient and Modern*) and *Hymns and Songs* (supplement to the *Methodist Handbook*).

“How Beautiful” – Twila Paris

Twila Paris wrote this song in 1990 about unity in the body of Christ – about a greater love for each other among believers. How one feels toward relatives, those to whom we typically reserve the term ‘loved ones’, is how we are to feel toward fellow Christians. In her text, Paris suggests that we look at the Christ-Servant and then do as He did. God is beautiful when we see Him in service, ultimately in death.

“By Faith and Not by Sight” – arr. Lloyd Larson

This choral arrangement is a majestic affirmation of faith inspired by 2 Corinthians 5:7: “We walk by faith and not by sight.” Opening quietly and resolutely, it gradually builds through escalating dynamics and key changes to a glorious proclamation of empowerment through our risen Lord. The traditional hymn “My Faith Looks Up to Thee” enters as a choral prayer that rises to a succession of triumphant amens.

“For the Bread Which You Have Broken” – arr. Edwin T. Childs

Dr. Louis F. Benson (1855-1930) was one of America’s foremost hymnologists. A Presbyterian minister, he helped edit several hymnals and wrote several books about hymns. The original three stanzas were intended to be sung at the conclusion of the Communion service, but at the suggestion of Henry Sloane Coffin, president of Union Theological Seminary in New York City, a fourth stanza was added relating sacrament to service. The final phrase, taken from the Lord’s Prayer, is a most appropriate conclusion to the hymn and the service.

“Bread of Life, Good Shepherd, Tend Us” – arr. David N. Johnson

Thomas of Aquino (St. Thomas Aquinas - c.1225 - 1274), confessor and doctor, commonly called The Angelical Doctor, was born of noble parents. At the age of five he was sent to the Benedictine monastery at Monte Cassino to receive his first training. When he was 17, he was admitted into the Dominican order. St. Thomas was a most voluminous writer, his principal work being the celebrated *Summa Theologiae*. Though not a prolific writer of hymns, St. Thomas has contributed to the long list of Latin hymns some which have been in use in the services of the Church to this day. The subject of his hymns was the Lord's Supper.

“All Creatures of Our God and King” – arr. Mark Sedio

The original text of this hymn is said to have been written by Francis of Assisi (c. 1182-1126) during the last months of his life when he was suffering intense pain and was almost blind. Known as “Canticle of the Sun,” it is thought to be the oldest religious poem extant in the Italian language. It expresses St. Francis' intense love of all creation. William Draper paraphrased the hymn for use at a Whitsuntide (Pentecost) festival at Leeds, England sometime between 1899 and 1919; it was not published until 1926 when it appeared in a collection of Draper's hymns and in *School Worship*.

Seventy-seven Times

Find the 37 **bold** words from Matthew 18:21-27 (ESV)

O N P S G L D H M H D E T R T
R E E U N L A E I A V E O E H
D V T S I E M C S I S W B H O
E A E E R F H E G A E T O T U
R E R J O I H R V D E W E O S
E H Y F L S O S E A K L F R A
D A T D P F E R E N G N E B N
P E R Q M E A M T R E R E R D
N E V T I P O U I A V T O E T
N T N E M Y A P A T L A C F S
L M C O K I N G D O M E N I S
O Z C S E T T L E N J E N T Q
R N E V E S C O U L D H F T S
D L O S V A C C O U N T S I S
U E C N E I T A P I T Y Q Q W

Then **Peter** came up and said to him, “**Lord**, **how often** will my **brother sin** against me, and I **forgive** him? As many as **seven times?**” **Jesus** said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times. “Therefore the **kingdom of heaven** may be **compared** to a king who wished to **settle accounts** with his **servants**. When he began to settle, one was brought to him who **owed him ten thousand talents**. And since he **could not pay**, his **master ordered** him to be **sold**, with his **wife and children** and all that he had, and **payment** to be made. So the servant **fell** on his **knees**, **imploring** him, ‘Have **patience** with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of **pity** for him, the master of that servant **released** him and **forgave** him the **debt**.

