

HAPPENINGS AROUND GRACE THIS WEEK

October 6, 2024—October 13, 2024

20th Sunday of Pentecost 10/6/24

8:00AM Spoken Worship

9:00AM New Member Orientation

10:15AM Traditional Worship

4:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

4:00PM Blessing of the Animals

MONDAY 10/7/24

10:00AM Clergy Bible Study

7:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

TUESDAY 10/8/24

12:00PM WELCA

6:30PM Narcotics Anonymous

7:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

WEDNESDAY 10/9/24

11:30AM Bayside Duplicate Bridge

6:00PM Alateen

7:00PM Narcotics Anonymous

7:00PM Financial Support Meeting

THURSDAY 10/10/24

12:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

5:00PM Choir Rehearsal

7:00PM Al-Anon

7:00PM Grief Support Group

FRIDAY 10/11/24

10:30AM Grace Stitchers

7:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous

SATURDAY 10/12/24

No Events

21st Sunday of Pentecost 10/13/24

8:00AM Spoken Worship Service

8:45AM Adult Forum Group

10:15AM Traditional Worship

Fellowship Hour Sponsored by

The Trozzo Family

4:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Tues 10:00AM-3:00PM

Thurs-Fri 10:00AM-3:00PM

SHORE DINER

Present this bulletin on a Sunday and Shore Diner will donate 20% to Grace Lutheran Church. Present this on any other day, and we will donate 10%.

Shore Diner
6710 Tilton Road
Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234
609-641-3669

October 6, 2024 20th Sunday of Pentecost



1924 - 2024



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

11 East Dawes Avenue, Somers Point, NJ 08244

Church Office: 609-927-3082 **Food Pantry:** 609-927-9982

Website: www.gracelutheranspnj.org

E-mail: office@gracelutheranspnj.com castbiz.net

Vice Pastor † Wendolyn Trozzo, Scott J. Breiner, Music Director

Corinne Rhodes, Administrative Assistant

Alison Toth, Social Media Consultant

We welcome you to worship here at Grace!

*Note that all text written in **bold** is for congregation participation.*

Our hymn songs are found in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship red hymnal found in the pews.

GATHERING

Thank you for joining us as we worship our Lord together!

INTRODUCTION

Today's gospel combines a saying that makes many of us uncomfortable with a story we find comforting. Jesus' saying on divorce is another of his rejections of human legislation in favor of the original intent of God's law. Jesus' rebuke of the disciples who are fending off the children should challenge us as well. What does it mean to receive the kingdom of God as a child does?

WELCOME

Rev. Wendolyn Trozzo

PRELUDE

Rhosymedre

melody by J. D. Edwards
arr. by Ralph Vaughan Williams

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

All Are Welcome

ELW #641

VERSE 1, 3, 5 ALL, VERSE 2 WOMEN, VERSE 4 MEN

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Food Pantry Donation for the Month of October:

Knorr Packets

There is a basket in the narthex for your donations.

Blessing of the Animals

Pastor Wendolyn will offer a Blessing of Animals

Today, October 6 at 4:00 PM

You are invited to bring your beloved pets for a special blessing. Please share this invitation with family and friends!

Grief Support Group

Grace Lutheran Church

2nd & 4th Thursday of each month at 7pm October-January

Free and Confidential Small Group Care

To reserve a spot, call the Church office at 609-927-3082 or email:

office@gracelutheranspnj.comcastbiz.net

All are welcome whether you've lost a job, a loved one, health, relationships, or a dream. We're here to help you as we support one another.

Feed The Northeast

Thrivent is sponsoring Feed the Northeast 2024!

If our congregation can gather 500 non perishable food items in the month of October, Thrivent will send the food pantry an additional \$500! What a great tool in our battle against food insecurity in our communities!

Christmas At Sea

The Christmas at Sea Donation Drive will take place during the month of October, and your donations are very much needed and appreciated! Please take a list of suggested items in the narthex.

