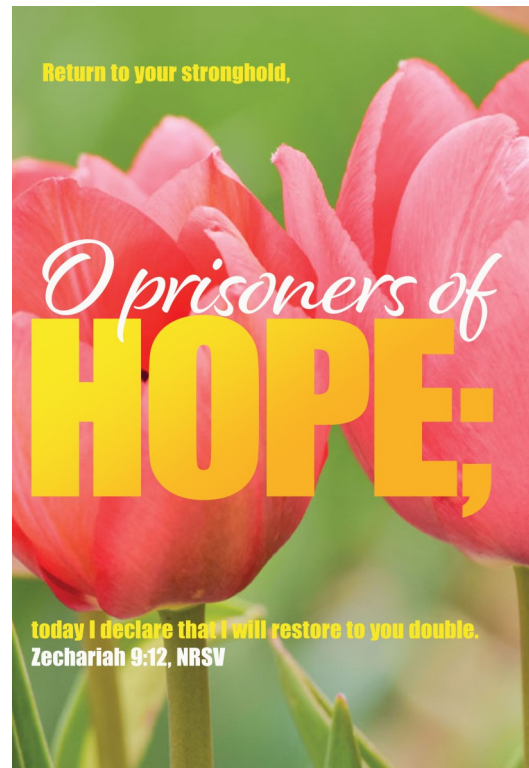




Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

July 5, 2026

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

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

“COME TO ME, ALL YOU
WHO ARE WEARY AND
BURDENED AND I WILL
GIVE YOU REST”
MATTHEW 11:28, NIV





Service of the Word

Based on Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting Six
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

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."
Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

*freely
forgiven*

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.

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, 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 uni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and

praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gracious Lord.

A - men.

Canticle of Praise

Refrain

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

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

1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.

Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.

Refrain

2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion:

Bless-ing, hon-or, glo-ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.

Final refrain

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

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

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

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

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

We sit.

Word

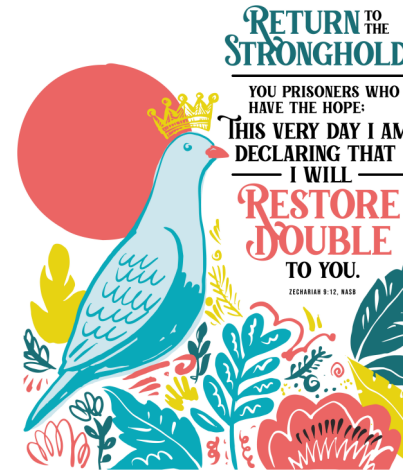
First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12

A reading from Zechariah:

- ⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!
See, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
- ¹⁰ He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations;
his dominion shall be from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.
- ¹¹ As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.
- ¹² Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Psalm: Psalm 145:8-14

⁸ The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹ **The LORD is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.**

¹⁰ All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your faithful shall bless you.

¹¹ **They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power,**

¹² to make known to all people your mighty deeds and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

¹³ **Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all generations.**

The LORD is faithful in all his words and gracious in all his deeds.

¹⁴ The LORD upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down.

Second Reading: Romans 7:15-25a

A reading from Romans:

¹⁵ I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me.

²¹ So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³ but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.

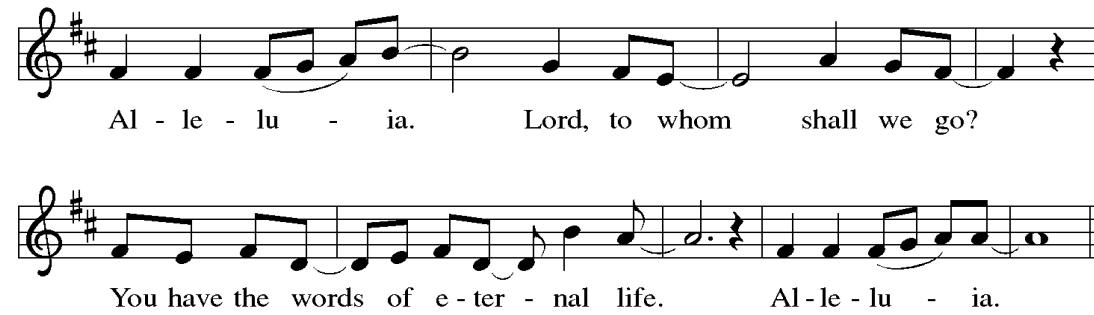
²⁴ Wretched person that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ^{25a} Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew:

Glory to you O Lord.



¹⁶ “But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ¹⁷ ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’ ¹⁸ “For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; ¹⁹ the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷ All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸ “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Message

Libby Caister

Sermon

Libby Caister

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

We stand.

Hymn of the Day: "Softly and Tenderly, Jesus is Calling"

#608



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.

Into your mercy, O God, we entrust our restless hearts and all our cares, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen

Peace

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

Peace

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

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful
Offering Song

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.

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The final note of the piece is a whole note on the G line of the staff.

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

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God,
for waves of grain and harvesters,
fruitful vines and winepresses,
for our labor and our rest,
for the gifts of your hand in this land.
Transform us and what we offer
into the banquet of your compassion,
serving your love without limits
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
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.