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Serving Today

PREACHER/ OFFICIATING	The Rev. Dr. David Wendel
ORGANIST	Linda Hoch
SACRISTAN	Fred Pfanz
CHOIR DIRECTOR	Dr. Helen Kang
BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR	Maria Laderman
ASSISTING MINISTER	8:15 Donna Dettmann 11:00 Andrea Bush
COMMUNION	8:15 Chris Banks, Paul Whitacre, Regina Place
ASSISTANTS	11:00 Cheryl Bush, Eric Bush, Tami Stone
ACOLYTE	11:00 Titus French
CANTOR	Roger Retherford
LECTOR	8:15 Vanessa Stewart 11:00 Ian Gayetsky
USHERS	8:15 Kathy Haegele, Lisa Kuhar, Shirley Hodek, Vanessa Stewart 11:00 Andy Laderman, Tom Moser
GREETERS	8:15 Bonnie Sawyer 11:00 Kathy Bobb
LITTLE LAMBS	8:15 Cathy Burner 11:00 Jennifer Blankenship
ALTAR GUILD	Team 1- Linda Seamon, Cheryl Bush, Andrea Bush, Jean Claflin, Dorothy Crain, Denise Reynard, Barb and Tom Moser, Ruth Osborn, Jaya Koppera
NURSERY ATTENDANTS	Kaitlyn F., Donna P.
SOUND TECHNICIANS	Chris Banks, Eric Bush, Dan George, Paul Grant, Brice Graves

Acknowledgements

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Hymns:

“All Creatures of Our God and King.” Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226; tr. William H. Draper, 1855-1933, alt. Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623. Text: G. Schirmer, Inc. Los Angeles, CA, None. Tune and Arrangement: Public Domain.

“Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive.” Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905-1987, alt. Music: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844 Text © Oxford University Press 1969, CCLI. Tune: Public Domain. Arrangement: Augsburg Fortress, Minneapolis, MN, OneLicense.

“Lord of All Hopefulness/SLANE” – arr. David Cherwien, from *Interpretations Based on Hymn-Tunes for Organ (Book VIII)* by David Cherwien, ©1991 Summa Productions

“Variations on *The Lord Our God Is Clothed in Might*” – arr. Cardon Burnham, from *The Sacred Organ Folio (No. 3)*, Lorenz Publishing Company, ©1971

“How Beautiful” – Twila Paris, ©1990 Ariose Music and Mountain Spring Music

“By Faith and Not by Sight” – arr. Lloyd Lasron, ©2009 Lorenz Publishing Co.

“For the Bread Which You Have Broken” – arr. Edwin T. Childs, from *Communion Hymns for Organ, Vol. I* by Edwin T. Childs, ©2011 Augsburg Fortress

“Bread of Life, Good Shepherd, Tend Us” – arr. David N. Johnson, from *Deck Thyself, My Soul, With Gladness (Vol. 2)* by David N. Johnson, ©1981 Augsburg Fortress

“LASST UNS ERFREUEN” – arr. Mark Sedio, from *Augsburg Organ Library: Easter*, ©1996 Augsburg Fortress

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Website: www.grace43081.org

<http://www.facebook.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranWesterville>

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-3pm, Fri 9am-Noon

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church has been serving the Westerville community for more than 115 years, supporting local ministries such as the Westerville Area Resource Ministry, Westerville Partnership Habitat for Humanity, and Westerville CROP Walk. Grace also provides weekly meeting space for five AA groups.

Vision Statement: We envision Grace to be a welcoming Christ-centered community of faith, inviting all, growing in discipleship, sharing in ministries.

Mission Statement: Our mission is to reach out with the love of Jesus to grow disciples and serve our community.



This Week at Grace: Sept. 13-20, 2026

Amazing God-- Amazing Grace-- Amazing Worship!

September 13- Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost/ Rally Day and Homecoming Sunday

8:15 am	Worship Service
9:40 am	Sunday School and Confirmation
9:45 am	Adult Learning Resumes (Fellowship Hall)
11:00 am	Worship Service
12:30 pm	Rally Around the Cross Picnic (East Lawn, parking lot and Playground)

Grace Youth Group (GYG) Kickoff — After Church Picnic until 3:00 PM

MON	1:00 pm	Ruth Circle (Fellowship Hall)
	7:00 pm	Grace Sisterhood @ The Hoover
	6:30-9pm	Youth Philharmonic of Central Ohio (YPCO) Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	6:30 pm	Monday Night Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
TUES	10:00 am	Building Meeting
	Noon-6pm	Blood Drive (Gathering Space)
	6:30pm	Council Meeting (Rose Garden 2&3)
	8:00 pm	AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
WED.	10:30 am	Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
	6:15 pm	Grace Ringers Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	7:00 pm	Grace Singers Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Rose Garden 2 & 3)
	7:30 pm	Scioto Valley BAPC Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
THURS	10:00 am	Staff Meeting
	6:15 pm	Supper Club
	6:30 pm	Dartball @ Bethel
	7:30 pm	AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
FRI.	8:00 pm	AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
SAT	9:30 am	AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
	8:00 pm	AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

