

Grace Church: Office: 937-596-6516 ~ Fax: 937-596-0516

Office hours: 8 am to 1 pm.

E-mail: jcgracelutheran@outlook.com~

WEB Address: www.jcgracelutheran.org

Pastor Bert Schultz ~ Cell phone: 715-418-1037

Pastor Shelly Schultz ~ Cell phone: 715-418-1761

~ Email: jcgracepastor@outlook.com

Facebook: JC Grace Lutheran

Matt Kohler, Church President:

Nikki Tontrup, Secretary Rhonda Burch, Janitor:

© 2025 Christian Copyright Licensing International. All rights reserved.

License # 1903179 & Streaming License # 20263402



*Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Jackson Center, Ohio
September 14, 2025
8:00 am*

Welcome to
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Jackson Center, Ohio

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 14, 2025 ~ 8:00 AM

Welcome to All

Brothers and sisters in Christ, welcome as we worship, learn and fellowship together. Please greet one another in friendship. 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.

The Common Thread in Today's Readings

Even David, the shepherd king of Israel, needed rescuing from sin. Only God can deliver such people who are scattered and lost in sin. Not leaving this task to faithless shepherds, God takes upon himself the role of the Shepherd of the sheep, seeking even the lost sheep, as they are of great value to him. When he finds them, he delivers them to the safety of his fold, feeding and caring for their every need. This is accomplished by his ministers teaching pure doctrine, not arguing over religious rules, but directing the sheep to their Shepherd, that they may repent and have the benefit of his abundant grace.

Gathering

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

Prelude

Lighting of the Candles

Gideons Temple Talk

Robert Hunter

*Opening Song **"What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine"** WOV # 780

The Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, †Son and 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. (1 John 1:8-9)

(Silence for personal confession)

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 your sin, in the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

All: Heavenly Father, you desire that all people have faith and life through your son Jesus. We all are prone to wander. Gather us in by your steadfast love and everlasting mercy bring us and all who wonder into your kingdom and teach us to joyously seek out and welcome the wandering; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Choir Anthem

“The Joyful Spirit in My Song”

Adult Choir

Word

God speaks to us in scripture – read, preached and sung

First Lesson: Ezekiel 34:11-24

ESV # 722

Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 119:169-176 (read responsively)

¹⁶⁹ Let my cry come before you, O LORD; give me understanding according to your word!

¹⁷⁰ **Let my plea come before you; deliver me according to your word.**

¹⁷¹ My lips will pour forth praise, for you teach me your statutes.

172 My tongue will sing of your word, for all your commandments are right.

173 Let your hand be ready to help me, for I have chosen your precepts.

174 I long for your salvation, O LORD, and your law is my delight.

175 Let my soul live and praise you, and let your rules help me.

176 I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek your servant, for I do not forget your commandments.

Praise the LORD!

Second Lesson: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

ESV # 991

Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (sung)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel: Luke 15:1-10

ESV # 874

Glory to you, O' Lord (sung)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

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

Pg. 65

The Prayers of the Church

Lord's Prayer

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

Thanksgiving

We give thanks for the saving Word and all God's gifts.

Gathering of the Gifts

*The Offering Hymn **"We Give Thee but Thine Own"** LBW # 410

*The Offertory ***"Let the Vineyards be fruitful"*** LBW # 66

*Offertory Prayer Page 67

Pastor: Merciful Father,

All: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us- our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending

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

Benediction

Mission and Ministry Moments

*Song **"Rise, O Children of Salvation "** LBW # 182

*Sending

P: Go in peace, Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Silent Prayer and Meditation

Organ Postlude

Enter to Worship --- Depart to Serve

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.

Today we welcome Gideons speaker Robert Hunter to worship. Inserted into today's bulletin is a handout and contribution information on how to help support the Gideons International. There is a designated box at the back of the church for free will offering.

Jingle Offering – Today there will be a “special” offering for our area “We Care Fund”. Any loose change that you have, please place in tin pan when passed. Remember that this loose change offering will be used to continue to provide assistance for area families who are in need.

Furnace update: The project is nearing completion and the project funding has been over 90% covered. We are \$7,954 away from our completion goal of \$95,825.

Special Congregational Meeting Sunday, September 28th at 9:15 am. Discussion topic: the village of Jackson Center has asked to expand the northern most driveway leading back to the new water treatment plant.

Luther League: The next meeting for all high school teens will be on Sunday, September 21st from 5:30pm to 7:00pm at the church.

JC Fire Department **Tenderloin Dinner** will be Friday, September 19th from 5-8 pm at the American Legion Hall on College Street. Come out and support the JC Fire Department.

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. Thank you for all of the contributions, we greatly appreciate all of them.

Altar flower for this morning are in honor of Seth & Holly Regula's wedding held yesterday at Grace. Congratulations to Seth & Holly!

Circle 3 will be having their annual eating out meeting on Tuesday, September 16. If you would like to car pool, please meet at the church parking lot at 5:30 pm.

Buckets for Disaster Relief. The Lay/Witness Committee will again put buckets out on September 28th 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 12th. Many Thanks! Please place in the south vestibule.

We Need Volunteers, LifeWise Academy is a bible-based character education program that exists to reach public school children with the gospel during school hours. LifeWise Jackson Center is seeking volunteers to assist children in their LifeWise classes beginning this fall. Volunteer job responsibilities: Model positive behavior through Godly character and example, Actively listen during the Bible lessons, Participate and assist in classroom activities and games, Get to know the students through conversation, Learn the students' names, Escort students back and forth from the school to the classroom, Assist with lunches and cleanup, Help with classroom management as needed. If you LOVE Jesus, and you LOVE children, you will LOVE LifeWise. Go to lifewise.org/jacksoncenteroh and click "Join the team"

Adult Bible Study Sunday mornings at 9:15 – 10:15 am Psalms

Photo albums are fun to look at. The photos give a snapshot ... of an event, loved ones, celebrations, significant times in our lives. Photo albums tell stories of our human life. Photos remind us of who we are and perhaps who we long to be. In much the same way, the book of Psalms provides a window to the human soul. The book of Psalms served as a hymnbook to the ancient Israelites. But this book tells the story of every human. Across 150 different psalms, it hits on topics that still resonate with people today. It provides an honest look at what leads to our celebrations and our frustrations. Each Psalm paints a picture of who we were, who we are, and who we would like to be. The Psalms address almost every human need and emotion imaginable. Which includes our need to be in a relationship with God.

Make a commitment to study Psalms this Fall. On Sunday mornings 9:15-10:15 am in the sanctuary. No prior Bible study experience is necessary.

Cost per book is \$5.49 and payable to Grace Lutheran Church. Thank you!

Mission Trip 2026 Want to take a trip that makes a difference not only for those you visit and serve, but for your own spiritual growth? This type of trip is impactful, fulfilling, full of fellowship and fun with other believers, and making meaningful memories. The next Tanzania Trip will be held July 9-21, 2026. For those interested in going, we will be starting some fundraising by supplying the fellowship breakfast after the early service and before Sunday School. We will be supplying the breakfast every 3rd Sunday of the month starting in September. Your participation does not mean you are locked into going. Please text or call Julie Klopfenstein at 937-726-6402 if you would like to be included or if you have any questions.