

THE 13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 23, 2026



Matthew 16:16, NRSV



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

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.

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, 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

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, 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: Isaiah 51:1-6

A reading from Isaiah:

- ¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the Lord.
Look to the rock from which you were hewn and to the quarry from which you were dug.
- ² Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah, who bore you,
for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many.
- ³ For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places
and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord;
joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.
- ⁴ Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation,
for a teaching will go out from me and my justice for a light to the peoples.
- ⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly; my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope.
- ⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens and look at the earth beneath,
for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats, but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 67

¹ I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;

² **I bow down toward your holy temple**

**and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness,
for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.**

³ On the day I called, you answered me; you increased my strength of soul.

⁴ **All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord,
for they have heard the words of your mouth.**

⁵ They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord.

⁶ **For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly,
but the haughty he perceives from far away.**

⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;
you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.

⁸ **The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

SECOND READING: Romans 12:1-8

A reading from Romans

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship.

² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20

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

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴ And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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.

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.**

The
Apostles'
+ Creed +

**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

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,

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.

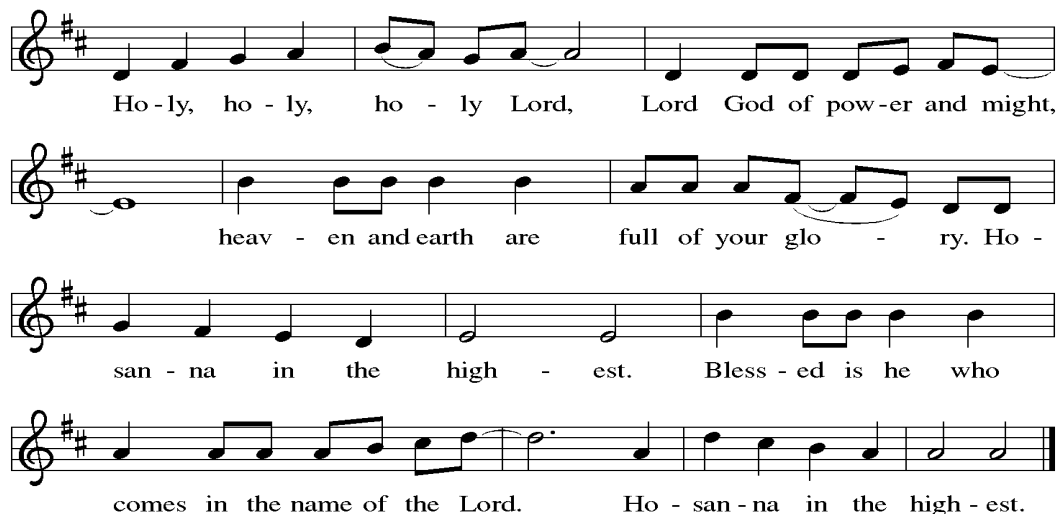
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

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

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.

Continued

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.

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.

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).

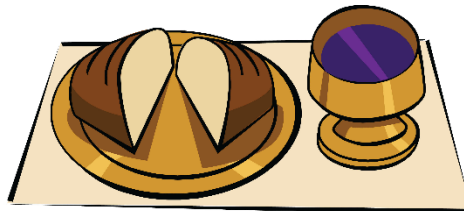
Ushers will invite you to come down the center aisle. If you are unable to come forward, signal an usher or raise your hand, and an assisting minister will bring the elements to you. We commune at the railing, filling up the rail from the center out.

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.



Come to the Table

Verses 1 & 2 are sung in preparation for Holy Communion

For the Healing of the World



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: "O Savior, Precious Savior"

#820

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: “*We All Are One in Mission*”

#576

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: *David and Nancy Schwiesow*

Altar Guild: *Gigi Werner Winslow*

Assisting Minister: *Robin Crowder*

Communion Assistants: *Cathy Crowder and Donna Gum*

Council Person of Week: *Gail Johnson*

Offering Stewards: *Pat Brady and Vivian Proctor*

Ushers: *Gail Johnson and Jean Morgan*



THE CHANCEL FLOWERS

*today are given
to the Glory of God in loving
memory of Raymond ("RB")
Lambert, the cherished brother
of Nancy, who rests in God's
care upon RB's 82d birthday.*

NEXT SUNDAY: AUGUST 30, 2026

*Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Pastor Alex Zuber, Preaching & Presiding*

Proverbs 26:6-7a

Psalm 112

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Luke 14:1, 7-14

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
Betty Lou Campbell, Friend of the Almarodes
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
Martha Thompson, Sister of Rick Bump
Cookie Wright, Friend of the Almarodes

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)

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

Diana Ziolkowski, Friend of Goodrichs

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 Charles Chittum

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

Robin Crowder (8/25)

Jack Eckstrom (8/25)

Tom Carper (8/29)



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.

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 Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Waynesboro, and Pastor Karen Van Stee.
(see announcement on page 22)



IN OUR



Thoughts and Prayers

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!



Celebration of New Ministry for Father Tom--Wednesday, **August 26th** @ 7:00 p.m., Bishop Karin MacPhail will be @ St. John's Episcopal Church to celebrate! In July of 2025, after two years as Deacon and Priest-in-Charge, Reverend Tom DuMontier became Rector at St. John's. A Rector is usually installed at a service led by the Bishop of the diocese. In the absence of a Bishop, they were not able to have the service last year. Now they have Bishop Karin and will gather to celebrate and install Tom as their Rector! Join & celebrate! All are welcome! Bring a friend!



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.



