

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church:

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Return, O my soul,
to your rest.

Psalm
116:7

*Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Jackson Center, Ohio
September 15, 2024
10:30 am*

Welcome to
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 15, 2024 ~ 10:30 A.M.

Welcome to Our Guests

“Who do you say that I am?” Jesus asks. Thank God for divine patience, allowing us to grow into full understanding of what it means that Jesus is our Messiah. We believe God has a purpose for you being with us today and our desire is to be an instrument in helping you discover and fulfill that purpose. You are always invited to come and worship with us. Please let us know if the pastor or we may be of service to you in any way. If you desire to be baptized in Jesus, please speak with the Pastor.

Focus for Today

Help my unbelief. Can anything more faithful be uttered? We want to believe but cannot do so with our natural reason or power. God must help us, to the point of giving us faith. With these mouths that both bless and curse, we may at least ask for the faith to believe. He will hear and answer. Why? Because he is listening; since he loves us, he wants to hear our prayers. So, we may trust in the name of the Lord, and rely upon God to be faithful toward us, even when we find faith impossible on our own.

As We Gather

** Indicates times during which the congregation stands.*

The Prelude

“Always”

Praise Band

Welcome and Prayer

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

*Gathering Song

“Days of Elijah”

*The Confession and Forgiveness

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

C: Amen.

P: Hear the word of the Lord from 1 John 1:8-10...

P: Most Holy God:

C: We know our bondage to sin, and we confess it to you. We have denied you with our thoughts, words, and deeds. In our busyness, we forget to be thankful for all your many blessings and mercies. We fail to put You first and our neighbors before ourselves. Hear our confession, our sorrow for our sin, and our need for a savior. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, re-set our hearts and minds, reveal your will for us, and put us back on the path of righteousness.

P: Lord, have mercy.

C: Christ, have mercy.

P: Lord, have mercy.

(Silence for personal confession)

P: The Word of Forgiveness... God has had mercy on us and given His only Son to die for us and to take away the sin of the world, even yours and mine. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of your sin, in the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

All: God of righteousness, you who restores voice to the mute and hearing to the deaf, by the guidance of your Spirit help us to tame our tongues, that our words may uplift our neighbors and glorify your holy name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

First Lesson: Isaiah 50:4-10

ESV pg. 611

Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 116:1-9 (read responsively)

116 I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.

2 Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

3 The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.

4 Then I called on the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!"

5 Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful.

6 The LORD preserves the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me.

7 Return, O my soul, to your rest; for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.

⁸ For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling;

⁹ I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

Praise the LORD!

Second Lesson: James 3 :1-12

ESV pg. 1012

Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

*Holy Gospel: Mark 9:14-29

ESV pg. 844

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

Time for Young Disciples

Pastor Bert

Sermon Prayer

P: May the Spirit of the Lord be in my heart and on my lips so that I may sincerely and humbly, courageously and effectively proclaim the Good News.

C: And may the Spirit of the Lord touch our ears that we may listen carefully. Touch our minds that we may understand correctly and touch our hearts that we may respond to that message courageously.

P: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Sermon

Pastor Bert

Apostles Creed

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.

* Prayers of the Church and The Lord's Prayer

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

*Blessing

Ministry and Mission Moments

*Sending Songs

“Hosanna (Praise is Rising)”
“I Love Lovin’ Jesus”

Enter to Worship --- Depart to Serve
Ministry and Mission Moments

Your offering to the Lord’s work through Grace. There is a **box for offering** located on a table nearby, for you to drop off offerings. All offerings are greatly appreciated to help the church stay in good financial standings and to do the Lord’s work.

Members, the Lay/Witness Committee would like for us to get to know each other a little better. Lay / Witness members will personally be asking families to fill out a form with some suggested questions to answer. We would like to put a family profile from early and late service in our newsletter. Thanks for your help with this project! There will be a container on the back table for your forms! We are calling this project, “GETTING TO KNOW YOU!”

The Backpack program is asking for donations for the program. They are asking for fruit cups, applesauce cups, pudding cups and peanut butter cups, small individual boxes of cereal, & small individual microwave meal cups (mac & cheese cups). There is a labeled box in the south vestibule for your donations.

Buckets for Disaster Relief. The Lay/Witness Committee will again put buckets out on September 15 & 22 for members to fill with items on the list included. Some items may already be included in the bucket you pick up. Please return your filled buckets by Sunday, October 6th. Many Thanks!

JC Fire Department **Tenderloin Dinner** will be Friday, September 20th from 5-7 pm at the American Legion Hall on College Street. Dinner includes fries, coleslaw and a drink for \$10. Come out and support the JC Fire Department.

Have you ever thought or wondered about preaching and or ministry? On Thursday evenings, beginning October 24th, 2024 at 6pm CT, St. Paul Lutheran Seminary will again be offering short, online courses on preaching, taught by Rev. Julie Smith. There will be six online sessions (once per week) and is designed for people who may be interested in occasional pulpit supply, as well as those who may be sensing a call to ministry and want to explore a bit. The cost is \$50 per person or \$100 per congregation. To register contact Jon Jensen at jjensen@semic.org. Grace will pay the registration. Please contact one of the pastors, if you are interested or have any questions.