



*Eighth Sunday After Pentecost*

*July 19, 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

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 or you can use the QR Code below to complete a Visitor Card electronically. We ask that all who commune fill in a communion card. **(Please place visitor cards and communion cards in the offering plate.)***

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

*Restrooms are 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.*

***Name Tags will remain in the back of the sanctuary in alphabetical order. We hope you will use them and return them to racks when you leave. This will be a huge help to our new Pastor.***



Gathering

WELCOME TO church

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

Gathering



### Confession and Forgiveness

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
whose compassion endures forever.  
**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate God,  
**we confess to you all our sins.**  
**Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.**  
**In your mercy, call us back to you.**  
**Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.**  
**Restore us to dwell in your peace.**  
**In Christ's name we pray,**  
**Amen.**

Jesus says, "Come to me,  
all you who are weary  
and are carrying heavy burdens,  
and I will give you rest."  
In the name of God,  
Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
your sins are forgiven.  
Rest in God's love.  
**Amen.**

*freely  
forgiven*

Gathering Hymn: "Praise and Thanksgiving"

#689

## Greeting

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.**

## Hymn of Praise

### Let Us Go to the House of the Lord

*I Was Glad*

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of 18 measures. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 4/4. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The score is divided into two main sections by a double bar line after the third measure. The first section contains the first two lines of the hymn, and the second section contains the remaining lines. The lyrics are: 'I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." Called from ev - 'ry na - tion, here the poor are wel - comed, Words that must be spo - ken, called from ev - 'ry race, here the lost are claimed, grace that must be heard, gath - ered here for wor - ship in this ho - ly place; Bro - ken lives are mend - ed, deep - est fears are named; Mer - cy and for - give - ness from God's ho - ly Word, God is here a - mong us, lift your hearts and sing, Here the wise are child - ren and the weak are strong, Here, will be re - peat - ed; Peace! to all pro - claimed, make the walls and raf - ters ring. Here, in Christ, we all be - long. Shout - ed out in Je - sus' name.'

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us  
go to the house of the Lord." I was glad when they  
said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."  
Called from ev - 'ry na - tion, here the poor are wel - comed,  
Words that must be spo - ken, called from ev - 'ry race,  
here the lost are claimed, grace that must be heard,  
gath - ered here for wor - ship in this ho - ly place;  
Bro - ken lives are mend - ed, deep - est fears are named;  
Mer - cy and for - give - ness from God's ho - ly Word,  
God is here a - mong us, lift your hearts and sing,  
Here the wise are child - ren and the weak are strong,  
Here, will be re - peat - ed; Peace! to all pro - claimed,  
make the walls and raf - ters ring.  
Here, in Christ, we all be - long.  
Shout - ed out in Je - sus' name.

*Text and music written by Jay Beech. ©1997. Used by permission.*

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion.  
By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your  
Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*We sit.*

Word

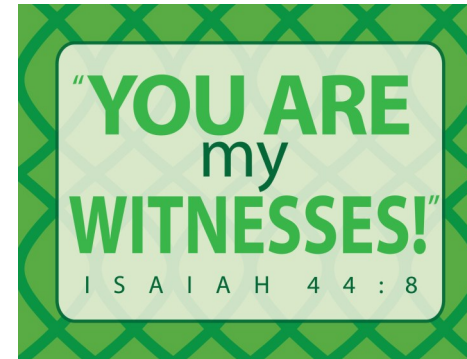
## **First Reading: Isaiah 44:6-8**

A reading from Isaiah:

<sup>6</sup> Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,  
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:  
I am the first, and I am the last;  
besides me there is no god.  
<sup>7</sup> Who is like me? Let them proclaim it;  
let them declare and set it forth before me.  
Who has announced from of old the things to come?  
Let them tell us what is yet to be.  
<sup>8</sup> Do not fear or be afraid;  
have I not told you from of old and declared it?  
You are my witnesses!  
Is there any god besides me?  
There is no other rock; I know not one.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



**Psalm: Psalm 86: 11-17**

<sup>11</sup> Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth;  
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

<sup>12</sup> **I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and glorify your name forevermore.**

<sup>13</sup> For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the pit of death.

<sup>14</sup> **The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people seeks my life;  
they have not set you before their eyes.**

<sup>15</sup> But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger,  
and full of kindness and truth.

