

THE 14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 30, 2026



...let him
deny himself
and **take up his cross**
and **follow me.**



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

"A Community of Servants Sharing in the Word and Work of Jesus."

500 South Wayne Ave. Waynesboro, VA 22980
www.gracelutheranwaynesboro.org



**"Through Jesus,
therefore, let us
continually offer to
God a sacrifice of praise —
the fruit of lips that confess his name."**

Hebrews 13:15, NIV

Service of the Word and Holy Communion

Based on Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Congregational responses are in bold print

Welcome

We welcome you in the name of Christ. We love welcoming guests/visitors and encourage you to complete one of the blue “Welcome to Grace” cards found in the pews and place it in the offering plate, or scan this QR Code with your smart phone to complete the visitor card digitally. You are encouraged to join in all parts of worship. Everything you need is printed in this worship booklet. All who desire to receive Holy Communion are welcome at the table. If you do not wish to receive, you are still welcome to come forward for a blessing! For instructions on how to receive the bread and wine, see the Communion section later in this bulletin. Portions of worship in bold print are to be spoken by the whole congregation.



Accessibility

We want to ensure that all who gather for worship feel welcome and know that you have a place at Grace, just as you are. We stand for portions of our worship service, but the invitation is always to stand “as you are comfortable”. Please feel free to remain seated, if you prefer. Additionally, for a variety of reasons, individuals may choose to participate in communion by using Gluten Free Communion Wafers and/or Grape Juice, which are available on the table in the center of the aisle as you come forward.

Our Worship

Our worship is rooted in the ancient pattern of the church – gathering, word, meal, sending. The shape of this liturgy and much of the actual words/prayers come directly from scripture. Though we make seasonal shifts, the constancy of our worship reflects God’s constant love and promises through forgiveness, scripture, and the sacraments of baptism and communion. Following this liturgical pattern, as well as the Revised Common Lectionary (a three-year cycle of scripture readings appointed for each day), we are connected through our worship with Christians around the world and throughout time.

Worship will be livestreamed. Digital ministry is an essential part of our community with our live-stream allowing those at home to worship alongside our gathered community for a service of Holy Communion. The cameras will be primarily focused on our worship leaders and offer some wide-angle views of the Sanctuary. If you have questions or concerns about appearing on camera, contact Pastor Alex Zuber.

Other Notes

Restrooms are located to your left as you face the rear of the church.

Children are fully welcome in worship. There are activity bags in the back of the sanctuary, to the right as you face the rear of the church, and we have a nursery down the hall to the left as you face the rear of the church if you would like a place to step out and reset. But rest assured, we would rather a child be here making the sounds that children make than absent from our community. As much as we value music in our community, there is no sweeter hymn that will be sung than the sounds of children being present, learning the pattern of worship, and hearing the gospel!

GATHERING

We come from our homes, our labor, our struggles, and our joys – which we share in fellowship as a Christian community. We are gathered together as God's people to worship. In this first part of our worship, we share together honestly – our sins in confession, our joy in forgiveness, our gratitude for the gift of Baptism.

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

We stand.

TEMPLE TALK

David Schwiesow

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We stand and face the baptismal font. 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 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.

The congregation turns and faces the cross as the procession approaches the altar, reminding us that Christ leads us into the presence and love of God.

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



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, called from ev - 'ry race,
Here the poor are wel-comed, here the lost are claimed,
Words that must be spo - ken, 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-pea-t-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

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

We sit.

WORD

The first half of our liturgy focuses on the Word of God through the reading of scripture and preaching. The pattern of reading, singing, reading, singing is an ancient one, which comes from Christianity's roots in Jewish synagogue worship.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 15:15-21

A reading from Jeremiah:

- ¹⁵ O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult.
- ¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts.
- ¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.
- ¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed?
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.
- ¹⁹ Therefore thus says the Lord: If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth.
It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them.
- ²⁰ And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you
to save you and deliver you, says the Lord.
- ²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 26:1-8

¹ Vindicate me, O Lord, for I have walked in my integrity,
and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.

