



Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2026

*Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
500 South Wayne Avenue, Waynesboro, VA 22980*

*A community of servants sharing in the
word and work of Jesus.*

Service of the Word and Holy Communion

(Based on Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting One)

Congregational responses are in bold print

We welcome all our visitors, members, friends and family to this morning's celebration of the Word and Sacrament. We gather each week to worship, study and share fellowship so we can joyfully serve others. We especially welcome those new to our worship. If you are looking for a church home, we would love to tell you more about Grace! Please fill in a visitor card and place it in the offering plate.

We ask that all who commune fill in a communion card.

We have Gluten Free Communion Wafers available on the plate beside the grape juice.

Restrooms: Located to your left as you face the rear of the church.

During worship, you'll notice parts of the service in regular type, which are spoken/prayed by various worship leaders. Then there are the parts you and the rest of the congregation respond and/or pray in bold type. All of us are participants as we worship God! When asked to stand, please do so as you are able.

Gathering



Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

Temple Talk

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb!

Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:

morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us (*local waters may be named*).

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness

who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,

and for making us a new creation.

We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,

now and forever.

Amen.



Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.
And also with you.



Musical score for the hymn "God is Here!" in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The score consists of ten staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.

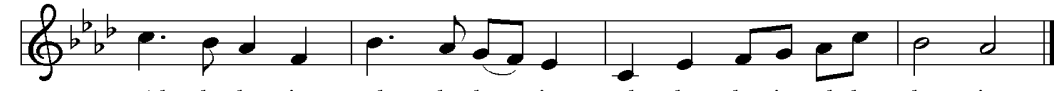
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.
A - men, a - men.

Hymn of Praise

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



Refrain
hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



Refrain
gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

We sit.

Word

First Reading: Acts 1:6-14

A reading from Acts:

⁶ When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Psalm: Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

¹ Let God rise up; let his enemies be scattered; let those who hate him flee before him.

² **As smoke is driven away, so drive them away; as wax melts before the fire,
let the wicked perish before God.**

³ But let the righteous be joyful; let them exult before God;
let them be jubilant with joy.

⁴ **Sing to God; sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides upon the clouds—
his name is the LORD—be exultant before him.**

⁵ Father of orphans and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation.

⁶ **God gives the desolate a home to live in; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity,
but the rebellious live in a parched land.**

⁷ O God, when you went out before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness,

⁸ **the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

⁹ Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad;
you restored your heritage when it languished;

¹⁰ **your flock found a dwelling in it; in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.**

³² **Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord,**

³³ O rider in the heavens, the ancient heavens;
listen, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.

³⁴ **Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel and whose power is in the skies.**

³⁵ Awesome is God in his sanctuary, the God of Israel;
he gives power and strength to his people.

Blessed be God! his steadfast love from me.



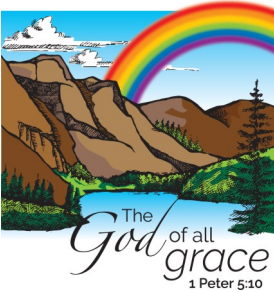
Second Reading: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

A reading from 1 Peter:

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6} Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



Gospel Acclamation

We stand.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Gospel: John 17:1-11

The Holy Gospel according to St. John:

Glory to you O Lord.



¹ After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶ “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Message:

Rev. Joe Klotz

Sermon:

Rev. Joe Klotz

Hymn of the Day: “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

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Nicene Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.
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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.



Prayers of Intercession

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

Each portion of the prayers end with these or similar words.

God of Grace,
Hear our prayer.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
Amen.

Meal

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Please greet those around you and offering a sign of peace to one another.

We stand.

Offering

We offer our thanks to God for "ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of God's gracious love" by our offerings. The offering plates will be passed by the ushers from the center aisle. If you give electronically, you can use the QR Code below to make your gift on your cell phone through Tithely. (Please place visitor cards and communion cards in the offering plate.)



PEACE
BE WITH
you

We stand.

Offertory Response

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful
Offering Song

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in B-flat major (two flats). It consists of six lines of music. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final double bar line at the end of the sixth line.

