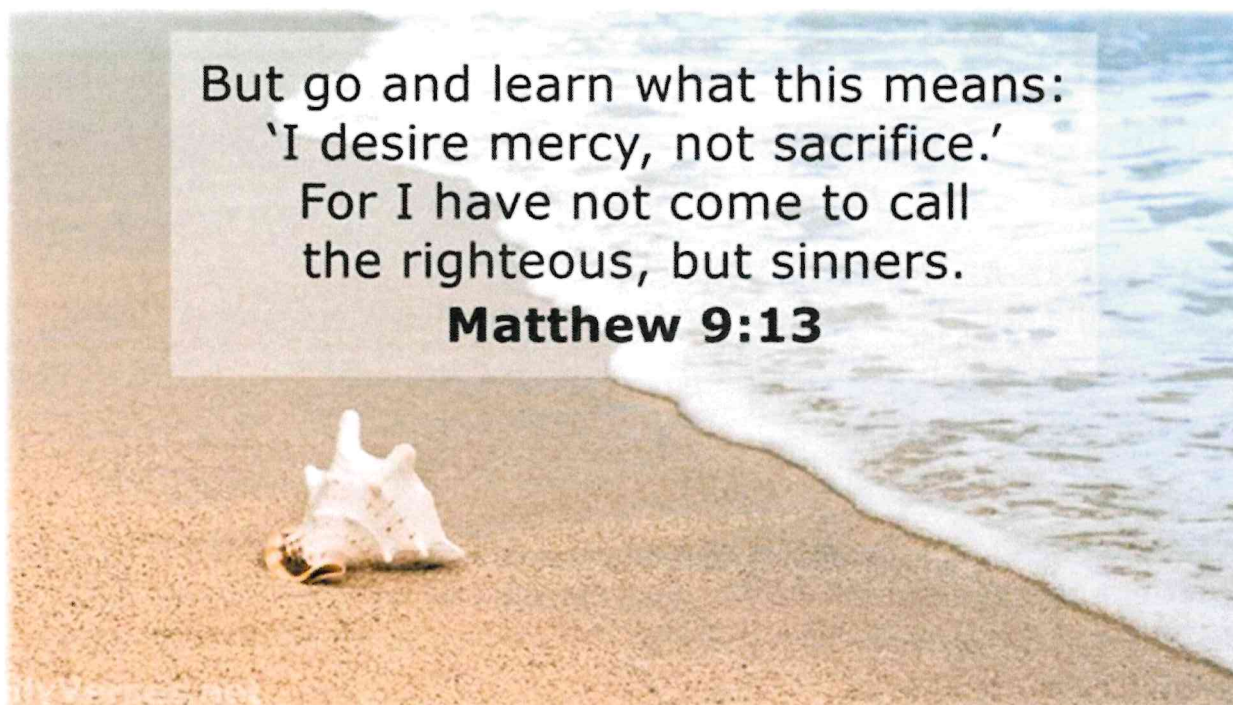


June 7, 2026

Pentecost 2



But go and learn what this means:
'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.'
For I have not come to call
the righteous, but sinners.

Matthew 9:13

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.org

Interim Pastor † Wendolyn Trozzo, Scott J. Breiner, Music Director
Corinne Rhodes, Administrative Assistant

We welcome you to worship here at Grace!

*Note that all text written in **bold** is for congregation participation.
Most of our hymn songs are found in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship
red hymnal found in the pews.*

S=service music in the front part of the hymnal.

GATHERING

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

WELCOME

Rev. Wendolyn Trozzo

PRELUDE

Praise To The Lord, The Almighty

by Wayne L. Wold

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity,+ one God, whose compassion endures forever, whose love holds us together. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

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

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

In the name of God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

When in Our Music God is Glorified

ELW #851

Requested by Pastor Wendolyn in gratitude for Choir, Scott, and the ministries Grace offers.