September 20 **Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost**

8:15 am	Worship Service
9:40 am	Sunday School and Confirmation
9:45 am	Adult Learning Resumes (Fellowship Hall)
11:00 am	Worship Service
4:00 pm	Amazing Grace Community Concert <i>presents</i> “Spiritual Songs of Charles Earland”

Day / Date	Event
Saturday, September 26	Joyful Voices Children & Youth Choral Day Camp — 10:00 AM–4:00 PM
Sunday, September 27	Secret Sister Chili Cookoff — 12:30 PM
Sunday, September 27	Bake Sale Benefiting CROP Walk — Between Services
Sunday, October 18	Trunk or Treat — 2:00–4:00 PM; Set-up at 12:30 PM
Monday, October 19	Amazing Grace Youth Philharmonic of Central Ohio Concert
Sunday, October 25	Ministry Fair — Between Services
Sunday, October 25	Commitment / Pledge Sunday
Tuesday, November 3	Polling Location
Monday, November 9– Tuesday, November 10	Senior Trip to Frankenmuth, MI (Registration is full.)
Sunday, November 15	Annual Meeting — 12:30 PM
Tuesday, November 17	Blood Drive — Noon–6:00 PM
Monday, November 30	LifeLine Screening — 9:00 AM–3:00 PM
Wednesday, December 2	Midweek Advent Services Begin
Sunday, December 6	Secret Sister Cookie Decorating
Friday, December 11	Westerville Habitat Partnership Progressive Christmas Concert
Sunday, December 13	Youth Christmas Program
Sunday, December 13	Amazing Grace Scioto Valley Brass & Percussion Company Christmas Concert — 4:00 PM

Service Recording: The recorded 8:15am service will be available at www.grace43081.org around 11am.

Volunteer Opportunities at Grace

There are several meaningful ways to get involved and share God's love through service at Grace!

Altar Guild Leaders Needed: Our longtime and much-appreciated Altar Guild leader, Vanessa Stewart, is ready to step down, and we are looking for a person, persons, or perhaps two couples to serve as leader or co-leaders. The Altar Guild lovingly and prayerfully prepares our church and sanctuary for worship, helping create a place where the faithful gather to receive God's gifts of grace through Word and Sacrament. Current Altar Guild members or others looking for a new way

to become involved are encouraged to consider this opportunity. Training will be provided, with a goal of having new leadership in place by September. **Interested or have questions? Please speak with Vanessa Stewart or Pastor Wendel.**



Little Lambs Children's Ministry Volunteers Needed: Do you enjoy sharing God's love with children? Little Lambs is seeking caring volunteers to serve during the **11:00 AM worship service**. Children ages 3 through 3rd grade enjoy an age-appropriate Bible lesson during worship, and volunteers help make this ministry possible. **If you have a heart for children and would like to serve, please contact the church office or Susan Riches.**



Little Lambs

Sunday School Volunteers Needed: Help nurture the faith of our children and young people by supporting our Sunday School classes! We are especially looking for assistants to volunteers to assist with **grades 1–4 and 5–6**. Whether you can assist a teacher regularly or occasionally lend a hand, your involvement can make a meaningful difference. **Interested in supporting Sunday School? Please contact Cindy Odum or Denise Reynard.**



Each Sunday we enjoy seeing flowers on the bema. It reminds us of the beauty of God's creation. The arrangement can honor an event, a loved one or give thanks and glory to God. To help cover the cost, we are asking for a minimum donation of \$40.00. The flowers are not the property of the donor, but will be enjoyed by all. With care they can last a week or more in the gathering space.



We encourage you to continue this tradition. You may sign up at the welcome center, on-line through our giving page, or call the office.

YOUTH, FAMILY, and EDUCATION

Growing in Faith • Growing in Community

We're excited to support families and help children and youth grow in faith!

SUNDAY MORNING & WORSHIP- Available at both worship services.

NURSERY CARE- *Infants – Age 6 :*

Enjoy worship, Adult Learning, or fellowship in the Loaves & Fishes Café while your little ones

are lovingly cared for. Pagers are available for parents if needed.