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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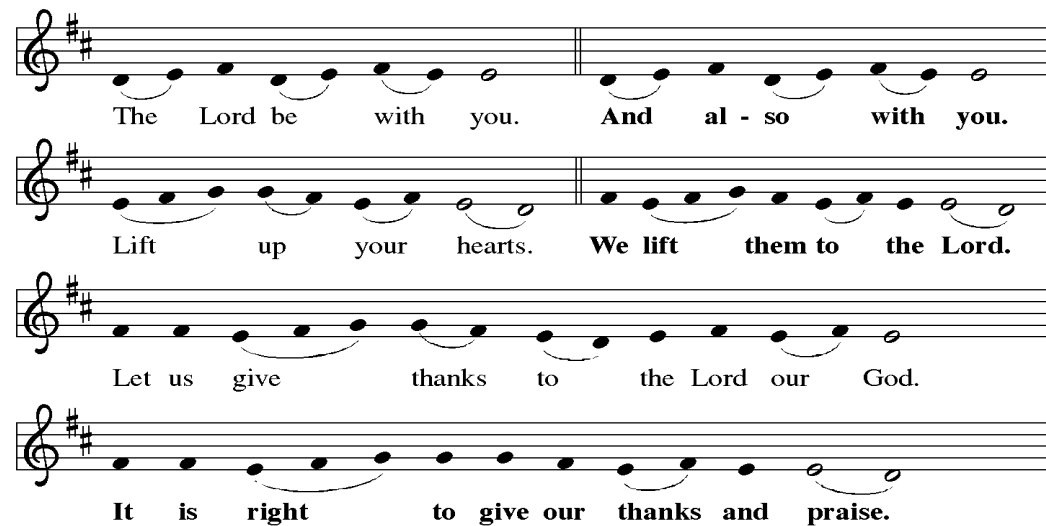
Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Merciful God,
accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.
You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day
when we will hunger and thirst no more.
Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,
that goodness and mercy may follow us
and bless the world you love.
In the name of Jesus,
Amen.



Great Thanksgiving



Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give
thanks and praise to you,
almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin,
who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought
us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the
witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels,
cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**“Holy,
holy, holy
is the Lord God
Almighty,
who was,
and is,
and is
to come.”**

Revelation 4:8

S108

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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 in remembrance of me.

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 in remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and ✠ Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.



Invitation to Communion

Come to the table of new life.
Receive the risen Lord.

Thanks be to God!

"Lamb of God" may be sung.



The Holy Communion

We sit.

OUR LORD BIDS YOU WELCOME TO THIS HOLY MEAL! At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. Here we receive Christ's body and blood and God's gifts of forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation to be received by faith for the strengthening of faith. In this sacrament the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. This real presence is a mystery. Admission to the Sacrament is by invitation of the Lord — regardless of Church denomination — to those who are baptized. (Taken from the ELCA statement on worship. The Use and Means of Grace ©1997)

Ushers will invite you to come down the center aisle. We commune at the railing, filling up the rail from the center out. Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available on the center table as you come forward, or you may receive the bread and wine from the Pastor and/or Communion Assistants. You may kneel or stand at the railing. The Pastor or assisting minister will announce "the body of Christ" as you receive/eat the bread/wafer, then the Communion Assistant will announce "the blood of Christ" as you receive/drink the wine/grape juice. Place your empty cup in the trays at the end of the railing, and return to your seat via the side aisle.

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

Communion Hymn: "Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether"

#470

We stand.

The Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you
and keep you in his grace.
Amen.



Holy Communion

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray.

Holy One,
**through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new.
Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your
healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,
Amen.**

Sending

Blessing

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
✝️ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Sending Hymn: *“Rise, O Sun of Righteousness”*

#657

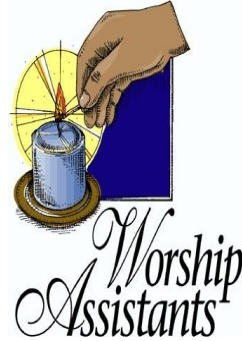
Dismissal

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!



Postlude

Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today



<i>Altar Flowers:</i>	<i>Chuck & Judi Goodrich</i>
<i>Altar Guild:</i>	<i>Cathy Firkin</i> <i>Jane Stein</i>
<i>Assisting Minister:</i>	<i>Tripp Franklin</i>
<i>Communion Assistant:</i>	<i>Andrew Sell</i> <i>Karen Walck</i>
<i>Council Person of Week:</i>	<i>Peggy Caister</i>
<i>Offering Stewards:</i>	<i>Pat Brady</i> <i>Robin Crowder</i>
<i>Ushers:</i>	<i>Gail Johnson</i> <i>Jean Morgan</i>



*The Chancel Flowers today are given
to the glory of God and in memory of parents,
Elsa Magdalene Maas Goodrich and
Charles Francis Goodrich*



"Receive the Holy Spirit."
John 20:22

Next Sunday's Schedule and Lessons
Day of Pentecost
Sunday, May 24, 2026

Service of Holy Communion
Rev. Robin Ferree
Presiding and Preaching

Acts 2:1-21
Psalms 104:24-34, 35b
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
John 20:19-23



Please print your new prayer concerns before worship on the sheet in the white notebook located in the back of our Worship area. Please ask ushers if you need assistance. **Names on the prayer list will remain on for four weeks**, in an effort to make the prayer list current to the life of Grace congregation and the community and world around us. If the need is longer term, please notify the church office, and the person in need will be transferred to the "Ongoing Need for Prayer" list.