Renewing Homes Greater Augusta Work Project - We have a Renewing Homes work project that Grace and Zion Lutheran will be teaming up to redo a deck and two sets of steps on a home at Spruce Avenue in Waynesboro on Thursday and Friday, **August 27 and 28**, starting at 9:00 a.m. each day. As with past Renewing Homes projects, they provide the team leader and the building supplies. If you are interested in helping or have questions, please contact Jerry Kite, 540-910-0508. We hope to have a team of seven (7) or eight (8) for this project.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED



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.



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.



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.



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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED



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.



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.

LIFE OF GRACE CHURCH, AUGUST 23-30, 2026

Day of the Week	Date	Time	Event, Meeting, Etc.
Sunday	08/23	10:00 a.m.	Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost Service of the Word and Holy Communion Pastor Alex Zuber, Presiding and Preaching
Monday	08/24		
Tuesday	08/25		
Wednesday	08/26	6:00 p.m.	Yoga (Seminar Room)
		5:00 p.m.	Communications Committee (Conference Room)
		6:00 p.m.	Community Meal
		7:00 p.m.	Father Tom's Installation
Thursday	08/27	9:00—11:00 a.m.	Coffee Chats (Happ Coffee)
		9:00 a.m.	Renewing Homes Project
		12:00 p.m.	Bridge Club
Friday	08/28	9:00 a.m.	Renewing Homes Project
			
Saturday	08/29	11:00 a.m.	Yoga (Seminar Room)
Sunday	08/30	10:00 a.m.	Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost Service of the Word and Holy Communion Pastor Alex Zuber, Presiding and Preaching

Daily Lectionary

Monday

Judges 12:1-7

Acts 5:12-26

John 3:1-21

Morning Psalm 145, Evening 9

Tuesday

Judges 13:1-15

Acts 5:27-42

John 3:22-36

Morning Psalm 146, Evening 7

Wednesday

Judges 13:15-24

Acts 6:1-15

John 4:1-26

Morning Psalm 147:1-12, Evening 134

Thursday

Judges 14:1-19

Acts 6:15—7:16

John 4:27-42

Morning Psalm 147:13-21, Evening 130

Friday

Judges 14:20—15:20

Acts 7:17-29

John 4:43-54

Morning Psalm 148, Evening 40

Saturday

Judges 5:16:1-14

Acts 7:30-43

John 5:1-18

Morning Psalm 149, Evening 90



ABOUT OUR WORSHIP...

Confession and Forgiveness: ✝ All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins, but no one should feel compelled. Both our confession of sin and God's promise of mercy are rooted in our baptism. We come before God recalling our brokenness, but even more God's great grace

Gathering Hymn: We sing as the Spirit gathers us for worship and this hymn sets the tone for the day.

Kyrie: The Kyrie is an ancient piece of service liturgy that may date back to the second century. Kyrie Eleison is Greek for "Lord have mercy" and is in reference to both New and Old Testament scriptures which use the same words and pattern.

Prayer of the Day: The Prayer of the Day collects the themes from today's scripture readings.

Readings and Psalm: Liturgy, from the Greek, means "the work of the people." Our worship is designed so we all take part. We are far more than just spectators. The scripture readings follow a three-year cycle, called a lectionary. We are connected with other Christians all over the world, in many denominations, reading the same texts. The Psalms were the original Hymns in Holy Scripture, used by God's people for personal and corporate devotion. They continue to be prayed, sung and read by God's people all over the world as a rich and honest expression of faith. We stand during the gospel because we believe our Lord is present with us in the reading.

Hymn of the Day: This hymn complements the day's scripture readings and sermon.

Nicene & Apostles' Creeds: The creeds (statements of faith) date back to the 4th century and contain the basics of what Christians around the world hold to be true. The use of the non-capitalized word "catholic" means simply worldwide or universal.

Prayers: We pray as a community. The assisting minister leads this time to gather the prayers of all, and at their invitation you may add others aloud or silently in your heart.

Peace: Much more than a pleasant greeting — we do this to proclaim God's promise of peace to one another.

Continued

Offering: Our offerings are collected and dedicated to our Lord's service. They support the ministries of Christ's church in this congregation, the Virginia Synod, ELCA, and our global mission partners.

Offering Song: This song becomes our prayer as our gifts are collected and dedicated to our Lord's service.

Great Thanksgiving & Holy, Holy, Holy: The Great Thanksgiving is an ancient part of the worship that proclaims our thanks for the gifts of God in the meal. The "Holy, Holy, Holy" echoes the heavenly chorus in Isaiah 6:3 and the crowds of Mark 11:9 as Jesus enters Jerusalem. This reminds us that we are in the presence of a God identified both by holiness and humility. Some will make the sign of the cross at the announcement of God's presence: "Blessed is He..."

Eucharistic Prayer: Eucharist is the Greek word for thanks. These are the words and actions, the commands and promises of Jesus at the last supper with his disciples as recorded in scripture: 1Cor. 11:23-26, Matt. 26:26-29, Luke 22:15-20.

The Lord's Prayer: Jesus taught his disciples this prayer. In this prayer, all our needs and concerns are addressed. See ELW page 1163 for Martin Luther's explanation of this prayer in the small catechism.

Communion: The "last supper" was a meal that Jesus shared with his disciples before his crucifixion. He invited them to share this meal in the future to remember him and he promised to be present in a mysterious, but very real sense. All who desire to participate are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Feel free to remain seated if you prefer.

Recessional Hymn: We gather once more in song as our worship concludes, and we prepare to take this good news into the world.

Blessing: In this blessing we are reminded we bear God's name as we depart to live out our baptism, serving our neighbor and spreading the gospel. It reaffirms our mission and reminds us that if we are ***A Community of Servants Sharing in the Word and Work of Jesus***, we need to be renewed first through Water, Word, and Meal — the means of grace God has given to us.



GRACE CHURCH STAFF

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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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