BUSY BAGS- Keep little hands engaged during worship with age-appropriate books and activities. Located by the sanctuary entrance.

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS- Activity-based bulletins that follow the weekly readings. Available at the usher's table.

LITTLE LAMBS- *Ages 3 – 3rd Grade:* Children leave worship after the Gospel reading for a fun, age-appropriate Bible lesson and return during the offering for Holy Communion.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Preschool – High School

Sundays • 9:40–10:30 AM

Adult Morning Class

Sundays • 9:45–10:45 AM

September through Memorial Day Weekend

GRACE YOUTH GROUP (GYG)



A NEW FOCUS ON OUR YOUTH: We are refocusing our efforts and energy on the youth of our congregation by forming the **Grace Youth Group (GYG)**!

FIRST GYG MEETING: Sunday, September 13, Following the Church Picnic • Ends at 3:00 PM

GYG will then meet **weekly on Sunday evenings.**

YOUTH LED • ADULT SUPPORTED

The GYG is being shaped as “**youth led, adult supported,**” encouraging our youth to grow as disciples of Jesus, leaders, and servants.

OUR VISION FOR GYG: *“Our ministry with youth will connect young people with Jesus, His Church and each other, encouraging Christian leadership, discipleship and service in our church and community.”*

YOUTH, FAMILY & EDUCATION TEAM: *The team will support the Grace Youth Group while overseeing and nurturing our entire congregational family in Christ through Christ-centered, Bible-based teaching, growth as disciples, and service in church and community.*

GROWING TOGETHER IN CHRIST: Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church is committed to helping children, youth, and families grow in faith, leadership, service, and community.

BIBLE STUDIES & FAITH FORMATION

*Grow deeper in understanding and fellowship through
study, discussion, and prayer.*

- **SUNDAY MORNING ADULT CLASS-** The adult class is each Sunday at 9:45 in the

fellowship hall and is facilitated by Bill Kulju. Our first study is titled “NOOMA” - The word NOOMA is a phonetic spelling of the Greek word pneuma, which means wind or spirit. This study is a series of short Christian films featuring author and speaker Rob Bell. Each short video blends everyday life events with teachings about God, Jesus, and our faith. This series is designed to start discussions rather than provide all the answers.

- **Grace Sisterhood's** next meeting is **September 14 at 7pm at The Hoover Bar and Kitchen**. We will continue meeting the 2nd Monday of each month (so mark your calendars so you can join in the fellowship). We are studying, “Women and Identity” by Adele Ahlberg Calhoun & Tracey D Bianchi. All younger/working women of the congregation (and friends!) are invited and welcome! Contact: Melissa Hodek
- **Katharine Circle resumes on Monday, October 5 at 1 p.m. at church**. Please join us as we begin a new study on Ephesians. Contact Dorothy Crain at 614-264-5304 with questions.
- **Men of Grace Bible Study, Saturday September 19th, 8 AM**. At the last Men of Grace study in July, the men completed the chapter and verse study of the Gospel of Luke! We will begin studying the Gospel of Mark on September 19th, as our lectionary will begin using Mark's writing as our gospel lessons beginning Advent 1, November 29th. All men of the church (and friends) are invited to join in this monthly study!
- **Monday Evening Bible Study-Beginning September 14th, (Holy Cross Day!), 6:30 PM**. Following our spring study on Romans, we will begin with the so-called “Corinthian Correspondence,” beginning with Paul's first letter to the Christians in Corinth. These letters are quite personal, as Paul had a relationship with this congregation, and writes to address conflict which had arisen in Corinth. As the apostle deals with this division, he also provides for us his great teachings on the power and wisdom of God versus the foolishness of humans, sexual immorality in the Church, the body as a temple of the Holy Spirit, instructions regarding marriage, the institution of the Lord's Supper and the meaning of it, leading to what is really the capstone of the epistle, his teaching on the gifts of the Spirit, especially faith, hope and love! Sign up at the Welcome desk at church or on the Grace app!
- **Ruth Circle will resume at 1pm Monday, September 14**. Please contact Joanne Figge with any questions.
- **Wednesday, Women's Bible study meets at 10:30 am**. If you are interested see Pr. David Wendel or email at d.wendel@grace43081.org.

CHRISTIAN GROWTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vision Statement: To nurture Youth and Family in Christ through Bible based teaching, music, activities and community outreach.