Prayer Request for Members (Remain on List for four (4) weeks)

Emily Almarode
Cabell Caister

Ron Almarode
Bill Lucas

E. G. Rankin

Prayer Request for Relatives/Friends (Remain on List for four (4) weeks)

Susan Newsome, Charlie Wilson's Cousin

Joys and Celebrations (Remain on List for four (4) weeks)

Evelyn Roller Wilson, Charlie Wilson's mom, celebrated her 99th birthday on April 25.

Ongoing Need for Prayer for Members (Remain on List for three (3) months)

Berenice Archambeault
Phyllis Kite
Lee Lynch

Liz Ann Binns
Ron Knicely
Vivian Proctor

Ongoing Need for Prayer for Relatives/Friends (Remain on List for three (3) months)

Lisa Barmore, Friend of Grace
Taunya McDonald, Friend of Grace
Dr. Gary Murray, Friend of Gail Johnson
Carrie Peters, Niece of Schwiesows
Trina Shipley, Friend of Donna Gum

Niel Harris, Friend of the Trauschts
Carolyn Moser, Sister of David Schwiesow
Linda Newsome, Charlie Wilson's Cousin
Roy Reid, Father of Mary Huerth
Judy Timm, Friend of Donna Gum

Continued

Members/Friends Grieving (Remain on List for four (4) weeks*)

Family of Donald Jennings, Friends of the Nelsons
Family of Dana McDonald, Friends of the Finks
Family of Patricia Lee Mueller, Friends of the Meickes
Family of Joann Shirley, Friends of the Crowders and Lynches
Family of Harry See, Friends of the Nelsons
Family of Bob Shumate, Member of Grace

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Congregation Members Celebrating Birthdays

Brodie Franklin (5/23)

Chris Carper (5/23)

Prayers for the World

For world leaders to lead toward justice and mercy in all countries.

For those in danger from wars and violence, particularly in Gaza, Ukraine, Nigeria, Sudan, and here in the United States.

The people of Nicaragua as they continue to endure the hardships and challenges of living in their homeland, including our friends Hellen, her family, and the former employees of the CICRIN school.

Prayers for Our Community

For safety and well-being for those who are poor, incarcerated, unhoused, and for the foreigner among us.

For those who are suffering from severe weather across our nation.

Prayers for the Church

For the Christian church at large that it might lead the world toward peace and justice.

For Christians in this world who suffer for their faith.

For our Call Committee:

**Mike Trauscht, Chair
Libby Caister
Bethanie Glover
Jerry Kite
Jean Morgan
Andrew Sell
Kate Van Bremen**

For our congregation at Grace that we may be led to call a pastor who will preach, teach, and lead as led by the Holy Spirit and in faithfulness to the Gospel.

CALL COMMITTEE

Call Committee Update: *Exciting news: we have a primary candidate for pastor.* They will be here to preach, lead worship and meet the congregation on **Sunday, May 31**, with a "Meet and Greet" following the service. A **Congregational Meeting will be held immediately following** the Meet and Greet at approximately 12:00 p.m. to vote on issuing a Call and approve the compensation package.

Please pray: Lord of the Church, we give thanks for you, for your death and resurrection, and that you are the Good Shepherd. Hear our prayer of thanks for our call committee and its work of discernment, and your sending to us that rostered minister that will be a strong partner with us in the joy and service of your Gospel for those within our Church and those beyond our walls in this community. In Your Name we pray. Amen



Visiting Pastor

Rev. Joe Klotz, Jr. (retired United Methodist Elder) Joe is married to Ann (Milk) Klotz and their 50th Anniversary is 6/26/26! Joe and Ann have three sons - Steven, Nathan, and Carl. Joe received an Electrical Engineering degree from Virginia Tech 1971-75, served in the Army Corps of Engineers at Fort Riley, KS 1975-79, received a Masters of Divinity from Eastern Mennonite Seminary 1979-81, and served the Virginia United Methodist Church 1981-2017. Joe and Ann retired to Waynesboro in 2017 and attend Main Street United Methodist Church - participating in chancel choir & bell choir. He is treasurer and Board Member of Embrace Centers for Community, Inc. and has participated in the Kairos Prison Ministry. Joe enjoys needlepoint, piano, percussion, hiking, and Hallmark movies.