<sup>16</sup> **Turn to me and have mercy on me; give your strength to your servant,  
and save the child of your handmaid.**

<sup>17</sup> Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame;  
because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

**Second Reading: Romans 8:12-25**

A reading from Romans:

<sup>12</sup> So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—  
<sup>13</sup> for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds  
of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup> For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup> For  
you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption.  
When we cry, “Abba! Father!” <sup>16</sup> it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are  
children of God, <sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact  
suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

<sup>18</sup> I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about  
to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup> For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children  
of God, <sup>20</sup> for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one  
who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay  
and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup> We know that the whole creation  
has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, <sup>23</sup> and not only the creation,  
but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption,  
the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup> For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope,  
for who hopes for what one already sees? <sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for  
it with patience.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

***We stand.***

## Gospel Acclamation

### Halle, Halle, Hallelujah



Music: Caribbean traditional

## Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30,36-43

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew:

### Glory to you O Lord.

<sup>24</sup> [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,<sup>25</sup> but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. <sup>26</sup> So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. <sup>27</sup> And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ <sup>28</sup> He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ <sup>29</sup> But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup> Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

*Continued*

<sup>36</sup> Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” <sup>37</sup> He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; <sup>38</sup> the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, <sup>39</sup> and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup> Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. <sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, <sup>42</sup> and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup> Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

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

*We sit.*

**Children’s Message**

**Pastor Alex Zuber**

**Sermon**

**Pastor Alex Zuber**

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

*We stand.*

**Hymn of the Day:** “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

**#693**

### **Apostle's Creed**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was  
buried; he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of  
the Father,  
and he will come 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 Intercession**

Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

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

Lord in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.  
**Amen.**

**Meal**

*Peace*

### **Peace**

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

*Please greet those around you, remaining distanced, and offering a sign of peace to one another.*

*We sit.*



### **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.)*

We stand.

Offertory Response

$\text{♩} = 144$

Voice

Oh give thanks! Oh\_\_\_ give thanks! God's love en-dures for ev - er

5

Oh give thanks! Oh - give thanks! God's love en - dures for ev - er!

9

1. With our dreams and our fears,\_\_\_ with our joys  
2. With our strength and our weak-ness with our gifts

14

and our pain we\_\_\_ come, we\_\_\_ come. Oh give thanks! Oh  
and our needs we\_\_\_ come, we\_\_\_ come.

20

\_\_\_ give thanks! God's love en - dures for ev - er! Oh give thanks! Oh

24

Fine

\_\_\_ give thanks! God's love en-dures for - ev - er

### Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Loving God,  
**we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.**  
**Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,**  
**so that all creation can taste your abundance.**  
**We ask this in the name of Jesus,**  
**through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.**  
**Amen.**

### Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

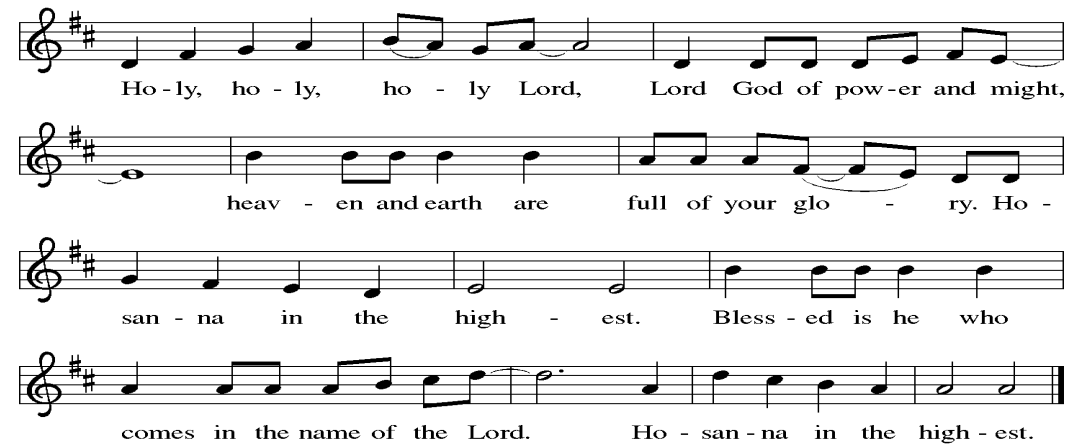
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**



### 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, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



### 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 for the 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 for the remembrance of me.

