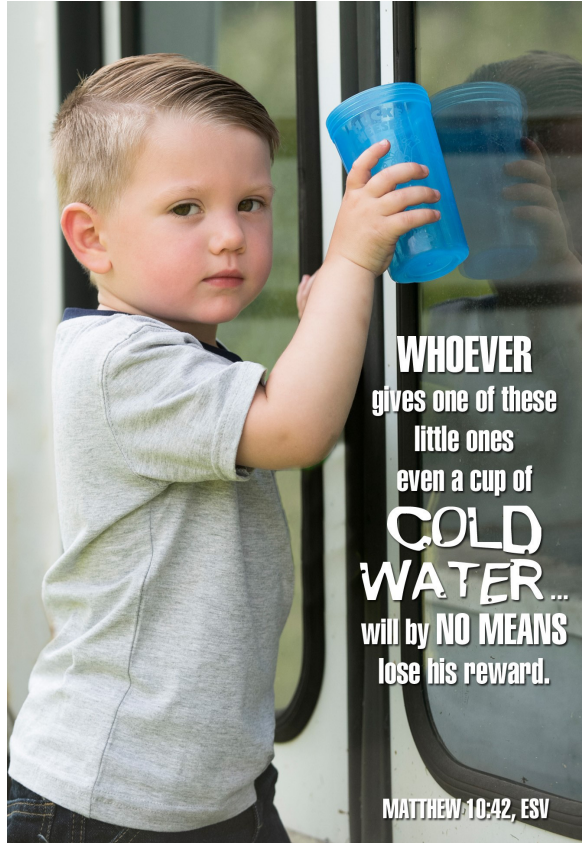


The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, June 28, 2026
9:30 a.m. Worship



WHOEVER
gives one of these
little ones
even a cup of
COLD
WATER ...
will by **NO MEANS**
lose his reward.

MATTHEW 10:42, ESV

"Be and Make Disciples of Jesus Christ"

Grace Lutheran Church

111 Lutheran Drive, P.O. Box 86, Eaton, Ohio 45320

937.456.6258

Email: GraceEaton111@gmail.com

Website: www.gracelutheranofeaton.com

Pastor Dwight Hanson

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

P - Presiding Minister

A - Assisting minister

C - Congregation

*** - PLEASE STAND**

Please silence electronic devices.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Let us pray ...

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Please kneel or sit as you are able.

P Gracious God,

C **have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

P Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C **Amen**

***PEACE:**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

***GATHERING SONG:** *“Seek Ye First” (WOV 783)*

***GREETING:**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

***KYRIE:**



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **C** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

Kyrie

***HYMN OF PRAISE:**



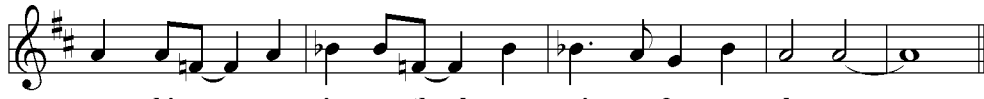
I Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



II Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al-might- y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



I Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



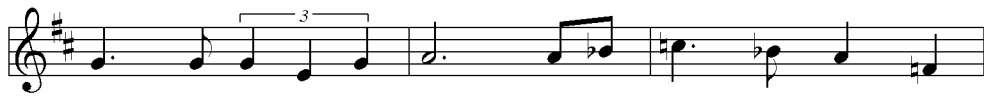
glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



III Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re-ceive our prayer.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.



I
II For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,




you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

P Lord of all power and might, you are the author and giver of all good things. Graft into our hearts a love of your name. Increase in us true faith, nourish us with what is good, and watch over all who are in your care. Grant this, we pray,
C **through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 28:5-9

A A reading from Jeremiah:

⁵The prophet Jeremiah spoke to Hananiah the prophet in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD, ⁶and the prophet Jeremiah said, “Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD make the words that you have prophesied come true, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. ⁷Yet hear now this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes to pass, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet.”

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 119:153-160

A ¹⁵³Behold my affliction and deliver me, for I do not forget your law.

C ¹⁵⁴**Plead my cause and redeem me; according to your promise, give me life.**

A ¹⁵⁵Deliverance is far from the wicked, for they do not study your statutes.

C ¹⁵⁶**Great is your compassion, O LORD; preserve my life, according to your judgments.**

A ¹⁵⁷There are many who persecute and oppress me, yet I have not swerved from your decrees.