Congratulations to the 2026 Graduates:

Blake Arnold, son of Katie and Ryan Arnold, grandson of Jim and Gloria Nelson, is graduating summa cum laude from James Wood High School in Winchester on May 28. Blake intends to work a year for AmeriCorps before continuing his education at William and Mary University.

Hannah Pingel, daughter of Paul and Jill Pingel, is graduating magna cum laude from James Madison University with a degree in Architectural Design and a minor in Art History. She will be Project Engineer at E. E. Reed Construction in Herndon, Virginia.

Lindsey Skelton, daughter of Lee and Sharon Lynch, is graduating from Mary Baldwin College with a Masters in Autism. Lindsey will continue teaching locally.

Josh Traynor, grandson of David and Vivian Proctor, is graduating from Piedmont Virginia Community College and has been accepted to Virginia Commonwealth University for the fall.



Special thanks to Russell Blackburn who is serving Grace as Organist May 10th and 17th in Mike Myers' stead. Thank you for sharing your gifts and talents Russell!



The collection to make a bench for the River City Bread Basket Food Pantry out of plastic caps/lids will continue through the end of May.

So far, 100 pounds of caps/lids have been collected in our community. This is half of the amount needed. A complete list of items accepted is posted at the back of the nave next to the collection basket. Please make sure all caps are clean. Any hard plastic cap or plastic lid is accepted. You may contact Karen Walck at 765-480-9920 if you have any questions.



Grace Church has a reputation up and down the AT for being a welcoming and safe space, and that depends on Grace members and friends coming down to help out and getting to know the hikers who are attempting to hike the 2,000+ miles from Georgia to Maine each year. Our Hiker Ministry begins again this year on May 25, running through June 20. We depend on Grace members and community members to staff the hostel on weeknights and first thing in the mornings. You don't have to be a hiker to volunteer - or even like the outdoors! Just bring your welcoming selves to meet and help hikers get settled and find their ways around Waynesboro.

What we need:

- People - a calendar for sign-ups in the back of the nave and it includes the duties of each type of volunteer. There is a description of the volunteer duties alongside of the calendar. Most of these involve just a couple hours, but we also do need some overnight volunteer stays to help back up the community members who usually stay the night.
- Overnight volunteers.
- Check-in and check-out volunteers.
- Small groups of members to coordinate with our community dinner team to provide dinner on Wednesday evenings during the time we are open.

Donations: cereal, juices, bread, jam, peanut butter, and snacks, self-care items - shampoo, body wash, skin moisturizer, razors, ear plugs, Band-Aids, ibuprofen, etc. A bin for these is in the back of the church. Once the program begins, we will also need fresh fruit, baked goods, milk, juice, and ice cream.

For questions about the work, the experiences, or anything else about this ministry, please contact Jean Morgan (540) 649-4422 or Linda Meyer (540) 256-2277.



Waynesboro Community Read May-July 2026—The Waynesboro community is invited to slow down, reconnect, and rediscover the power of story through "Stories that Restore", a community read hosted by Waynesboro Public Library in partnership with Stone Soup Books. From May-July 2026, residents will explore the work of Robin Wall Kimmerer through her books *The Serviceberry*, *Braiding Sweetgrass* for Young Adults and the children's book "Bud Finds her Gift". Through discussions, nature-inspired programs, and family activities, the community will reflect on themes of reciprocity, gratitude, and our relationship with the natural world. Books will be available beginning May 4 at Waynesboro Public Library and Stone Soup. A brochure with all programs is available at the Library.



St. John's Episcopal Church Pig Roast to Benefit Haiti, Saturday, May 23rd, 5:00 p.m. until pork runs out. Held in Social Hall. Suggested fee will be donation of \$15/adult, \$10/child.



Food Pantry Collections: A huge thanks to everyone as you continue to bring food for the food bank box near the office. Your donations are much appreciated. To date, we have collected over **5,636** pounds of food (we have made **fifty-eight** deliveries, twenty-eight to Main Street United Methodist, and thirty to Calvary United Methodist, Stuarts Draft). There is a need for diapers, especially sizes 3-6. All diapers will be, and have been, delivered to Calvary United Methodist. 38 pounds of diapers were delivered to them on April 14. In addition, 20 pounds of condiments have been delivered to the Bread Basket.