Home Reading of the Week:

Second Reading: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

Quoting from the psalms, this passage from Hebrews emphasizes that Jesus, the one through whom God created everything and who sits at God's right hand, is also the one who experienced human suffering and death in order to blaze the path of salvation for us.

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

^{2:5}Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. ⁶But someone has testified somewhere,

“What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them?

⁷You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;

you have crowned them with glory and honor,

⁸subjecting all things under their feet.”

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, ⁹but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying, “I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

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

white booklet page 1

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

GREET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Take a brief moment to share the peace by greeting someone sitting near you. Verbal greetings are appropriate if you are not comfortable shaking hands or touching.

Please be seated.

PSALM 8



¹O LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!—
²**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of in-
fants and children;**
**you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe
and avenger.**
³When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,
⁴**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,
human beings that you should care for them?**
⁵Yet you have made them little less than divine;
with glory and honor you crown them.
⁶**You have made them rule over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet:**

⁷all | flocks and cattle,
 even the wild beasts | of the field,
⁸**the birds of the air, the fish | of the sea,**
and whatever passes along the paths | of the sea.
⁹O | LORD our Lord,
 how majestic is your name in | all the earth!

READING : Genesis 2:18-24

Genesis 2 stresses that people are not meant to live in isolation but in relationship. Out of love for humanity, God creates them male and female, to provide companionship for each other and to become with each other “one flesh.” The Hebrew words used here are ish (man) and ishshah (woman).

¹⁸The LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.” ¹⁹So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.

²³Then the man said,
 “This at last is bone of my bones
 and flesh of my flesh;
 this one shall be called Woman,
 for out of Man this one was taken.”

²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

SENDING

BLESSING

God almighty, God most merciful ✚ bless you, keep you, and give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Now Thank We All Our God

ELW #840

*Please be seated. Enjoy the postlude music.
 and meditate on how God spoke to your heart today.*

POSTLUDE *Now Thank We All Our God* by J. S. Bach, arr. by Virgil Fox

DISMISSAL Go in peace and follow Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

*We are glad for your presence today.
 We hope you come again soon!*

We thank all those serving in worship today:

Reader: June Jordan



The flowers sponsor this week is: Robert and Mary Ellen Bartholomew, in celebration of their 69th Wedding Anniversary, 5 children, 12 grandchildren, and 1 great-granddaughter!

The candles and bulletins sponsor this week is: Clare Brick, in celebration of the 2nd birthday of her great-granddaughter, Karleigh!

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Together, we pray as our Lord taught us, saying:

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

Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God. **Amen.**

COMMUNION HYMN *Lamb of God* *white booklet page 4*

COMMUNION HYMNS *Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal* **ELW #464**
 Although I Speak With Angel's Tongue **ELW #644**

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

EVERYONE IS INVITED to receive Holy Communion. The ushers will invite worshippers forward to fill the altar railings. Once you have received the wafer and the red wine/white grape juice, place your empty cup in the tray and return to your pew. As places open up, worshippers will fill them in so that communion is a continuous process. If you do not wish to receive communion, or are worshipping with children who have not had First Communion, we welcome you to come forward for a blessing; as you kneel at the railing, cross your arms over your chest to show your preference to the pastor.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 10th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Mark 10:2-16

Jesus announced and enacted in history the new reality of God's surprising activity. These two stories demonstrate this new reality: Women and children are accepted and valued, not dismissed as inferior to adult men.

²Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" ³He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" ⁴They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." ⁵But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' ⁷'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

¹⁰Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter.

¹¹He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹²and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me;

do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.
¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

Rev. Wendolyn Trozzo

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Our Father, by Whose Name

ELW #640

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**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.**

Please be seated.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *If Thou but Suffer God To Guide Thee* setting by Jody W. Lindh

Please stand as you are able.

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS *Create in me a Clean Heart* **WOV page 732**

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. **By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P: Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation. *Brief silence.*

At the end of each prayer petition when the worship assistant or pastor says, "God of grace," please respond with "Hear our prayer."

P: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever. **Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

white booklet page 3

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

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

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

white booklet page 4

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

We give thanks for your Son, who in the night in which he was betrayed, 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,