*Continued*

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

Heaven has come near.  
Come, share in the feast!

**Thanks be to God!**

## 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.**



Verses 1 & 2 are sung in preparation for Holy Communion

## For the Healing of the World

The musical score is written for a single voice part in treble clef, with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over a bracket) appearing in measures 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49, 51, 53, 55, 57, 59, 61, 63, 65, 67, 69, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, 83, 85, 87, 89, 91, 93, 95, 97, 99, 101, 103, 105, 107, 109, 111, 113, 115, 117, 119, 121, 123, 125, 127, 129, 131, 133, 135, 137, 139, 141, 143, 145, 147, 149, 151, 153, 155, 157, 159, 161, 163, 165, 167, 169, 171, 173, 175, 177, 179, 181, 183, 185, 187, 189, 191, 193, 195, 197, 199, 201, 203, 205, 207, 209, 211, 213, 215, 217, 219, 221, 223, 225, 227, 229, 231, 233, 235, 237, 239, 241, 243, 245, 247, 249, 251, 253, 255, 257, 259, 261, 263, 265, 267, 269, 271, 273, 275, 277, 279, 281, 283, 285, 287, 289, 291, 293, 295, 297, 299, 301, 303, 305, 307, 309, 311, 313, 315, 317, 319, 321, 323, 325, 327, 329, 331, 333, 335, 337, 339, 341, 343, 345, 347, 349, 351, 353, 355, 357, 359, 361, 363, 365, 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2467, 2469, 2471, 2473, 2475, 2477, 2479, 2481, 2483, 2485, 2487, 2489, 2491, 2493, 2495, 2497, 2499, 2501, 2503, 2505, 2507, 2509, 2511, 2513, 2515, 2517, 2519, 2521, 2523, 2525, 2527, 2529, 2531, 2533, 2535, 2537, 2539, 2541, 2543, 2545, 2547, 2549, 2551, 2553, 2555, 2557, 2559, 2561, 2563, 2565, 2567, 2569, 2571, 2573, 2575, 2577, 2579, 2581, 2583, 2585, 2587, 2589, 2591, 2593, 2595, 2597, 2599, 2601, 2603, 2605, 2607, 2609, 2611, 2613, 2615, 2617, 2619, 2621, 2623, 2625, 2627, 2629, 2631, 2633, 2635, 2637, 2639, 2641, 2643, 2645, 2647, 2649, 2651, 2653, 2655, 2657, 2659, 2661, 2663, 2665, 2667, 2669, 2671, 2673, 2675, 2677, 2679, 2681, 2683, 2685, 2687, 2689, 2691, 2693, 2695, 2697, 2699, 2701, 2703, 2705, 2707, 2709, 2711, 2713, 2715, 2717, 2719, 2721, 2723, 2725, 2727, 2729, 2731, 2733, 2735, 2737, 2739, 2741, 2743, 2745, 2747, 2749, 2751, 2753, 2755, 2757, 2759, 2761, 2763, 2765, 2767, 2769, 2771, 2773, 2775, 2777, 2779, 2781, 2783, 2785, 2787, 2789, 2791, 2793, 2795, 2797, 2799, 2801, 2803, 2805, 2807, 2809, 2811, 2813, 2815, 2817, 2819, 2821, 2823, 2825, 2827, 2829, 2831, 2833, 2835, 2837, 2839, 2841, 2843, 2845, 2847, 2849, 2851, 2853, 2855, 2857, 2859, 2861, 2863, 2865, 2867, 2869, 2871, 2873, 2875, 2877, 2879, 2881, 2883, 2885, 2887, 2889, 2891, 2893, 2895, 2897, 2899, 2901, 2903, 2905, 2907, 2909, 2911, 2913, 2915, 2917, 2919, 2921, 2923, 2925, 2927, 2929, 2931, 2933, 2935, 2937, 2939, 2941, 2943, 2945, 2947, 2949, 2951, 2953, 2955, 2957, 2959, 2961, 2963, 2965, 2967, 2969, 2971, 2973, 2975, 2977, 2979, 2981, 2983, 2985, 2987, 2989, 2991, 2993, 2995, 2997, 2999, 3001, 3003, 3005, 3007, 3009, 3011, 3013, 3015, 3017, 3019, 3021, 3023, 3025, 3027, 3029, 3031, 3033, 3035, 3037, 3039, 3041, 3043, 3045, 3047, 3049, 3051, 3053, 3055, 3057, 3059, 3061, 3063, 3065, 3067, 3069, 3071, 3073, 3075, 3077, 3079, 3081, 3083, 3085, 3087, 3089, 3091, 3093, 3095, 3097, 3099, 3101, 3103, 3105, 3107, 3109, 3111, 3113, 3115, 3117, 3119, 3121, 3123, 3125, 3127, 