Monday

Joshua 1:1-9
Ephesians 3:1-13
Matthew 8:5-17
Morning Psalm 145, Evening 47

Tuesday

1 Samuel 16:1-13a
Ephesians 3:14-21
Matthew 8:18-27
Morning Psalm 146, Evening 99

Wednesday

Isaiah 4:2-6
Ephesians 4:1-16
Matthew 8:28-34
Morning Psalm 147:1-12, Evening 91

Thursday

Zachariah 4:1-14
Ephesians 4:17-32
Matthew 9:1-8
Morning Psalm 147:13-21, Evening 116

Friday

Jermiah 31:27-34
Ephesians 5:1-32
Matthew 9:9-17
Morning Psalm 148, Evening 20

Saturday

Ezekiel 36:22-27
Ephesians 6:1-24
Matthew 9:18-26
Morning Psalm 149, Evening 63





Life of Grace Church
May 17-24, 2026

Day of the Week	Date	Time	Meeting, etc.
Sunday	05/17	10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 2:00—8:00 p.m.	Seventh Sunday of Easter Service of Holy Communion Rev. Joe Klotz, Presiding and Preaching Confirmation Class Sunday School VMA Recitals (Fellowship Hall)
Monday	05/18	7:00 p.m.	All God's Children (Conference Room)
Tuesday	05/19	9:30 a.m.	Quilting (Fellowship Hall)
Wednesday	05/20	10:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:15 p.m.	Prayer Group (Chapel) Encircle Manager's Meeting (Fellowship Hall) Grace's Women's Book Group (Stella, Bella & Lucy's) Yoga (Seminar Room) Community Meal Bell Choir Choir
Thursday	05/21	8:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Newcomers' Club (Fellowship Hall) Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall) CCE&J at Panera Bread
Friday	05/22		Church Office Closed
Saturday	05/23	11:00 a.m.	Yoga (Seminar Room)
Sunday	05/24	10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Day of Pentecost Service of Holy Communion Rev. Robin Ferree, Presiding and Preaching Confirmation Class Sunday School



Join us in celebrating the
40th Anniversary of
Power in the Spirit!

This year's gathering will take place on the campus of Roanoke College **July 16–18, 2026**. We are excited to have the Presiding Bishop of the ELCA Yeheil Curry attending and speaking at our event.

Our Theme

But you will receive power and ability when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you will be My witnesses [to tell people about Me] both in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and Samaria, and even to the ends of the earth."

Acts 1:8



Power in the Spirit is an inspirational event for people of all ages who wish to explore God's call to service through joyous worship, Bible studies, keynote addresses, workshops, and fellowship.

Our Speakers



**Presiding Bishop
Yeheil Curry**

Guest
Speaker



**Rev. Susan
Briehl**

Bible Study
Leader



**Rev. Drew
Tucker**

Keynote
Speaker



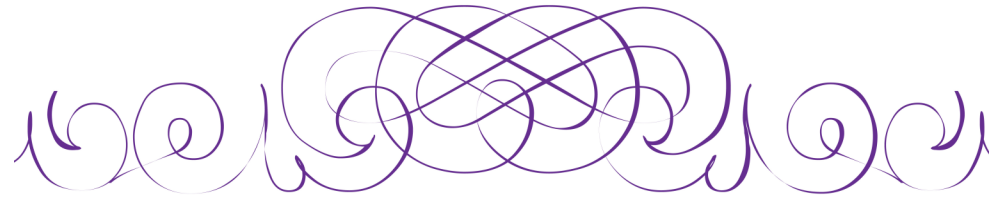
**Michael
Benshish**

Musician

Come join us and discover how Power in the Spirit will encourage, nurture, and challenge as we embrace the Spirit who empowers, equips, and enlightens!

vasynod.org/power-in-the-spirit





Grace Church Council

Allison Fink, President (540-448-0985)
Linda Meyer, Vice President (540-256-2277)
Peggy Caister (434-964-7461)
Jacob Dolan (720-883-1636)
Jack Eckstrom (240-344-3176)
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Karen Walck (765-480-9920)
Donna Yobs (650-248-4882)
Ron Almarode, Treasurer
Charles Goodrich, Financial Secretary

Grace Church Staff

Mike Myers, Organist, Director of Music
Email: mickhdking@aol.com
Nancy Dowdy, Administrative Secretary
Email: Grace.lc@comcast.net

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday
Closed 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday, Closed Friday

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