**Members and WOC** for our Sept 7 General meeting we will be packing "kitchen kits" for the WNALC Disaster Response. For the last 2 years we were able to pack 30 full kits. PLEASE PUT IN VESTIBULE BASKET BY SEPT 4th.

#### Items we still need are:

Large serving spoons, Spatulas (turners), bowl scrapers, sets of measuring cups, Sets of measuring spoons, hand can openers, potato peelers, mini cutting boards and tongs.

Thanks to all of you so much for all your generosity, all of our quilts, school kits, kitchen and health kits along with our flood buckets will be taken to Caldwell warehouse in Oct. **Flood buckets** will be available on Sept. 28, 2025! The Women of the Church

# Grace Church:

Office: 937-596-6516 ~ Fax: 937-596-0516 Office hours: 8 am to 1 pm. E-mail: graceelc@embargmail.com ~ WEB Address: www.jcgracelutheran.org

Pastor Bert Schultz ~ Cell phone: 715-418-1037 Pastor Shelly Schultz ~ Cell phone: 715-418-1761

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Matt Kohler, Church President Nikki Tontrup, Secretary

Rhonda Burch, Janitor

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Rally Day Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church Jackson Center, Ohio August 24, 2025 10:30 AM

# Welcome to **Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church**

Rally Day August 24, 2025 ~ 10:30 A.M.



# Holy Communion Beliefs and Customs

# **Holy Communion**

We come to the table this morning at the invitation of the Lord, receiving the body and blood of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of our sins. Baptized Christians who share this faith and wish to join us at the table are welcome.

For Holy Communion distribution, communicants, please come to the Communion table to pick up the wrapped elements (host & grape juice) for your family. Gluten free and almond free elements are in separate baskets. A deacon will assist you. You may then return to your seat until the time of consecration when we will take the Lord's Supper together as one communion.

## Welcome to All

#### Welcome to our Visitors!

The people of Grace welcome you as you join us in worship this morning. If you have questions or are interested in growing deeper in knowing Jesus Christ, please see the pastor or contact the Church Office. If you desire to be baptized in Jesus, please speak with the Pastor.

# As We Gather

Instrumental Music "Here I Am to Worship" (please stand when indicated by \*)
Welcome and Announcements

Tristan Woolley

# Gathering

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

\*Opening Songs

"I Love to Tell the Story"
"God So Loved"

Insert Insert

Invocation & Opening Prayer

Brooke Ann Byrd & Kendall Hilbun

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

L: God of all creation, you reach out to call people of all nations to your kingdom. As you gather disciples from near and far, count us also among those who boldly confess your Son Jesus Christ as Lord. Amen.

<sup>\*</sup> Indicates times during which the congregation stands.

\*Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness

Audrey Byrd

L: If we say we have fellowship with God while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not live according to the truth; but if we walk in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin.

(1 John 1:6-7)

(Silence for self-reflection and confession of sin before God)

- L: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love.
- C: According to your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us. Cast us not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and uphold us with a willing spirit. Amen. (from Psalm 51)
- L: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake, God forgives you all your sins. For thus says the Lord: I will sprinkle clean water upon you and you shall be made clean. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and will give you a heart of flesh. You shall be my people, and I will be your God. (from Ezekiel 36:25-28)

C: Amen.

Presentation of Bibles to the Youth

Pastor Shelly

#### Word

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

First Lesson: Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Archer Copeland

Word of God, for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121 (read responsively)

Julia Burch

121 I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?

- 2 My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
- 5 The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand.
- 6 The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.
- 7 The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.
- 8 The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

Praise the Lord!

Second Lesson: Colossians 3:12-17

lan Stengel

Word of God, for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

\*Holy Gospel: John 10:1-18

Brendan Serr

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** 

Sermon

Preston Serr & Aiden Stinebaugh

Song of the Day: "Goodness of God"

Insert

\* Apostles Creed

Drew Stinebaugh

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.

Installation of Sunday School Teachers

Pastor Shelly

\*The Prayers of the Church (respond: "hear our prayer") Carter Klopfenstein

Giving of Our Offering

Offering Prayer

L: Merciful Father,

Kyle Burch

C: 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.

Distribution of Communion

# Meal

We receive Jesus' body and blood, given and shed for our sins.