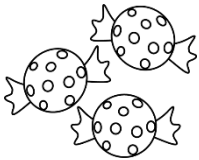


Grace Ringers Bell Choir: Contact Maria Laderman.

Grace Singers Chancel Choir: contact Helen Kang.

Joyful Voices Youth Choir rehearsal schedule: contact Helen Kang.

Trunk or Treat Volunteers and Candy/Prize Collection: Help make our Merry, Not Scary



Trunk or Treat a fun afternoon for local families! We need 15 cars, families, groups, or organizations to decorate their trunks and pass out candy on Sunday, October 18. Decorating begins at 12:30 PM, with Trunk or Treat from 2–4 PM. Choose a fun, kid-friendly theme and get creative! Sign up at the Welcome Desk or <https://grace-evangelical-luther.subspla.sh/svn72sg>. Questions? Contact

Abby Reynolds or Sarah Odum. A bin is located in the Gathering Space and East Narthex to collect candy and prizes to handout at the Trunk or Treat event.



Kids & Families: Trunk or Treat! Attention kids and youth! Bring your friends, neighbors, and classmates to Grace for our Merry, Not Scary Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 18, from 2–4 PM! Wear your favorite costume and travel from decorated trunk to decorated trunk for games, activities, and treats. It's a fun, family-friendly alternative to going door-to-door—or just another chance to wear that costume one more time! Everyone is welcome! Please sign up at the Welcome Desk or <https://grace-evangelical-luther.subspla.sh/dxpzkb6> so we know how many trick-or-treaters to expect.

Sign up today for Joyful Voices Children/Youth Choral Day Camp! Saturday,



September 26, 10 AM-4 PM We are excited to announce “Joyful Voices Children/Youth Choral Day Camp for children and teens in our congregation and community! Dr. Helen Kang will lead a choral camp for those entering grades 3 through 12, Saturday, September 26, 10 AM till 4 PM, with assistance of choral students at Otterbein University.

The Day Camp will be at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, 100 E. Schrock Rd, Westerville, OH! Children and teens have an innate joy and creativity often expressed by singing. Studies show music offers a multitude of benefits, including improved language skills, enhanced memory, healthy emotional development and increased self-confidence—and it's fun! Children and teens who would like to build self-esteem, personal discipline, and artistic development through the universal language of music are invited to participate. There is no cost to participate in this Choral Day Camp! Go to www.grace43081.org to register. Questions or desire more information? Contact Dr. Helen Kang, h.kang@grace43081.org.



Dr. Kang is director of choral music at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in organ performance from San Jose State University, a Master of Music in choral conducting from the University of Nevada-Reno, and Doctor of Musical Arts in choral conducting from the University of South Carolina-Columbia. She has served as associate conductor of the World Vision Korean

Children's Choir, directing concert choir rehearsals and concerts, supervising six different education choirs, organizing overseas concert tours and international choir festivals. Previously, she has served as the assistant conductor of The Greater Columbus Children's Choir and assistant conductor of The New Choir, Santa Clara, CA. She has extensive teaching and speaking experience, having taught children, youth and college students!

HOSPITALITY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Loaves and Fishes café is OPEN! Please stop in between services for a drink and a snack! There is a sign-up sheet in the café if you are interested in helping. Please call Donna & Chuck Dettman and Ruth Osborn with any questions or concerns.

Care Team Ministry-By Donna Dettmann



Mission Statement: To be faithful servants of Christ, called to minister to the sick, homebound and to those in grief. Linking them with the larger community of Grace through Word and Sacrament, and Prayer.

- If you would like to have communion brought to you once or twice a month because you can't attend church services,
- For one communion ahead of a surgery or any other special Need, or
- If you would like to receive anointing along with communion.

The Care Team is trained to visit the sick, homebound and those in grief.

To connect with a Care Team member to bring communion and anointing oil to you, please call:

- Sarah Odum at the Grace office – 614-882-3026 ext. 1
- Peggy Jones at – 614-354-6884
- Donna Dettmann at – 703-447-7760



Senior "Social" Moment, Monday, September 21, 1 PM! All seniors and senior friends are invited to our Senior "Social" Moment, Monday, Sept. 21, 1 PM. This an informal social time for connection, conversation and usually a fun activity! In September, we'll share memories from school and the beginning of school each year. Come with your fun, embarrassing and/or meaningful remembrances of school-days!



