

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church:

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*Is not my
word like fire?*

Jeremiah 23:29



*Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Jackson Center, Ohio
August 17, 2025
10:30 am*

Welcome to
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 17, 2025 ~ 10:30 A.M.

Welcome to Our Guests

"Great are the works of the Lord!" Long summer days, meteor showers, lakes and forests, time for vacation and rest. Let us worship our generous God. 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.

Focus for Today

The "storm of the Lord" is his wrath. It has already gone forth and is coming upon those who pay his word no heed. Yet in his word is promise and surety, the hope of salvation. His promises both demand & create faith, even the faith of Abraham, who believed the impossible was possible with God. It calls forth the faith of Moses who longed for the coming of Christ. It requires a faith that would still hope in God's promise even when facing the world's storms. Such faith unites and reconciles people to God but divides and upsets families. This too is the "storm of the Lord," his judgment between faith and unbelief.

As We Gather

** Indicates times during which the congregation stands.*

The Prelude

"Who You Say I Am"

Praise Band

Lighting of the Candles

Welcome and Prayer

Gathering

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

*Gathering Song

"Ten Thousand Reasons"

*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.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray,

All: Almighty, eternal God, increase in us your gifts of faith, hope and love; and in order that love may abide in us, help us to celebrate what your love has done for us. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, 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: Jeremiah 23:16-29

ESV pg. 651

Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119:81-88 (read responsively)

⁸¹ My soul longs for your salvation; I hope in your word.

⁸² **My eyes long for your promise; I ask, "When will you comfort me?"**

⁸³ For I have become like a wineskin in the smoke, yet I have not forgotten your statutes.

⁸⁴ **How long must your servant endure? When will you judge those who persecute me?**

⁸⁵ The insolent have dug pitfalls for me; they do not live according to your law.

⁸⁶ **All your commandments are sure; they persecute me with falsehood; help me!**

⁸⁷ They have almost made an end of me on earth, but I have not forsaken your precepts.

⁸⁸ **In your steadfast love give me life, that I may keep the testimonies of your mouth.**

Praise the LORD!

Second Lesson: Hebrews 11:17-31;12:1-3

ESV pg. 1008

Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

*Holy Gospel: Luke 12:49-53

ESV pg. 872

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 (stand)

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

*Closing Songs

"You are my All in All"

"Sing, Sing, Sing"

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.

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.

WOC August Collections School Kits for NALC Disaster Response Needs.

One cloth bag which will be in South vestibule to pick up! 4- note books- no loose leaf papers, One blunt scissors, One ruler, Two pens, Four new pencils, One pencil sharpener, One eraser, 4- pocket folders, ONE box of 16-24 crayons. Put all items in the bag and place in vestibule baskets at church. Any questions please contact Nancy McName.

The congregation is **invited to participate in our youth-led outdoor worship** on Sunday, August 24th at one worship service at 10:30 am. Sunday school for all ages will be at 9:15 am as we kick-off the Sunday school year with Rally Day. After worship you are invited to enjoy a lunch provided by the Education Committee and home-made ice cream. Then stick around for games for all ages, and fun music.

What you need to bring: yourself for FUN and your own chair.

New Church Boiler System Update. ATR has been working to install the boiler system at Grace and the current status is as follows:

The old system from 1995 has been removed and new equipment located. Plumbing has been progressing nicely and the week of August 10 is planned for completion of plumbing, with electrical connections planned for August 14/15. Targeted completion is the week of August 25th. In regards to funding, it is progressing nicely. We've raised \$73,674, which is 76% of the total project cost of \$95,825. We'll be paying the final bill for this project in mid to late September, so please keep those contributions coming. The CAC will be meeting on Monday September 8th to discuss the completion of the project and how much (if any) money we'll need to borrow. Thanks, CAC

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"

Thank you for all of the concerns from everyone. It really means a lot when you can do nothing, to read words of encouragement and to know there are those praying for you. A special thank you to Pastors Bert & Shelly and Circle 1. Dave & Carolyn Jensvold

We wanted to **thank all** of you for your visits, prayers, cards, texts and phone calls during Ronnies illness and at the time of his passing. Also thank you to Pastor Bert for his time to visit and commune with Ronnie during his last days. We are fortunate and blessed to have Grace as our family in the body of Christ. Kent and Toni Leininger family

St. Mark Lutheran Church **Ice Cream Social** will be held Sunday, August 24th from 4:30 -6:30 pm. They will be offering homemade ice cream, pies, desserts, & sandwiches. Freewill donation all proceeds to benefit Jerry Shipp.

Backpack packing will be Tuesday, August 26th at JC Methodist Church 6:00 pm. All are welcome to attend.

Seeing Jesus' Parables in Luke Through Ancient Middle Eastern Eyes

The Parables of Jesus – August Sundays

Jesus' parables are timeless, powerful, and profound. Yet there is a dimension to them that can best be appreciated fully when seen through ancient Middle Eastern eyes. Drawing on remarkable cultural and historical insights from renowned New Testament and Middle East scholar Dr. Kenneth Bailey, this study explores how Jesus' audience would have understood eleven of Jesus' parables as recorded in Luke. See these remarkable stories come to life for you. Join us for Adult Sunday morning Sunday School at 9:15 am each week.

Upcoming Parables of Jesus: The Unjust Manager, The Judge and the Widow, and The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Catechism Connection Catechism orientation for parents and 7th-8th grade youth is Wednesday, August 20 at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Friends are always welcome to join us for Wednesday evenings 6:15-7:45 pm lesson, game, snack, and prayer time. Catechism youth continue throughout the summer with Sunday morning studies at 9:15 am.