\*Great Thanksgiving

Pastor Shelly

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

\* Words of Institution

Pastor Shelly

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. (*Take and eat the body of Christ broken for you*).

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me. (*Take and drink the blood of Christ shed for you for the forgiveness of sin*).

\* The Lord's Prayer

(congregation)

C: 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.

# Sending

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

Table Blessing

Pastor Shelly

\*Benediction & Dismissal

Zac Wiswell

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

#### Amen

# Sending

L: We are the body of Christ. We are sent.

C: We are Christ's hands and feet and heart in the world.

L: We are sent out to feed the hungry and offer water to the thirsty.

C: We are sent out to welcome the stranger and to clothe the naked.

L: We are sent out to care for the sick and visit the imprisoned.

C: We are sent out to visit the lonely and comfort the grieving.

L: We are sent out to speak with the doubting and offer hope to the seeker.

C: We are sent out to love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

L: We are the body of Christ. Let us go in peace, to serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Instrumental Music

# 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.

**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 first practice of our Grace adult choir is scheduled for Wednesday, September 10th. We are always looking for new members to help us "sing His praises". We usually sing the second and fourth Sundays from September through May as well as several special occasions. The fellowship of being a member of the choir is very special indeed. Please consider joining Grace adult choir this year. Choir schedules are available in the church office or by contacting Rick Russell, director.

# 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.

# Boiler Fundraiser hosted by Luther League

The Luther League will host the fellowship breakfast after the early service on Sunday, September 7th. All donations will be going towards the new boiler system. Please consider attending to support our teens and our church.

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.

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

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"

**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.

**Backpack packing** will be Tuesday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at JC Methodist Church 6:00 pm. All are welcome to attend and help pack.

From the Back Pack Program Thank you to the members of Grace & the VBS program this year for supporting the backpack program needs. Your support helps us make the weekend needs for 45 students each week. God bless you as he the Lord continues to nudge you to participate in this ministry.





# God So Loved

#### Verse 1

Come all you weary, Come all you thirsty; Come to the well that never runs dry. Drink of the water, Come and thirst no more

#### Verse 2

Come all you sinners. Come find His mercy. Come to the table He will satisfy. Taste of His goodness; find what you're looking for

#### Chorus 1

For God so loved the world that He gave us; His one and only Son to save us. Whoever believes in Him will live forever

#### Verse 3

Bring all your failures. Bring your addictions. Come lay them down at the foot of the cross. Jesus is waiting there; with open arms

#### Chorus 2

For God so loved the world that He gave us, His one and only Son to save us. Whoever believes in Him will live forever. The power of hell forever defeated. Now it is well I'm walking in freedom. For God so loved - God so loved the world

# **Bridge**

Praise God, praise God. From whom all blessings flow. Praise Him praise Him for the wonders of His love

# **REPEAT**

# Chorus 3

For God so loved the world that He gave us, His one and only Son to save us - For God so loved the world that He gave us His one and only Son to save us, whoever believes in Him will live forever. The power of hell forever defeated. Now it is well I'm walking in freedom. For God so loved - God so loved the world

### Verse 4

Bring all your failures; Bring your addictions. Come lay them down at the foot of the cross; Jesus is waiting. God so loved the world

# **Goodness Of God**

#### Verse 1

I love You Lord; Oh Your mercy never fails me. All my days, I've been held in Your hands. From the moment that I wake up; Until I lay my head I will sing of the goodness of God

#### Chorus

All my life You have been faithful. All my life You have been so, so good With every breath that I am able. I will sing of the goodness of God

#### Verse 2

I love Your voice; You have led me through the fire. In darkest night You are close like no other. I've known You as a father. I've known You as a friend. I have lived in the goodness of God

#### Chorus

All my life You have been faithful. All my life You have been so, so good With every breath that I am able. I will sing of the goodness of God

# **Bridge**

Your goodness is running after; It's running after me. Your goodness is running after; It's running after me. With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now; I give You everything. Your goodness is running after; It's running after me.

## REPEAT BRIDGE

#### Chorus

All my life You have been faithful. All my life You have been so, so good With every breath that I am able. I will sing of the goodness of God.

#### Chorus

All my life You have been faithful. All my life You have been so, so good With every breath that I am able. I will sing of the goodness of God. I will sing of the goodness of God.