Dartball Season - from Captain Chris Banks. The season runs through early March of 2027. All games are on Thursday evenings from 7:30 to around 9:00. For away games, we meet at the church at 6:30 and carpool to churches in Pickerington, Grove City, Obetz, and Reynoldsburg to name a few. Here is the schedule for the next 4 weeks:

- Sept 17 vs. Grove City
- Sept 24 at Reynoldsburg

- Oct 1 vs Rome
- Oct. 8 vs Epiphany

All October matches will be home. We look forward to another successful and fun filled season and we always welcome new players. If you have any questions, please reach out to Chris Banks - cbanks5@gmail.com/614-203-8429.

OUTREACH ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAVE the DATE for SERVICE

- Mid-October to Mid-November - WARM Thanksgiving food collection
- December 5 - WARM neighborhood food drive: 9am-Noon
- December 11 - Westerville Habitat Partnership Progressive Christmas Concert: 7- 9:15pm
- January 17 (MLK weekend Sunday) - Soup 4 Shelter at Westerville Rec Center: 1-4pm

FIRST FRUITS SUNDAYS Let all that you do be done in love". (1 Corinthians 16:14)

September Most Needed list: Canned Meats: Chicken, Salmon, Tuna; Canned Pasta; Cereal; Condiments; Dish Soap; Paper Towels; Pasta Sauce-Alfredo; Salad Dressing; Shampoo/Conditioner; and Toilet Paper.



We cannot accept food that has reached its expiration date. Any fresh produce, baked goods and dairy products take directly to Westerville Area Resource Ministry (WARM). Make Checks Payable to: Grace Lutheran Church, memo notation for WARM. Blessings to all who are making this a part of your regular tithes and offerings.

Thank you, Grace Family! Thank you to everyone who donated supplies to help restock the Ohio NALC Disaster Response Warehouse. A special thank you to **George and Ellen Paulus**, who delivered Grace's donations to the warehouse in Caldwell.



Disaster Response



The NALC Disaster Response service trip has been **rescheduled for Saturday, October 3**. Volunteers will help build a shed, load a 26-foot box truck, fill flood buckets and disaster relief kits, and unpack and sort supplies. Other churches will also be joining in this important work. **Interested in participating? Please let Ellen Paulus know or register at <https://grace-evangelical-luther.subspla.sh/cvy79c8>**. Thank you for putting your faith into action and helping bring practical help and hope to others!

What does the Bible say about Intercessory Prayer? From Donna Dettmann

GRACE Intercessory Prayer Team



The Bible gives us instructions about intercessory prayer. When we humans pray an intercessory prayer, we do the best we know how. Here's what happens next:

- The Holy Spirit takes our intercessory prayers and presents them to the Father: "Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered" (Romans 8:26).

- James 5:16 tells us that those who pray an intercessory prayer must do so with a certain attitude and depth of spirituality.

Make your prayer request at back of the church - "Let Us Pray For You"

-table. You will find prayer request forms and pens or use any scrap of paper you have, place your request in the Prayer Chest (your name is optional). Prayer requests can also be sent through the Grace website: <https://subsplash.com/u/-KJ4PQ7/forms/d/05aee550-f949-48db-a87c-d651dc398e69> or scanning the QR code above.

Let the IPT join you in asking God for your prayer need.



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE: Our next Red Cross Blood Drive is Tuesday, September 15 from noon-6pm in the Gathering Space.

Appointments appreciated and walk-ins after 1pm are accepted! You can schedule an appointment by contacting the Red Cross at RedCrossBlood.org and use our sponsor code: GraceLuthWesterville or call 1-800-Red Cross. Questions? Vanessa Stewart

CROP Hunger Walk Team Is Forming!



Grace is putting together a team for the **2026 CROP Hunger Walk**, and we invite you to join us! Our mission is to reach out with the love of Jesus to grow disciples and serve our community—and walking to fight hunger is a wonderful way to live out that mission.

Join **Team Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church** with your steps, your prayers, and your donations as we work together to fight hunger and poverty in Central Ohio and around the world. **75% of funds**

raised support Church World Service's global hunger-relief efforts, while 25% stays local to support organizations including WARM, Mid-Ohio Food Collective, NSI Food Pantry, Westland Ecumenical Community Food Pantry, and Worthington Resource Pantry.

- **CROP Bake Sale & Basket Raffle – Sunday, September 27**

Watch for a sign-up sheet in the coming weeks, then stop by the **Gathering Space between services** to pick up some delicious treats and take a chance on a fun basket! Proceeds will support Team Grace and our CROP Hunger Walk fundraising efforts.