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

ELW S138

HYMN OF PRAISE

This is the Feast

ELW S140

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

O God, you are the source of life and the ground of our being. By the power of your Spirit bring healing to this wounded world, and raise us to the new life 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

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Hosea 5:15-6:6

Because the people have trusted in military powers and not God, God decides to withdraw from the scene until Israel acknowledges its guilt and seeks God's face. The response of the people does not acknowledge this guilt and is as fickle as fog or dew burned away quickly by the sun. God desires loyalty rather than words or meaningless deeds.

¹⁵ I will return again to my place
until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face.
In their distress they will beg my favor:

^{6:1} "Come, let us return to the LORD,
for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us;
he has struck down, and he will bind us up.

² After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will raise us up,
that we may live before him.

³ Let us know, let us press on to know the LORD;
his appearing is as sure as the dawn;
he will come to us like the showers,
like the spring rains that water the earth."

⁴ What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?
What shall I do with you, O Judah?

Your love is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.

⁵ Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets;
I have killed them by the words of my mouth,
and my judgment goes forth as the light.

⁶ For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,
the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

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

SECOND READING: ROMANS 4:13-25

Paul presents Abraham as a living model of right relationships. For Abraham and for us, a right relationship with God involves trusting that God's promises will be fulfilled because God makes the dead alive and calls into existence what otherwise does not exist.

¹³ The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

¹⁶ For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸ Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So shall your descendants be." ¹⁹ He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), and the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰ No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹ being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²² Therefore "it was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³ Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone ²⁴ but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵ who was handed over for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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

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 Matthew the 9th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 9:9-13

Jesus demonstrates God's mercy and power, accepting the unacceptable and curing the incurable. Even the dead receive new life.

⁹ As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

¹⁰ And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹² But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³ Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

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 *Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer* ELW #618
Requested by Pastor Wendolyn in gratitude for how Council and leaders have been open to God's guiding.

THE APOSTLE'S 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.

JOYFUL NOISE OFFERING

Our monthly special noisy offering for the month of June is Sister Jean's Kitchen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* by Sally Kidwell

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Doxology

ELW #883

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

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.

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P: Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world. *Brief silence.*

A: God of mercy, you call us to a life filled with acts of mercy. Ground us in following Christ, that we might extend the mercy we receive. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A: God of creation, all you have made is yours. Revive lands in need of healing and make us wise stewards of all you have given us to tend. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A: God of the nations, you promise to deliver those who call on you. Bring an end to conflict, bigotry, and injustice in all their forms wherever they are found. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P: God of comfort, you provide for those in need. Bring an end to addiction. Comfort people as they mourn. Provide tenderly for those in need *especially all who are on our prayer list and all those we name aloud or in our hearts...* God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A: God of blessings, you send the Holy Spirit to provide varieties of gifts in the body of Christ. Accompany those who travel this summer, make our gatherings joyous, and grant us a spirit of hospitality and togetherness. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A: God of life, we give you thanks for saints whose lives revealed your faithfulness. May remembering their faithfulness strengthen our own. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P: Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

ELW S144

WORDS OF INSTITUTION**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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!

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

EVERYONE IS INVITED to receive Holy Communion. The ushers will invite worshippers forward to receive communion in front of the altar steps. 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 via the side aisles. 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 and cross your arms over your chest to show your preference to the pastor.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS****PRAYER FOR PASTOR WENDOLYN**

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

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

SENDING HYMN

We're Marching to Zion

ELW #625

Requested by Pastor Wendolyn in gratitude for how God holds us together here and now and through eternity.

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

POSTLUDE *Praise To The Lord, The Almighty* by Johann Gottfried Walther

DISMISSAL Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
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:

Worship Assistant: Edna Cordery



The flowers sponsor this week is: Ingeborg Carlson, in memory of Connie Svindland, from Ingeborg and Family.

The candles, wine, and bulletins sponsor is: WELCA, in appreciation for all Pastor Wendolyn has done for our congregation over the last two years!

Thank you, Pastor Wendolyn, for your commitment and ministry to Grace Lutheran Church. Our prayers and best wishes go with you as you begin your new ministry. Blessings to you and your family!