3129, 3131, 3133, 3135, 3137, 3139, 3141, 3143, 3145, 3147, 3149, 3151, 3153, 3155, 3157, 3159, 3161, 3163, 3165, 3167, 3169, 3171, 3173, 3175, 3177, 3179, 3181, 3183, 3185, 3187, 3189, 3191, 3193, 3195, 3197, 3199, 3201, 3203, 3205, 3207, 3209, 3211, 3213, 3215, 3217, 3219, 3221, 3223, 3225, 3227, 3229, 3231, 3233, 3235, 3237, 3239, 3241, 3243, 3245, 3247, 3249, 3251, 3253, 3255, 3257, 3259, 3261, 3263, 3265, 3267, 3269, 3271, 3273, 3275, 3277, 3279, 3281, 3283, 3285, 3287, 3289, 3291, 3293, 3295, 3297, 3299, 3301, 3303, 3305, 3307, 3309, 3311, 3313, 3315, 3317, 3319, 3321, 3323, 3325, 3327, 3329, 3331, 3333, 3335, 3337, 3339, 3341, 3343, 3345, 3347, 3349, 3351, 3353, 3355, 3357, 3359, 3361, 3363, 3365, 3367, 3369, 3371, 3373, 3375, 3377, 3379, 3381, 3383, 3385, 3387, 3389, 3391, 3393, 3395, 3397, 3399, 3401, 3403, 3405, 3407, 3409, 3411, 3413, 3415, 3417, 3419, 3421, 3423, 3425, 3427, 3429, 3431, 3433, 3435, 3437, 3439, 3441, 3443, 3445, 3447, 3449, 3451, 3453, 3455, 3457, 3459, 3461, 3463, 3465, 3467, 3469, 3471, 3473, 3475, 3477, 3479, 3481, 3483, 3485, 3487, 3489, 3491, 3493, 3495, 3497, 3499, 3501, 3503, 3505, 3507, 3509, 3511, 3513, 3515, 3517, 3519, 3521, 3523, 3525, 3527, 3529, 3531, 3533, 3535, 3537, 3539, 3541, 3543, 3545, 3547, 3549, 3551, 3553, 3555, 3557, 3559, 3561, 3563, 3565, 3567, 3569, 3571, 3573, 3575, 3577, 3579, 3581, 3583, 3585, 3587, 3589, 3591, 3593, 3595, 3597, 3599, 3601, 3603, 3605, 3607, 3609, 3611, 3613, 3615, 3617, 3619, 3621, 3623, 3625, 3627, 3629, 3631, 3633, 3635, 3637, 3639, 3641, 3643, 3645, 3647, 3649, 3651, 3653, 3655, 3657, 3659, 3661, 3663, 3665, 3667, 3669, 3671, 3673, 3675, 3677, 3679, 3681, 3683, 3685, 3687, 3689, 3691, 3693, 3695, 3697, 3699, 3701, 3703, 3705, 3707, 3709, 3711, 3713, 3715, 3717, 3719, 3721, 3723, 3725, 3727, 3729, 3731, 3733, 3735, 3737, 3739, 3741, 3743, 3745, 3747, 3749, 3751, 3753, 3755, 3757, 3759, 3761, 3763, 3765, 3767, 3769, 3771, 3773, 3775, 3777, 3779, 3781, 3783, 3785, 3787, 3789, 3791, 3793, 3795, 3797, 3799, 3801, 3803, 3805, 3807, 3809, 3811, 3813, 3815, 3817, 3819, 3821, 3823, 3825, 3827, 3829, 3831, 3833, 3835, 3837, 3839, 3841, 3843, 3845, 3847, 3849, 3851, 3853, 3855, 3857, 3859, 3861, 3863, 3865, 3867, 3869, 3871, 3873, 3875, 3877, 3879, 3881, 3883, 3885, 3887, 3889, 3891, 3893, 3895, 3897, 3899, 3901, 3903, 3905, 3907, 3909, 3911, 3913, 3915, 3917, 3919, 3921, 3923, 3925, 3927, 3929, 3931, 3933, 3935, 3937, 3939, 3941, 3943, 3945, 3947, 3949, 3951, 3953, 3955, 3957, 3959, 3961, 3963, 3965, 3967, 3969, 3971, 3973, 3975, 3977, 3979, 3981, 3983, 3985, 3987, 3989, 3991, 3993, 3995, 3997, 3999, 4001, 4003, 4005, 4007, 4009, 4011, 4013, 4015, 4017, 4019, 4021, 4023, 4025, 4027, 4029, 4031, 4033, 4035, 4037, 4039, 4041, 4043, 4045, 4047, 4049, 4051, 4053, 4055, 4057, 4059, 4061, 4063, 4065, 4067, 4069, 4071, 4073, 4075, 4077, 4079, 4081, 4083, 4085, 4087, 4089, 4091, 4093, 4095, 4097, 4099, 4101, 4103, 4105, 4107, 4109, 4111, 4113, 4115, 4117, 4119, 4121, 4123, 4125, 4127, 4129, 4131, 4133, 4135, 4137, 4139, 4141, 4143, 4145, 4147, 4149, 4151, 4153, 4155, 4157, 4159, 4161, 4163, 4165, 4167, 4169, 4171, 4173, 4175, 4177, 4179, 4181, 4183, 4185, 4187, 4189, 4191, 4193, 4195, 4197, 4199, 4201, 4203, 4205, 4207, 4209, 4211, 4213, 4215, 4217, 4219, 4221, 4223, 4225, 4227, 4229, 4231, 4233, 4235, 4237, 4239, 4241, 4243, 42