Sending

Blessing

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

Sending Song: “God of Our Fathers”

LBW #567
Page 16

Dismissal

Go in peace. Seek liberty and justice for all.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude



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God of Our Fathers

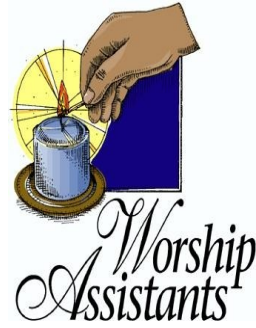
1 God of our fa - thers, whose al - might - y hand
2 Your love di - vine has led us in the past;
3 From war's a - larms, from dead - ly pes - ti - lence,
4 Re - fresh your peo - ple on their toil - some way;

leads forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band
in this free land by you our lot is cast;
make your strong arm our ev - er sure de - fense,
lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day;

of shin - ing worlds in splen - dor through the skies;
oh, be our rul - er, guard - ian, guide, and stay;
Your true re - li - gion in our hearts in - crease;
fill all our lives with heav'n - born love and grace

our grate - ful songs be - fore your throne a - rise.
your word our law, your paths our cho - sen way.
your boun - teous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.
un - til at last we meet be - fore your face.

Text: Daniel C. Roberts, 1841–1907, alt.
Music: NATIONAL HYMN, George W. Warren, 1828–1902



Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today

Altar Flowers: The Franklin Family
Assisting Minister: Donna Gum
Council Person of Week: Linda Meyer
Offering Stewards: Pat Brady
Robin Crowder
Ushers: Gail Johnson
Jean Morgan



*The Chancel Flowers today are given
to the Glory of God and in memory of
Humes J. Franklin, Jr.*

Next Sunday's Schedule and Lessons



July 12, 2026
Fourth Sunday After Pentecost
Worship Service and Holy Communion
Pastor Alex Zuber
10:00 a.m.

Isaiah 55:10-13
Psalms 65:9-13
Romans 8:1-11
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23



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)

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

Charles Carrington, Friend of Many at Grace

Joy and Ernie Clay, Friends of Gail Johnson

Cynthia Long, Linda Meyer & Habitat Team, Members of Grace

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

Liz Ann Binns

Lee Lynch

Vivian Proctor

Continued

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

Lisa Barmore, Friend of Grace

Niel Harris, Friend of the Trauschts

Carolyn Moser, Sister of David Schwiesow

Carrie Peters, Niece of Schwiesows

Judy Timm, Friend of Donna Gum

C. D. Brown, CCE&J

Taunya McDonald, Friend of Grace

Dr. Gary Murray, Friend of Gail Johnson

Trina Shipley, Friend of Donna Gum

Bill Wevers, Brother of Jane Stein

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

The Bednarczyk Family, Friends of Jean Franklin

Family of Gary Collins, Friends of the Lynches

The Dinovo Family, Friends of Jean Franklin

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

Family of Debbie Gordon, Friends of the Meickes

Family of Joe Keesee, Friends of the Wilsons

Family of Don Netschke, Friend of the Schwiesows

Family of Roy Reid, Father of Mary Huerth

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Congregation Members Celebrating Birthdays

Maribeth Faivre (7/9)

Zoey Mahoney (7/9)

Malachi Dolan (7/11)



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



Grace Announcements



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



We have a **new piano** for the Nave!!! The Yamaha Model YUS5 was delivered earlier this month. It is a fine instrument, which should serve Grace's Worship needs for several decades. We rejoice in and marvel at God's timing in making this instrument available to us! Full story in July's Grace Notes.



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.



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 5-12, 2026

Day of the Week	Date	Time	Meeting, etc.
Sunday	07/05	10:00 a.m.	Sixth Sunday After Pentecost Worship Service Libby Caister, Preaching
Monday	07/06		
Tuesday	07/07		
Wednesday	07/08	6:00 p.m.	Yoga (Seminar Room)
Thursday	07/09	12:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall) Council (Conference Room)
Friday	07/10		<i>Church Office Closed</i>
Saturday	07/11	11:00	Yoga (Seminar Room)
Sunday	07/	10:00 a.m.	Seventh Sunday After Pentecost Worship Service and Holy Communion Pastor Alex Zuber, Preaching and Presiding

**Monday**

Numbers 6:1-19
Romans 3:21-31
Matthew 19:13-22
Morning Psalm 145, Evening 29

Tuesday

Numbers 16:20-35
Romans 4:1-12
Matthew 19:23-30
Morning Psalm 146, Evening 133

Wednesday

Numbers 16:36-50
Romans 4:13-25
Matthew 20:1-16
Morning Psalm 147:1-12, Evening 33

Thursday

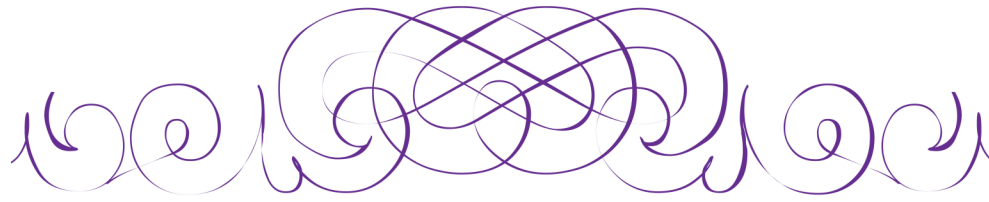
Numbers 17:1-11
Romans 5:1-11
Matthew 20:17-28
Morning Psalm 147:13-21, Evening 62

Friday

Numbers 20:1-13
Romans 5:12-21
Matthew 20:29-34
Morning Psalm 148, Evening 65

Saturday

Numbers 20:14-29
Romans 6:1-11
Matthew 21:1-11
Morning Psalm 104, Evening 98



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

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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