CELEBRATING AMERICA

CAPE SHORE CHORALE

and Director of Music

Scott J. Breiner

AMERICA'S

250th

guest conductor **Jason Koenig**

Sunday, June 7, 2026 @ 3 P M

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

30th & Bay Avenue

Ocean City, N. J.



**St. Joe's Semi Annual Food Drive for Grace Place Food Pantry
will be on Saturday, June 20 at 10:00 AM.**

**They will need people to help to receive and stock food items.
Your help is greatly appreciated!**

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your daily prayers:

Members of Grace: Debbie K., Renee P. & sister, Bettie C., Bonnie C., Ruth K., Lois R., Barry L., Don B., John Sa., Family of Chris D., Bob K., Scott B, Donna M., Sally S., Jonelle, Joe M., Meg L., Family & Friends of Diana McArdle, Family & Friends of Lois Reardon, Pastor Wendolyn, Family & Friends of Margaret Groves and Dawn Wright, Johanna R., Jim F., Clare B., Diane G., Family & Friends of Bob Klingensmith, Family & Friends of Bruce Hoelter

Our family and friends: Alex, Jeff, Skip, Donna, Tom, Rachel (Ruth T.), Ric, Cody, Logan, David (Ruth B.), Marilyn, Houston (June J.), Nadine, Todd, Drew, David, Catherine, Alisa (Corinne R.), Family & Friends of Carrie, Family & Friends of Sally (Ray H.), Linda, Dana (Edna C. & Patty D.), Bruce (Brenda T.), Jody M., Audrey M. (Mary Ann G.), Karen H. (Mary G.), Tyler, Megan (Carol G.), Barbara B., Hank (Vickie C.), Bridget K. & Patrick, George M., Ronald G., Rossanne and Ronald, Byonka (Renee P.), Abril, Kyle, Randy, the Garmin Family (Chris D.), Donna Bishop-Chaporino, Reverend Pat J. (Jim F.), Kyri (Meg L.), John M., Dan (Sue S.), Bowie Steelman (Linda S.), Joan W. (Mary Ellen F.), Pastor Althea Albright

Those serving our country: Matthew Bilello, ANG, Cainan Johnson, USAF, & Daniel Casner, 3rd USN, Liam Johnson, USN

The Shores at Wesley Manor: Eleanore Guire

Please notify the church office of any changes or additions to our prayer list.

Corinne will be out of the office June 15-26.

***Farewell Fellowship for Pastor Wendolyn
immediately following worship today!***

HAPPENINGS AROUND GRACE THIS WEEK

June 7, 2026-June 14, 2026

Pentecost 2 6/7/26

8:00AM Spoken Worship
 8:45AM Adult Forum
 10:15AM Traditional Worship
**Farewell Fellowship for
 Pastor Wendolyn Trozzo**

MONDAY 6/8/26

9:00AM-11:30AM Food Pantry
 7:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

TUESDAY 6/9/26

9:00AM-11:30AM Food Pantry
12:00PM WELCA at Shore Diner
 6:30PM Narcotics Anonymous
 7:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

WEDNESDAY 6/10/26

9:00AM-11:30AM Food Pantry
 11:30AM Bayside Duplicate Bridge
 6:00PM AA Book Study
 6:30PM Compassionate Friends
 7:00PM Narcotics Anonymous

Office Hours This Week:
Mon-Tues 10:00-3:00
Thurs-Fri 10:00-3:00

THURSDAY 6/11/26

9:00AM-11:30AM Food Pantry
 12:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous
 5:00PM Choir Rehearsal
 5:30PM AA 12-Step
 7:00PM Al-Anon

FRIDAY 6/12/26

10:30AM Grace Stitchers
 7:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous

SATURDAY 6/13/26

7:30AM & 8:30AM Weight Watchers

Pentecost 3 6/14/26

8:00AM Spoken Worship
 8:45AM Adult Forum
 10:15AM Traditional Worship
**Welcome Fellowship for
 Pastor Elizabeth Frey**

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