

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church:

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*Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Jackson Center, Ohio
July 7, 2024
10:30 am*

Welcome to
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 7, 2024 ~ 10:30 A.M.

Welcome to Our Guests

“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning”. Let us praise God for his never-ending mercies. 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

God speaks to us through his Word. When we look to God for mercy, the assurance comes through his Word and is received through faith. If his mercy were to be received through feelings, even feeling better or relieved, those feelings would come and go. But God’s grace is sufficient for us—not matter how we feel. God may use those feelings, so that the Word might have its way with a troubled or guilty heart. This is why we know that our proclamation of the Word may be effective: though some will take offense at Jesus, his Spirit is at work in others to receive the Word implanted that is able to save their souls ([James 1:21](#)).

As We Gather

** Indicates times during which the congregation stands.*

The Prelude

“In Christ Alone”

Praise Band

Lighting of the Candles

Welcome and Prayer

Gathering

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

*Gathering Song

“Grace Like Rain”

*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.

P: As we remember the birth of our nation, and the gifts of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, let us offer our thanks to God, the giver of all good gifts. For the women and men who braved the long journey by sea to come to this new world,

C: We thank you Lord.

For the tribes and nations who inhabited this land for generation upon generation,

We thank you Lord.

For patriots who dreamed of, and fought for, a free nation,

We thank you Lord.

For the men and women who laid the foundation of our democracy, and who pledged liberty and justice for all,

We thank you Lord.

For those who built this country brick by brick, road by road, and town by town,

We thank you Lord.

For the brave soldiers who have fought for our country, for all who paid for our freedom by their service, and those who paid by their sacrifice,

We thank you Lord.

For the innovators and artists, poets and teachers, farmers and factory workers; for all who labor and provide for the common good,

We thank you Lord.

For this land, with its peaks and valleys, coasts and deserts, fields and meadows,

We thank you Lord.

For our own community, for those who came before us in this place, and for our neighbors near and far,

We thank you Lord.

Lord, we pray for the United States, that we might always be a nation which defends and promotes liberty and freedom, truth and justice.

We pray to you Lord.

That we might always be a nation where all are free to worship and pray,

We pray to you Lord.

That we might be a beacon of freedom to all those who live under the shadow of terror and hopelessness,

We pray to you Lord.

That those who are elected to govern and lead, would be guided by your Divine mercy, and be ever aware of the trust that has been given them,

We pray to you Lord.

That we would be a people who repent from our sins, and who always return to you and to your grace,

We pray to you Lord.

P: Gracious God, Father of all nations, bless and defend us and our land; prosper the work of our hands, and increase in us your grace and compassion, and our offerings of thanks to you, our rock and our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray,

All: Almighty God, you have given us this good land as our heritage. Make us always remember your generosity and constantly do your will. Bless our land with honest industry, truthful education, and an honorable way of life. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil course of action. Make us

who came from many nations with many different languages a united people. Defend our liberties and give those whom we have entrusted with the authority of government the spirit of wisdom, that there might be justice and peace in our land. When times are prosperous, let our hearts be thankful; and, in troubled times, do not let our trust in you fail. We ask all this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Word

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

First Lesson: Ezekiel 2:1-5

ESV pg. 693

Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 123 (read responsively)

123 To you I lift up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens!

2 Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maidservant to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the LORD our God, till he has mercy upon us.

3 Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt.

4 Our soul has had more than enough of the scorn of those who are at ease, of the contempt of the proud.

Praise the LORD!

Second Lesson: 2 Corinthians 12:1-10

ESV pg. 970

Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

*Holy Gospel: Mark 6:1-13

ESV pg. 841

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

Time for Young Disciples

Pastor Shelly

Sermon

“Some Follow, Some Do Not”

Pastor Shelly

*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 **“Jesus Messiah”**
 “Light the Fire”

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

There is a **box for offering** located on a table at the back of the church for you to drop off offerings. All offerings are greatly appreciated to help the church stay in good financial standings.

WOC July Collections School Supplies for Jackson Center Students.
2-pocket folders, 4 oz. white Elmer’s glue, Water-based markers, #2 pencils, Glue sticks, Ink pens, Pointed scissors, Ruler w/centimeters, Composition notebooks, Tissues, 3 Large pink erasers or pencil toppers, Wet wipes, Head phones for computer use (found at Dollar Store / Wal-Mart). _Any question please contact chairperson, Lori Wiswell.

Additional WOC needs for Collections are additions to the Kitchen kits: storage containers, measuring cups and measuring spoons.

Official Announcement the **Quarterly Congregational meeting** will be held Sunday, July 14th at 9:15 am.

Vacation Bible School is right around the corner. We are looking for volunteers to fulfill a variety of roles. VBS is taking place July 8-12 from 6:00 - 8:30. If you are able to volunteer please register at the link below or contact Erin Stinebaugh at 614-738-0784.

There are also **volunteer opportunities** for anyone not able to be there during VBS. We are looking for bakers to make cookies for after the VBS program that will take place Friday, July 12. We are also looking for volunteers that are interested in helping to prepare quick grab and go meals throughout the week for those volunteers that are coming straight from practice and work.

<https://gracelutheranchurchvbs2023.myanswers.com/jungle-journey>

Desperate NEED for VBS Crafts clear plastic jars with lids, (peanut butter, mayo, jelly jars, etc.) also needing 16 oz clear plastic bottles with flat bottoms, (ice tea, tonic water, vitamin water, Gatorade 12 oz). Please clean and drop off in the designated tote in the south vestibule. Thank you!