C ¹⁵⁸**I look with loathing at the faithless, for they have not kept your word.**

A ¹⁵⁹See how I love your commandments! O LORD, in your mercy, preserve me.
C ¹⁶⁰**The heart of your word is truth; all your righteous judgments endure forevermore.**

SECOND LESSON: Romans 7:1-13

A A Reading from Romans:

¹Do you not know, brothers — for I am speaking to those who know the law — that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives? ²For a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage. ³Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress. ⁴Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. ⁵For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. ⁶But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code. ⁷What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, “You shall not covet.” ⁸But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. For apart from the law, sin lies dead. ⁹I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died. ¹⁰The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. ¹¹For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. ¹²So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good. ¹³Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**



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

***GOSPEL: Matthew 10:34-42**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the tenth chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³⁴{Jesus said to the disciples,} “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. ³⁶And a person’s enemies will be those of his own household. ³⁷Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. ³⁸And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ⁴⁰Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. ⁴¹The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person’s reward. ⁴²And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE—VBS SONGS

SERMON: Pastor Dwight Hanson — Bound by Life

5th Sunday after Pentecost; 6/28/2026; Grace Lutheran Church; Pastor Dwight Hanson
Jeremiah 28:5-9; Psalm 119:153-160; Romans 7:1-13; Matthew 10:34-42

Children's message: VBS kids will sing a few songs. The theme verse for VBS this year was: II Timothy 4:7, "*I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.*"

Found by Life

Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen. The words of Jesus before us today certainly grab our attention. But what's the meaning? The key to this door seems to be in Matthew 10:39, "*Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.*" Certainly, there's a future tense for each outcome, both the finding and the losing. He who will judge the living and the dead *will* take care of all such matters, setting things right. But in the *present*, how could a person be so wrong in relation to the idea of life, with "found" being mistaken for "lost," and "lost" for "found"? There's a mystery to these verses.

During VBS last week, the kids had to follow clues even to know which room or which class they would go to next. It was like one big adventure of discovery. So, what are the Bible clues we have before us this morning? We'll need to pay close attention to the words on the page.

All arrows point to the importance of an accurate definition of "life" itself. How hard can it be, really, to define? Life is life. I've got it. You've got it. The birds have it. But what precisely is "it"? Basic biology comes to mind, first, with oxygen pumping through lungs and blood stream, and electrical impulses flying up and down the central nervous system. You know, life.

But is that straight-forward description sufficient to answer the words of Jesus in today's reading? Can "life" be reduced to biochemical energy in motion? Speaking of energy, when the VBS kids hit one of their favorite songs, energy was found in abundance! God was present in a joyful way. And that seems to point to "life" as something more. Just keep following those clues!

One of my favorite theologians implied that if we want to comprehend the word "life," we must come to terms with our *relationship to God*. Yes, even for someone who doesn't believe that God exists. God upholds the fool in his arrogance or delusion just as much as he upholds the saint in perfect faith. Listen to Dr. Wingren:

“Man cannot live, without living from God. But his relationship to the Creator may take different forms. There can be a relationship of wrath and judgment, or one of forgiveness and mercy. Whatever form it may take, man’s relationship to God begins by being that of a creature who has been born, who lives, who never ceases to be created from first to last. As such he receives all that he has from the Creator, independently of what his attitude to the Creator may be.... This relationship is given with life itself...” (pg. 21). “Even when man in unbelief rises up against God, he must still, because he is a creature, seek his life from God. He therefore seeks for something around himself in which to trust.” “He falls...into bondage...” (Gustav Wingren, pg. 179, *Creation and Law*, Muhlenberg Press, 1961).

Life, in its fullest definition, is far bigger than what we usually think. It is deeply relational and theological. It’s not something that we can “own” and determine. We may participate in it, and draw from it. But it’s not ours to dominate. Even at the most basic, biological level, we may struggle to preserve it. I learned this unforgettable lesson when I was still in my teens.

It was a difficult spring on the family farm. Usually, calving season was filled with a sense of vitality, the proper rhythm of the year, new life walking on wobbly legs. The trouble that year was that many of the calves were getting some sort of virus. What we needed was warm sunshine. What we got was cold rain, lots of it, mixed at times with driving snow. It was exhausting in more ways than one. All hands were on deck. Boluses, extra milk, mounds of straw bedding, whatever it took. Still, we lost too many.

One incident lingers in memory. The calf was weak, so I helped it to its feet, almost carrying it to its mother for a drink. It didn’t work. I mixed replacer milk and tried feeding the calf from a bucket. Nothing. Time was urgently ticking. So, I hurried off to find the feeding tube. Desperate measures. I’d successfully used it before. This time, something went wrong. Was the calf too weak? Had I misplaced the tube? I pulled it out, with milk sputtering everywhere, then lifted the calf over my shoulder, pushing on its abdomen, holding it upside down by its back legs, trying everything to retain that life, or find it again. But it slipped away. My best efforts could not stop it, and may have even hastened it.