For the heal - ing of the world, Je - sus came,

Je - sus lived; For the heal - ing of the world,

Je - sus died and rose a - gain. In his

sac - ri - fi - cial life God was mak - ing all things right,

Mer - cy flow - ing for the heal - ing of the world.

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### **Communion Hymn:** “For the Fruit of All Creation”

**#679**

***We stand.***

### **The Communion Blessing**

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

***Verse 3 is sung as the Post-Communion canticle.***

### **Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray.

Compassionate God,  
**through the gifts of bread and wine**  
**our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.**  
**Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,**  
**may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.**  
**We ask this in the name of Jesus,**  
**through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.**  
**Amen.**

**Sending**

### **Blessing**

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,  
✝ one God,  
bless, heal, and hold you  
today and always.  
**Amen.**



**Sending Song:** "Sing to the Lord of Harvest"

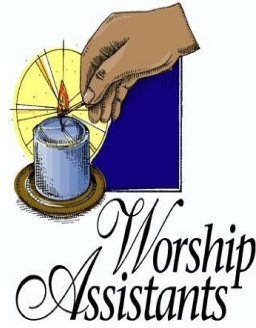
**#694**

### **Dismissal**

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **Postlude**

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*Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today*

*Altar Flowers:*

*Altar Guild:*

*Assisting Minister:*

*Communion Assistants:*

*Council Person of Week:*

*Offering Stewards:*

*Ushers:*

*Open*

*Jim & Gloria Nelson*

*Andrew Sell*

*Tripp Franklin*

*Karen Walck*

*Kate Van Bremen*

*Pat Brady*

*Vivian Proctor*

*Pat Brady*

*Gail Johnson*



*The Chancel Flowers today are given  
to the Glory of God.*

*Next Sunday's Schedule and Lessons*

*July 26 2026*

*Ninth Sunday After Pentecost*

*Worship Service*

*Pastor Alex Zuber, Preaching and Presiding*

*10:00 a.m.*

*1 Kings 3:5-12*

*Psalms 119:129-136*

*Romans 8:26-39*

*Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52*





**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)**

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

**Martha Carper**, Sister-in-Law of Wilsons  
**Terry Crow**, Sister of Cathy Crowder  
**Joyce Hull**, Friend of Gail and Sandy Johnson  
**Rick and Dustin Holtsclaw**, Friend of Eric Hilker  
**Jed Maddox**, Nephew of Linda Tomey  
**Barry Quickel**, Son of Quickels  
**Janie Robinson**, Friend of Eric Hilker  
**Valerie Stone**, Friend of Gail Johnson

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving- **Linda Newsome**, cousin of Charlie Wilson,  
is going home after being hospitalized since March 31. Thanks for everyone's prayers

Thanksgiving for the birth of **Cyrus Wayne Biggers**,  
Son of Micah and Sam Biggers, Grandson of Fred and Caroline!