² **Prove me, O Lord, and try me; test my heart and mind.**

³ For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in faithfulness to you.

⁴ **I do not sit with the worthless, nor do I consort with hypocrites;**

⁵ I hate the company of evildoers and will not sit with the wicked.

⁶ **I wash my hands in innocence and go around your altar, O Lord,**

⁷ singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and telling all your wondrous deeds.

⁸ **O Lord, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.**

SECOND READING: Romans 12:9-21

A reading from Romans

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew:
Glory to you O Lord.

²¹ From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

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: *"Will You Come and Follow Me"*

#798

APOSTLES' 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.**

The
Apostles'
+ Creed +

PRAYERS

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

After each petition:

... Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

The Assisting Minister concludes the prayers:

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

MEAL

In the second half of our liturgy, we gather around the table, following Jesus' invitation. Here in this meal we encounter the risen Lord who gives himself for the forgiveness of sins and strengthening the Body of Christ.

PEACE

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

The congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words:

"Peace be with you."

We sit.

OFFERING

An offering is gathered at this time to support the mission of the church and care for those in need. Our offerings are a humble and grateful response to the gifts that God has first given us. The offering plates will be passed by the ushers from the center aisle. If you give electronically, you can use the QR Code on this page to make your gift online through Tithely. (Please place visitor cards and communion cards in the offering plate at this time.)

We stand.



OFFERTORY SONG

Refrain



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

1 With our dreams and our fears,
2 With our strength and our weak - ness,
with our joys and our pain,
with our gifts and our needs,

Refrain
we come, we come,
we come, we come.

OFFERING PRAYER

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.

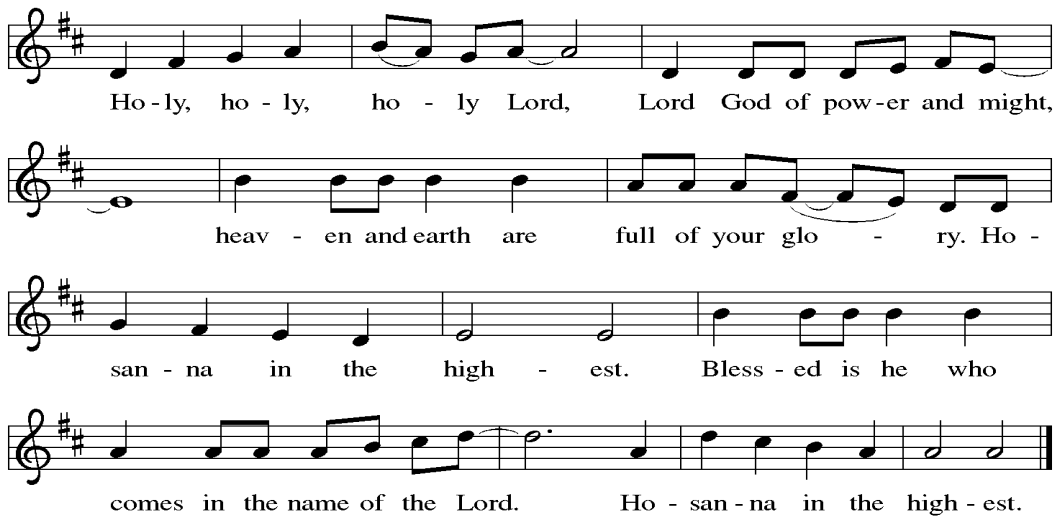
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

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

**YOUR GIVING
MATTERS!**

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:



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy God,
our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,
in the harmonious world of your creation,
the plants and animals,
the seas and stars
were whole and well in your praise.
When sin had scarred the world,
you sent your Son to heal our ills
and to form us again into one.
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.
Remembering, therefore,
his acts of healing,
his body given up,
and his victory over death,
we await that day when all the peoples of the earth
will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.
Send your Spirit upon us and this meal:
as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,
so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth,
that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both 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.