- **Impact Fair, Registration & Walk: 1:00 PM | Walk Send-Off: 2:00 PM at Scioto Audubon Metro Park-** Walk routes range from ¾ mile to 3.5 miles.

Sign up or donate to Team Grace today:

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/chw/team/grace-ev-lutheran-church-3>

Every step, donation, bake sale purchase, and raffle entry makes a difference. **Let's end hunger and poverty one step at a time!**



Spiritual Songs of Charles Earland

Amazing Grace Community Concert Series

Join us on **Sunday, September 20 at 4 PM** for a special program celebrating the soulful, joyful music of legendary jazz organist **Charles Earland**. This concert features **Linda Dachtyl**, a nationally released Chicken Coup/Summit Records artist whose work spans jazz organ and progressive rock. Linda is a **Hammond Organ USA** artist, an active educator, and a vibrant presence in Central Ohio's jazz and rock communities.

She is joined by an exceptional ensemble: **Linda Dachtyl — Hammond Organ Ben Huntoon — Trumpet Logan Moore — Saxophone Larry Marotta — Guitar Patrick Ankrom — Percussion (Charles Earland band alumnus) Cary Dachtyl — Drums**

Together, they bring a rich blend of artistry, faith, and musical heritage to this uplifting afternoon of worshipful sound.

All are welcome — come and be inspired.

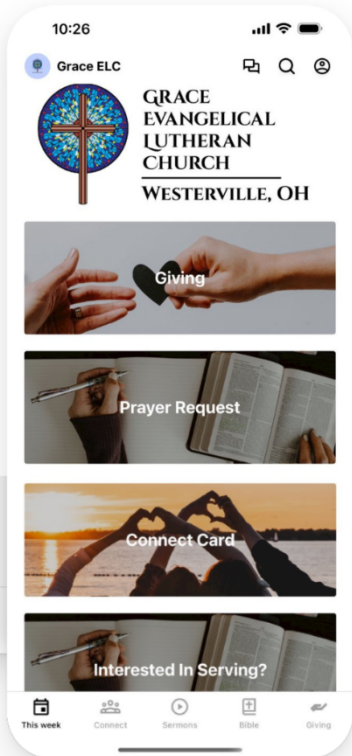
Bless the Lord, O My Soul

*Find the 43 **bold** words from Psalm 103:1-11 (ESV).*

S	E	I	F	S	I	T	A	S	F	A	H	O	L	Y
M	S	F	B	W	T	C	R	O	W	N	S	E	U	L
E	F	E	I	O	T	I	R	U	M	L	A	A	F	M
E	M	A	N	L	I	G	F	L	A	R	Y	G	I	L
D	J	D	I	S	E	A	S	E	S	N	F	L	C	O
E	G	S	Q	T	U	I	H	I	N	O	V	E	R	R
R	O	N	U	E	N	O	P	P	R	E	S	S	E	D
E	O	E	I	A	R	R	E	G	N	A	B	U	M	E
P	D	V	T	D	E	C	I	T	S	U	J	O	S	A
A	F	A	Y	F	N	V	H	Y	H	T	C	I	N	L
Y	H	E	S	A	E	U	C	I	J	G	C	C	I	J
C	E	H	K	S	W	R	O	H	D	I	I	A	S	P
D	G	V	R	T	E	O	R	B	F	E	A	R	T	H
S	E	S	O	M	D	L	V	T	A	E	R	G	I	T
S	P	V	W	L	J	E	B	H	T	U	O	Y	P	L

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, **bless his holy name!** **Bless the LORD, O my soul**, and **forget** not all his **benefits**, who **forgives** all your **iniquity**, who **heals** all your **diseases**, who **redeems** your **life** from the **pit**, who **crowns** you with **steadfast love** and **mercy**, who **satisfies** you with **good** so that your **youth** is **renewed** like the **eagle's**. The LORD **works righteousness** and **justice** for all who are **oppressed**. He made known his ways to **Moses**, his **acts** to the people of **Israel**. The LORD is **merciful** and **gracious**, **slow to anger** and **abounding** in steadfast love. He will not always **chide**, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not **deal** with us according to our **sins**, nor **repay** us according to our iniquities. For as high as the **heavens** are above the **earth**, so **great** is his steadfast love toward those who **fear** him.

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