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

**Berenice Archambeault**  
**Ron Knicely**

**Vivian Proctor**

**Liz Ann Binns**  
**Lee Lynch**

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

**Lisa Barmore**, Friend of Grace

**C. D. Brown**, CCE&J

**Beth Hall**, Friend of Gail Johnson

**Niel Harris**, Friend of the Trauschts

**Taunya McDonald**, Friend of Grace

**Carolyn Moser**, Sister of David Schwiesow

**Dr. Gary Murray**, Friend of Gail Johnson

**Carrie Peters**, Niece of Schwiesows

**Trina Shipley**, Friend of Donna Gum

**Judy Timm**, Friend of Donna Gum

**Bill Wevers**, Brother of Jane Stein

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

**Family of Gary Collins**, Friends of the Lynches

**Family of Mike Eckman**

**Family of Humes Franklin**, Father of Tripp Franklin and Former Grace Member

**Family of Joe Keesee**, Friends of the Wilsons

**Family of Joel McDonald**, Friends of Many at Grace

**Family of Emmy Walters**, Aunt of Pastor Alex

**Prayer of Thanksgiving for Congregation Members Celebrating Birthdays**

**Bill Lucas** (7/21)

**Kelly Rankin** (7/22)

**Bobby Hite** (7/23)

**Diane Lundstrom** (7/23)

**Cynthia Trauscht** (7/24)





### 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 Pastor Alex Zuber as he transitions from Muhlenberg to Grace and for the Congregations.**

For Lutheran Border Ministries, ELCA Advocacy Team and Lutheran World Relief

**For all of the Virginia Synod participants and leaders who attended Power in the Spirit at Roanoke College to have had a faithful and transformative experience of worship and learning.**



**Coffee Conversations:** Pastor Alex plans to start his Thursdays by working at Happ Coffee in Waynesboro from 9:00–11:00 a.m., and you're invited to join him! This is a bit like office hours, just not in the office! Feel free to stop by, say hi, and get to know our new pastor!

**HAPP**  
COFFEE

## *The Pastor Alex Beginner's Guide*

Friends, I give God thanks for our shared ministry and for the abundant spirit of joy and excitement that has welcomed me to Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church! I share your excitement, and I look forward to all that God is going to do through our shared ministry in this wonderful place. As I settle into the rhythm of life, worship, service, and community here at GELC, and find my own place among you, I wanted to share a “Beginner’s Guide” to ministry with me! You may find that I do things differently than my predecessors, and you may find that we do other things the same. Regardless, I think communicating well up front can help us all in the long run. So I wanted to share some tips and tricks for contacting me, and where you can expect to find me week to week!

### **Contacting Pastor Alex**

*Here are some “best practices” for contacting me that vary by context and circumstance*

**The Best Way to Reach Me Quickly is by Phone:** *Text me or call me at 540-309-2414; this is great for things that need a faster response, quick questions, or setting up a meeting. In the event of a pastoral emergency (hospitalization, death, crisis), please call me! No need to apologize for the hour. I want to be notified, but please reserve this for emergencies.*

**The Next Best Way is E-Mail or Calling the Office:** If your question or request is not as urgent, feel free to email me at [pastorzuber@gmail.com](mailto:pastorzuber@gmail.com) or call the church office to leave a message with Nancy that she can get to me. I’ll work hard to make sure you get a response within a business day or two.

**DON’T** send important messages through Facebook Messenger or Instagram Direct. I don’t check those messages frequently at all because they’re often just so inundated with junk messages. That being said, feel free to connect with me on Facebook or Instagram (@jmuzuber) as I’m happy to see what’s happening in your life, and you can get a glimpse of the human being behind the collar on my profile!