All are welcome at the Lord's Table! 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. If you are unable to come forward, signal an usher or raise your hand, and an assisting minister will bring the elements to you. 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. As the ministers give the bread and cup to you, they say these words:

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

You may say: "Amen."

Place your empty cup in the trays at the end of the railing, and return to your seat via the side aisle.



MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

Verses 1 & 2 are sung in preparation for Holy Communion

For the Healing of the World

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, key of D major (two sharps), and 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words hyphenated across lines. Above the first four staves, there are bracketed triplets of eighth notes. Above the fifth staff, there is a bracketed triplet of eighth notes. Above the sixth staff, there is a bracketed triplet of eighth notes. The lyrics are as follows:

1 Des - per - ate peo - ple are mak - ing their way to see
2 Sure - ly he's borne all our griefs and col - lect - ed our
3 Still in our world we see peo - ple con - tin - ue to

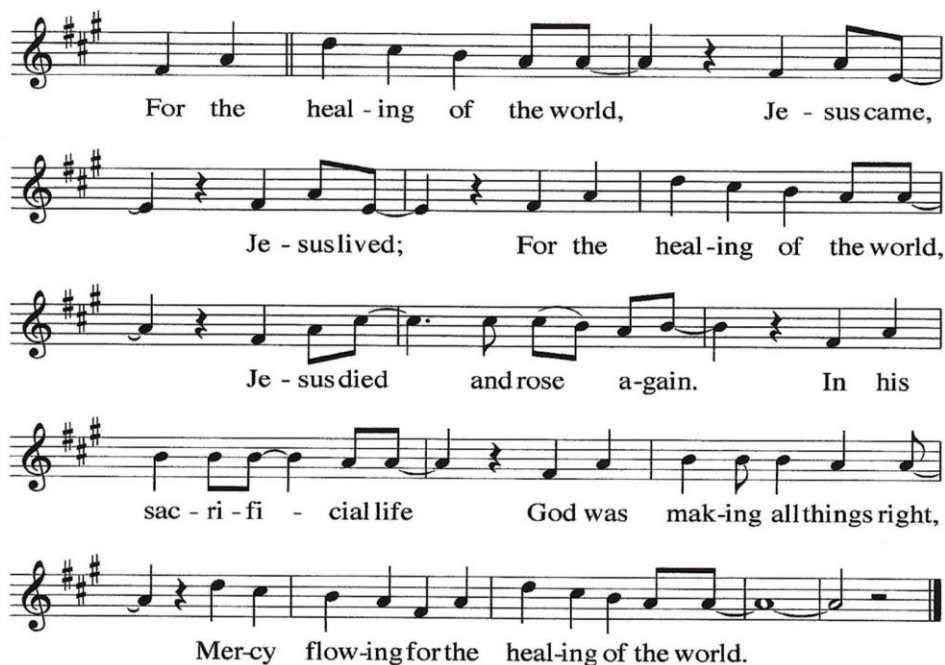
Je - sus; Wound - ed and bro - ken we
sor - rows; Here, in the sha - dow of
suf - fer: So man - y hun - gry and

come for we've no - where to turn;
death, he's no strang - er to tears;
so man - y liv - ing in pain.

Long - ing for free - dom from de - mons and all our dis -
Si - lent, he goes like a lamb as our weak - ness he
Now we must go with God's heal - ing and jus - tice to

eas - es, He's mak - ing us whole and
bor - rows; He's tak - ing the cup and
of - fer, For this is the call, he

free - ing our souls and we owe him our lives.
drink - ing it up, then he pours out his life.
asks for it all; Will you lay down your life?



Text and music by Jay Beech, ©2003. Used by permission.

COMMUNION MUSIC: *"Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"*

#659

We stand.

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

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

Our worship does not end, but continues in the world. In our daily lives we are called to be ministers of God's love and mercy as we live and serve by the power of the risen Christ.

