

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

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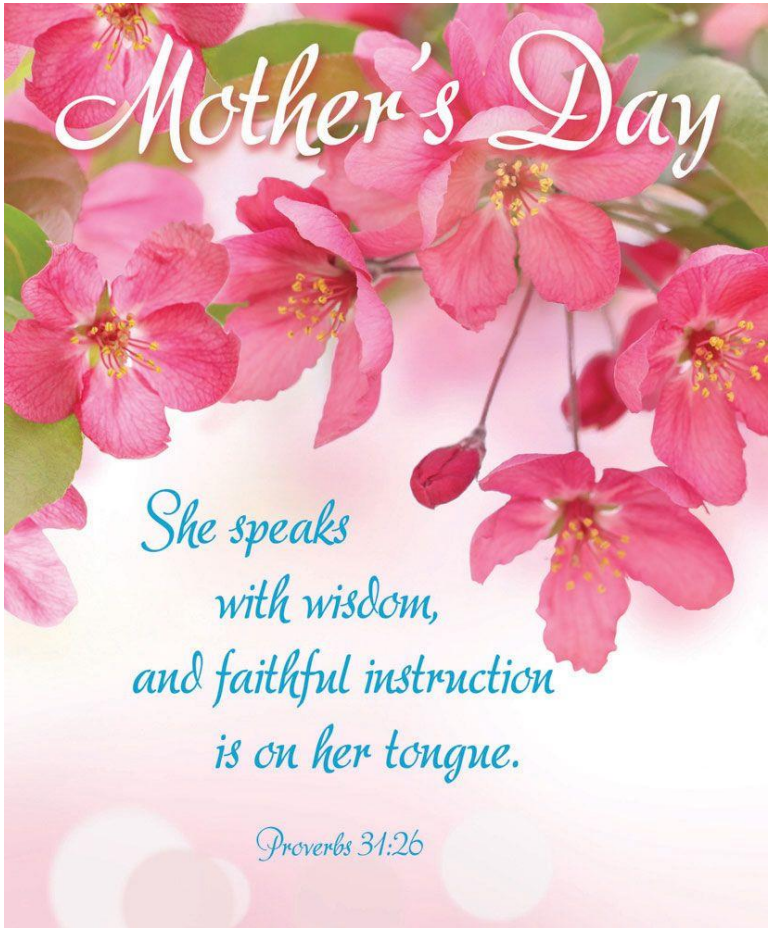
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John Pence, Church President; Nikki Tontrup, Secretary; Rhonda Burch, Janitor:



*Ascension of Our Lord
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Jackson Center, Ohio
May 12, 2024
Traditional Service
8:00 am*

Welcome to
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Ascension of Our Lord
May 12, 2024 ~ 8:00 A.M.

Welcome to Our Guests

Welcome to worship, and a special greeting to those who follow in God's footsteps by mothering and comforting others. Happy Mother's Day! 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.

As We Gather

Judas was dead, so a new apostle had to be chosen. This choosing was done through absolute faith in God—in God's decision about who the new apostle would be. Though we are not certain how casting lots worked, we can see that the matter was put into God's hands. After all, it is the Lord who knows people's hearts, who "knows the way of the righteous": those people who put their faith in God. And so, we may have great confidence that God will answer our prayers to give us what we need—beginning with eternal life in his Son. He will be faithful to keep those of faith in his Name, and sanctify them in the truth.

Gathering

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

** Indicates times during which the congregation stands.*

The Prelude

Lighting of the Candles and Christ Candle

Welcome

*Opening Hymn: **"A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!"**

LBW # 157
(verses 1-4)

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. (1 John 1:8-9)

Silent time for reflection and confession of sin

P: Most merciful Father,

C: Although in Christ our light has come, too much we prefer the darkness of sin. We do not let your holy light shine in our lives so others may see our good works and glorify you. We are deeply sorry and humbly repent. Forgive us and fill us with your Spirit. Give us once again the joy of your salvation; and send us out to proclaim your strong saving love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: Arise, shine, for your Light has come; and the glorious mercy of the Lord shines round about you. In the name of and by the authority of our Savior Jesus Christ, I announce the forgiveness of your sin. May the Holy Spirit strengthen your faith, heal your spirit, and equip you to proclaim the greatness of the Lord until he comes in glory. Amen.

Pastor: Let us pray,

All: God, our creator and redeemer, your Son Jesus prayed that his followers might be one. Make all Christians one with him as he is one with you, so that in peace and concord we may carry to the world the message of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Choir Anthem

“The Gospel Light”

Adult Choir

Word

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

First Lesson: Acts 1:12-26

ESV pg # 909

Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 1 (read responsively)

1 Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

2 but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

3 He is like a tree planted by streams of water

that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

4 The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

6 for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Praise the LORD!

Second Lesson: 1 John 5:9-15

ESV pg # 1023

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: John 17:11b-19

ESV pg # 903

Glory to you, O Lord (sung)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

Children's Message

Pastor Bert

Sermon

Pastor Bert

*Nicene Creed (stand)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

*The Prayers of the Church (stand)

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

Today following worship there will be a breakfast during fellowship time provided by the Mission Committee.

Jingle Offering – Today there will be a “special” offering for our area “We Care Fund”. Any loose change that you have, please place in the glass jar at the back of the church. Remember that this loose change offering will be used to continue to provide assistance for area families who are in need.

Congratulations to our graduating High School Seniors Maleah Kipker, Trever Huber, Macy Klopfenstein & Caitlyn Barhorst.

We are **collecting gift cards** for the **NALC disaster relief**. There is a marked container at the back of the church if you would like to donate. Gift cards that they are in need of are Lowe’s, Menards, Home Depot, & Walmart. Any gift cards that are collected will be given to Mary Bates with the NALC disaster relief.

Growing Community in Faith Christian Concert will be held May 29, 2024 starting at 5:30 pm under the Entertainment tent at the JC Community Days. Join us for a night of faith, fellowship, and worship. To provide this event for our community, we need your helping hands in sharing our story. We need to raise funds so we can make this a free event for anyone to attend. If you as an individual or organization would like to make a donation for this faith night please send it to Grace Lutheran and write checks to “Luther League”. We hope to have all the communities come together to support the youth and fill our tent with Spirit and love of God.

WOC May Collections are Bibles and New Testament & Any type of crosses to hold or hang on the wall - new and used for NALC Disaster Response Needs. They can be Children’s Bibles, Teen Bibles, Spanish Bibles, Large Print Bibles! Feel free to send underlined, and highlighted Bibles, **DON’T HESITATE TO WRITE A MESSAGE OF HOPE IN THE FRONT FOR THE RECIPIENTS!** Place in vestibule baskets! Any questions please contact Linda Jenkins, Chairperson

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES will be held **MEMORIAL DAY** Monday, May 27, 2024
Emmanuel Lutheran Church Cemetery 9:00 a.m.
Seventh Day Baptist Cemetery 9:30 a.m.
Memorial Park Jackson Center 10:00 a.m.

PLEASE TAKE TIME TO
REMEMBER AND GIVE THANKS TO THOSE WHO GAVE OF THEMSELVES.

Fritz Serr & our Choir will lead the **worship service** at this year’s **Buckeye Farm Antique Show** on Sunday, May 26th @ 9:00 am in the beige building at the Shelby County Fair grounds. All are welcome to attend.