**Please reach out before a visit or meeting rather than dropping by unannounced**, so I can actually be present when we connect. I’m always happy to meet, and dropping by isn’t inherently a problem, but I want to be sure I give you the time and attention you deserve when you have a need. Checking in before dropping by ensures that I don’t have to short-change our conversation.

*Continued*

**Pastor Alex’s Schedule**

*Here is where you can find me, generally speaking. As I live into this schedule more, I will refine it and keep you updated!*

| Monday                                                             | Tuesday                                                                            | Weds.                                                                                                                                    | Thursday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Friday                                                                                                                                                                             | Saturday                                                                                                                                                                    | Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9:00 a.m.<br>to<br>5:00 p.m.<br><br><i>In Office,<br/>Meetings</i> | 9:00 a.m.<br>to<br>5:00 p.m.<br><br><i>In Office,<br/>Meetings,<br/>Visitation</i> | 12:00 p.m.<br>to<br>8:00 p.m.<br><br><i>In Office,<br/>Visitation,<br/>Shifting<br/>Schedule to<br/>attend<br/>Community<br/>Dinners</i> | 9:00 a.m.<br>to<br>11:00 a.m.<br><br><i>Coffee<br/>Chats<br/>(Public<br/>Office<br/>Hours at<br/>Happ<br/>Coffee,<br/>drop by<br/>and say<br/>hi!)</i><br><br>11:00 a.m.<br>to<br>Evening<br><i>In office,<br/>meetings,<br/>or<br/>visitation;<br/>varies by<br/>week with<br/>Council<br/>Meetings</i> | Sabbath<br>Day,<br>Office<br>Closed<br><br><i>Contact in<br/>the case of<br/>Pastoral<br/>Care<br/>Emergency,<br/>but I<br/>generally<br/>don't check<br/>email on<br/>Fridays</i> | Day Off /<br>Church<br>Events<br><br><i>I generally<br/>reserve<br/>Saturdays<br/>for family<br/>time, with<br/>the<br/>exception<br/>of special<br/>Church<br/>events.</i> | Worship,<br>Faith<br>Formation,<br>Fellowship,<br>and Other<br>Activities as<br>Scheduled<br><br><i>This is a day<br/>full of Grace,<br/>where we<br/>worship, learn,<br/>and serve<br/>together!</i> |

These dates and times aren't hard and fast, but they're a general sense of my workflow from week to week. I'm sure we'll continue to learn more about each other as time goes on, and I'm looking forward to building this relationship with you!



**SAVE THE DATE:** More details will be shared soon, but the Installation of Pastor Alex Zuber will be Sunday, September 20, in the late afternoon.



The Salvation Army of Waynesboro has put out its request for “**Homework Toolboxes**” to aid preschool and kindergarten students with supplies needed to complete homework assignments and schoolwork at home. We urge you to support this initiative again this year by buying supplies and returning them to the hallway outside the church office by Thursday, **July 30**, so they can be delivered to the Salvation Army in time for the opening of school August 14. Items needed are pencil boxes/pouches, colored pencils, scissors, glue sticks, erasers, individual pencil sharpeners, pencils, colored markers and crayons. In lieu of buying supplies, checks may be sent to the Salvation Army, P. O. Box 1065, Waynesboro, VA 22980.



The 2026 Crop Walk will take place Sunday, September 20 at 2:00 pm Starting at North Park. Our Grace fundraising page is now active at <http://events.crophungerwalk.org> and our team name is Grace Lutheran Waynesboro. You can also sign up to walk on our team page. The local Walk planning team would like to invite everyone this year, not just team captains, to the kickoff rally on Sunday, August 9 at 3:00 pm at St. John's Episcopal. We will have information on the three local hunger organizations that will receive some of the local donations, as well as a presentation by a staff member of Church World Service. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Walck at 765-480-9920.



**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 **5,681** pounds of food (we have made **fifty-nine** deliveries, twenty-nine to Main Street United Methodist, and thirty to Calvary United Methodist, Stuarts Draft). There is a need for diapers, especially sizes 3-6. 63 pounds of diapers have been delivered to Calvary United Methodist. In addition, 50 pounds of condiments have been delivered to the Bread Basket.