BLESSING

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



Sending Song: “*Blest Be the Tie That Binds*”

#656

DISMISSAL

As the Spirit sends us forth into the world, let us remember who we are:
We are A Community of Servants Sharing in the Word and Work of Jesus.
Now go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY

Altar Flowers: Jim and Gloria Nelson

Altar Guild: Glenn and Lisa Gray

Assisting Minister: Donna Gum

Communion Assistants: Donna Gum and Karen Walck

Council Person of Week: Jerry Kite

Offering Stewards: Pat Brady and Jean Morgan

Ushers: Rick Bump and Linda Meyer



THE CHANCEL FLOWERS

today are given
to the Glory of God in
Memory of
Vada Morris Hepner,
in honor of her 94th birthday

NEXT SUNDAY: SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Pastor Alex Zuber, Preaching & Presiding

Ezekiel 33:7-11

Psalms 119:33-40

Romans 13:8-14

Matthew 18:15-20

PRAYER REQUESTS

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)
Pat Giesen

PRAYER REQUEST FOR RELATIVES/FRIENDS (REMAIN ON LIST FOR FOUR (4) WEEKS)

Elaine Bradley, Neighbor of Proctors

Dee Ann Daniels, Friend of Karen Walck

Steve Eckstrom, Son of Jack and Antoinette Eckstrom

Josh Horn, Friend of the Trauschts

Helen Landel, Friend of the Schwiesows

Cindy Nichols, Friend of Emily Almarode

Martha Thompson, Sister of Rick Bump

JOYS AND CELEBRATIONS (REMAIN ON LIST FOR FOUR (4) WEEKS)

Celebration for **Jed Mattox**, 11 years old, for getting his own service dog after suffering years with seizures.

ONGOING NEED FOR PRAYER FOR MEMBERS (*REMAIN ON LIST FOR THREE (3) MONTHS*)

Berenice Archambeault

Liz Ann Binns

Ron Knicely

Lee Lynch

Vivian Proctor

ONGOING NEED FOR PRAYER FOR RELATIVES/FRIENDS (*REMAIN ON LIST FOR THREE (3) MONTHS*)

Matt Covell, Friend of the Carpers

Ernie Firkin, Brother-in-Law of Cathy Firkin

Janet Forbes, Aunt of Ron Almarode

Beth Hall, Friend of Gail Johnson

Carol Haywood and her Family, Friends of the Trauschts

Continued

ONGOING NEED FOR PRAYER FOR RELATIVES/FRIENDS (*REMAIN ON LIST FOR THREE (3) MONTHS*)

Maria Marston, Friend of the Dolans

Carrie Peters, Niece of Schwiesows

Trina Shipley, Friend of Donna Gum

Laura Siwik, Niece of Linda Meyer

Pam Sonner, Friend of the Schwiesows

Judy Timm, Friend of Donna Gum

Bill Wevers, Brother of Jane Stein

MEMBERS/FRIENDS GRIEVING (*REMAIN ON LIST FOR FOUR (4) WEEKS**)

Family of Marc Breckenmaker, Nephew of Tami Radecke

Family of Camden Callahan, Friends of Andrew Sell

Family of Bishop Patricia Davenport, Friend of Pastor Alex

Family of Charlie Fairchilds, Brother of BK Wilson

Family of James Greenwood, Nephew of Linda Tomey

Family of Gail Harris, Aunt of Eric Hilker

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Members Celebrating Birthdays

Kiera Mahoney (9/2)



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, Iran, Lebanon, Ukraine, Nigeria, Sudan, and here in the United States.

For victims of flooding along the border of China and Nepal.

Prayers for our Community

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

For all students, teachers, and staff in Waynesboro City and Augusta County as they begin a new school year.

For WARM as they begin their search for a new Executive Director, and for Alec Gunn as we give thanks for the faithful work he has done in this role.

Prayers for the Church

For the Christian church throughout the world, that it may sow peace, justice, and grace through all the earth.

For the Spirit to guide this season of transition at Grace with joy, understanding, and hope-filled vision.

For the congregations of the Virginia Synod, especially Christ Lutheran Church in Staunton and Pastor Daniel Hess (see announcement on page 22).



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Special thanks to Russell Blackburn, who is serving Grace as Organist while Mike Myers' is away, will be at Grace August 16th through September 18th. Thank you for sharing your gifts and talents Russell!



As several have asked for copies of **Pastor Alex's sermons**, we have set up a holder on the round table in the Nave with copies of every sermon since he arrived. We will try to continue doing this.



Grace Quilters--September is kickoff season for Grace Quilters!

Join us Tuesdays beginning **September 15**, 9:30 -11:30 a.m., at the church Fellowship Hall. Lunch follows usually at Panera. All are welcome, no experience is needed! New this season: We are trying something fresh with pre-bundled, coordinating fabrics ready to cut into 11" squares. The squares may be cut at church or at home. During our 2025/2026 season, the hands and hearts of Grace Quilters reached communities both near and far. Thanks to your dedication, our quilts brought comfort to:

- Lutheran World Relief: Sending global hope to families facing extreme poverty and crisis.
- Hurricane Helene Relief: Providing warmth and comfort to neighbors rebuilding after the storm.
- River Edge Assisted Living: Delivered as personalized Christmas gifts, to bring cheer to our local residents.

These quilts are truly examples of God's Work, Our Hands, in action.

Praying for the Virginia Synod: As we are a part of a wider movement of Lutheran congregations across the state, nation, and world, we will take the opportunity to pray for our siblings of faith. Each week, we will lift up a congregation of the Virginia Synod and their active minister(s) by name, beginning with our nearest neighbors in the Southern Valley Conference. The word "synod" is Greek for "on the way together" and our prayers remind us who walks this faithful road with us each week.

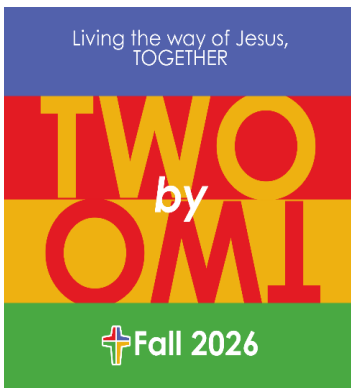




A meeting for all youth (grades 6th - 12th) and their families, will be held in the Fellowship Hall, **Sunday September 13**, after worship. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Pastor Alex by September 9. We will discuss Youth Ministry at Grace, Virginia Synod Youth Events, and assess interest in attending the 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering!



Children's Sunday School Returns September 13! Each Sunday after worship, children from Pre-K to 5th Grade are invited to meet Holly Carper, Jane Blosser, and our Sunday School teachers in the back of the sanctuary to walk downstairs together for class. Classes focus on the stories we hear in worship, growing in our knowledge of the bible, and forming faithful friendships! If you are interested in being a Sunday School teacher, please reach out to Holly or Pastor Alex for more information.



Adult Faith Formation will take place on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. in the Seminar Room, taught by Pastor Alex. All are welcome to attend, with no pre-requisite of membership or expectation of perfect attendance. Coffee and hot water for tea will be provided, and class members are welcome to bring snacks to share. Email Pastor Alex (pastorzuber@gmail.com) if you plan to attend! Our first class of the fall will be September 13, 20, and 27, where we will share in a study called "Two by Two". We will explore biblical models of ministry rooted in partnership, collaboration, and continuity. We'll hold this lens of biblical witness to the ministries of Grace to consider how we support one another in living out our mission.



Pastor Alex would like to invite you to a **weekly time of conversation** and bible study. If you are interested, please complete one of the forms on the table in Nave in put in basket.



David Schwiesow, **Chair of the Mission Endowment Fund** Committee, will provide a brief Temple Talk to solicit grant requests from the Mission Endowment Fund. To date, grant requests totaling \$24,750 have been approved. \$12,043 remains for grants in 2026. Materials relating to this second round of grants, including the Grant Request Form, are available in the back of the narthex. The materials also may be obtained by contacting Nancy Dowdy, the Church Administrative Secretary.