*Life of Grace Church*  
*July 19-26, 2026*

| Day of the Week | Date  | Time                                                                                  | Meeting, etc.                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-----------------|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday          | 07/19 | 10:00 a.m.                                                                            | Eighth Sunday After Pentecost<br>Service of the Word and Holy Communion<br>Pastor Alex Zuber, Presiding and Preaching                                                                       |
| Monday          | 07/20 | 9:00—5:00                                                                             | <i>Pastor Alex in Church Office</i>                                                                                                                                                         |
| Tuesday         | 07/21 | 9:00—5:00                                                                             | <i>Pastor Alex in Church Office</i>                                                                                                                                                         |
| Wednesday       | 07/22 | Noon—8:00 p.m.<br>6:00 p.m.<br>6:00 p.m.                                              | <i>Pastor Alex in Church Office</i><br>Yoga (Seminar Room)<br>Community Meal                                                                                                                |
| Thursday        | 07/23 | 9:00-11:00 a.m.<br>11:00—5:00<br>12:00 p.m.                                           |  <i>Pastor Alex's Office Hours at Happ Coffee</i><br><i>Pastor Alex in Church Office</i><br>Bridge Club |
| Friday          | 07/24 |  | <i>Pastor Alex Out of Office</i><br><i>Church Office Closed</i>                                                                                                                             |
| Saturday        | 07/25 | 11:00 a.m.                                                                            | Yoga (Seminar Room)                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Sunday          | 07/26 | 10:00 a.m.                                                                            | Ninth Sunday After Pentecost<br>Service of the Word and Holy Communion<br>Pastor Alex Zuber, Presiding and Preaching                                                                        |

**Monday**

Numbers 32:1-6, 16-27  
Romans 8:26-30  
Matthew 23:1-12  
Morning Psalm 145, Evening 47

**Tuesday**

Numbers 35:1-3, 9-15, 30-34  
Romans 8:31-39  
Matthew 23:13-26  
Morning Psalm 146, Evening 99

**Wednesday**

Deuteronomy 1:1-18  
Romans 9:1-18  
Matthew 23:27-39  
Morning Psalm 147:1-12, Evening 91

**Thursday**

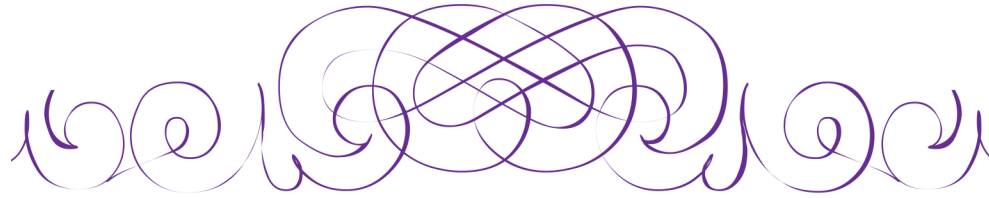
Deuteronomy 3:18-28  
Romans 9:19-33  
Matthew 24:1-14  
Morning Psalm 147:13-21, Evening 116

**Friday**

Deuteronomy 31:7-13, 24-32:4  
Romans 10:1-13  
Matthew 24:15-31  
Morning Psalm 148, Evening 20

**Saturday**

Deuteronomy 34:1-12  
Romans 10:14-21  
Matthew 24:32-51  
Morning Psalm 149, Evening 63



### *Grace Church Council*

*Allison Fink (540-448-0985), President*  
*Jim Nelson (434-826-8923), Vice-President*  
*Linda Meyer (540-256-2277), Secretary*  
*Peggy Caister (434-964-7461)*  
*Gail Johnson (540-241-4502)*  
*Jerry Kite (540-910-3372)*  
*River Smith (540-239-5290)*  
*Kate Van Bremen (614-746-4792)*  
*BK Wilson (540-325-9529)*  
*Donna Yobs (650-248-4882)*  
  
*Ron Almarode, Treasurer*  
*Charles Goodrich, Financial Secretary*

### *Grace Church Staff*

*Pastor Alex Zuber*  
*Email: [pastorzuber@gmail.com](mailto:pastorzuber@gmail.com)*  
*Mike Myers, Organist, Director of Music*  
*Email: [mickhdking@aol.com](mailto:mickhdking@aol.com)*  
*Nancy Dowdy, Administrative Secretary*  
*Email: [Grace.lc@comcast.net](mailto: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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*[youtube.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro](https://youtube.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro)*  
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