A new Giving Type has been added to Tithe.ly - "Church Purchases (not tax deductible)". Use this option to make payments toward the cost of materials or items provided by the church, such as event T-shirts, books, devotionals, flowers, or other resources. Please use the memo section to specify the intent of the purchase. Payments made through this category are not considered charitable contributions.



This year's **God's Work, Our Hands service project** will be the **Rise Against Hunger** event held at Kate Collins Middle School on Saturday, **September 19**, from 10:30 to 12:30. Sign-up sheets will be on the back table starting in August. This is a fun event and we are expecting to have 14 or more area churches joining us this year. The meals we pack go to help with global hunger relief. If you need additional information or questions about the event, please contact Jerry or Gwen Kite. We are encouraged to sign up on line. The web link will be on the table with the sign-up sheet.



You are invited to a Service of Holy Communion with the Order of **Installation for The Rev. Alexander C. Zuber as the 21st Pastor of Grace** on Sunday, **September 20!** The service starts at 5:00 p.m. and will celebrate the ministry of Grace, look with hope to our shared future, and give thanks to God for the mission we share. The service will be followed by a dinner reception under a tent, and all are welcome to join us. Join us for this faithful celebration with special music, joyful worship, and fellowship with all our partners in ministry. The service will also be live-streamed on our YouTube channel and a link will be provided.



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 5,746 pounds of food (we have made sixty deliveries, thirty 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.

The 2026 CROP Walk will take place on Sunday, **September 20**, beginning at 2:00 p.m. at North Park. The walk route is along the Greenway. Walkers are needed for our Grace Team. Register to walk and/or make a donation to our team at www.crophungerwalk.org/waynesboro. Our team name is Grace Lutheran Waynesboro. The team goal is to raise \$1,800 and the goal for all teams is \$20,000. Twenty-five percent of all local money raised stays here in the community, split between Blue Ridge Area Food Bank, Disciples' Kitchen and VPAS Meals on Wheels. The remaining money raised goes to support the work of Church World Service. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Walck at 765-480-9920.



Daily Lectionary

Monday

Judges 17:1-13
Acts 7:44—8:1a
John 5:19-29
Morning Psalm 145, Evening 29

Tuesday

Judges 18:1-15
Acts 8:1-13
John 5:30-47
Morning Psalm 146, Evening 133

Wednesday

Judges 18:16-31
Acts 8:14-25
John 6:1-15
Morning Psalm 147:1-12, Evening 33

Thursday

Job 1:1-22
Acts 8:26-40
John 6:16-27
Morning Psalm 147:13-21, Evening 62

Friday

Job 2:1-13
Acts 9:1-9
John 6:27-40
Morning Psalm 148, Evening 65

Saturday

Job 3:1-26
Acts 9:10-19a
John 6:41-51
Morning Psalm 149, Evening 98

LIFE OF GRACE CHURCH, AUGUST 30-SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

Day of the Week	Date	Time	Event, Meeting, Etc.
Sunday	08/30	10:00 a.m.	Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost Service of the Word and Holy Communion Pastor Alex Zuber, Presiding and Preaching
Monday	08/31		
Tuesday	09/01		
Wednesday	09/02	6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Yoga (Seminar Room) Community Meal
Thursday	09/03	9:00—11:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.	Coffee Chats (Happ Coffee) Bridge Club
Friday	09/04		 A purple sign with a white border and a small white icon of a church steeple at the top. The text on the sign reads "CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED".
Saturday	09/05	11:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	CCE&J at Grace Yoga (Seminar Room)
Sunday	09/06	10:00 a.m.	Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost Service of the Word and Holy Communion Pastor Alex Zuber, Presiding and Preaching



GRACE CHURCH STAFF

Pastor Alex Zuber

Email: pastorzuber@gmail.com

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

facebook.com/gelc.elca

youtube.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro

www.gracelutheranwaynesboro.org

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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)

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Ron Almarode, Treasurer

Charles Goodrich, Financial Secretary