Life is precious, and somewhat mysterious. We’re not in charge of it as much as we may think. Mortality and vulnerability drive the point home, loud and

clear. And when we really think about such things, the next stop is often one of fear—fear of losing this thing called *life*.

Try to grab something out of fear of losing it, and it slips through the fingers. Jesus understands the human predicament. We can no more grasp life than we can grasp God. We're simply not in charge like that. This point stands out in the passage for today.

However, just when we think that all is lost, these words rise up to meet us: *Whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.* The Greek root of “find” is “*eureka*.” A long search, full of difficult clues, ends with joy. *Eureka!* If we start to think relationally, theologically, the puzzle pieces begin to come together. The very Author of life, who was loyal to us in the extreme (see the cross), even when we did not deserve it, he will not turn his back when those he has loved show some loyalty in return.

That said, he knows our challenges. Jesus knows our hearts better than we do. We naturally love the people around us, and the many blessings of life. Yet, when the awareness of mortality creeps in, that love can turn idolatrous as we go in search of a way to hold on to everything for “dear life.” According to the Gospel reading today, even love of father, mother, and child can become idolatrous.

How so? Realizing that life can slip through our fingers, instead of acknowledging the daily gift, turning faithfully to God in gratitude, and instead of praying for God to uphold our loved ones according to His will, something else may grow in its place, desperation and frustration. A very human hand clamps tighter and tighter around a mystery in an effort to control that which is above our pay grade.

Dig to the root of most idolatry and what you'll often find is fear, some understandable attempt to gain some certainty and footing, but at the expense of trusting the only one who can truly handle such matters. In the end, all that we can do is approach our Lord with faith, and listen to what he says in Matthew 10:31, “*fear not.*”

He cuts right to the heart of the matter. *Follow me on the way of the cross.* *Whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.* True life means living *for Jesus*, for *his will*, even if we lose our life as we understand it. The truth is that “life” is bigger than mere medicine can measure.

In fact, in the mystery of the Trinity, we even go so far as to say that life is *a divine person* with whom one relates, as in the words of Jesus from John 14:6, “I

am... the life.” Follow the words, like clues, all the way to the end. It’s about the relationship with Christ—risen from the dead, firstborn of a new creation. Here we have the crucial turning point in our understanding, the *eureka* moment. And as surely as we unexpectedly *find life*, in a similar way we “*find rest.*” “*Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls*” (Mt. 11:29).

Once we’ve been removed from the driver’s seat that belongs to the Almighty, we receive the good gifts of this life back again, to be kept *in stewardship*. The proper order of things is reestablished. Family once again finds its ordained status. When God is honored as God, he turns around and says: *Now go back into your community and family. Be that father, mother, son, daughter, or friend, that brother or sister in Christ. Love the people I’ve given you. But do it freely, without fear or stifling control. Do it all in such a way that I, the Lord, retain my proper place in your life.*

Jesus has come to make us his followers. He leads the way. He would have us live without turning anything into an idol. He once said of his sheep, “*no one will snatch them out of my hand*” (Jn. 10:28b). Which brings us to one last twist in the mystery. Being a Christian is less about us finding and grasping life, as if we’re ultimately in charge. It’s more about being found and held by life. As the song says, “He’s got the whole world in His hands.” Jesus is the life. He came on the longest, hardest adventure of all, seeking us to redeem us. This is where we find our freedom to live. Thanks be to God. Amen.

***HYMN OF THE DAY: “O Christ the Same” (WOV 778)**

***APOSTLES’ CREED**

**C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of
the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and
was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day He rose again.

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of
the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

A Let us pray: Almighty and everlasting God, we pray in this season of Pentecost for the Holy Spirit to renew the face of the earth. Inspire us to be faithful and fruitful, sharing the Gospel, helping those in need. And when the journey becomes hard, remind us that it is still blessed, that you are God, and that the cross of Christ is still our glory. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A We pray for the whole Christian Church on earth, giving thanks for all who have gone before us. Open our hearts to the blessings of being traditionally-grounded. Inspire each generation to build faithfully on the firm foundation of Christ. And may the blessings of this past week of VBS linger with children and adults alike. Strengthen us to run the race, and by the grace of Jesus, finish it. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A We pray for the needs of the world. Grant wisdom to civic leaders at each level, for the good of all. Bring peace to every land, especially among those who are

weary of battle. And watch over all who serve honorably in harm's way, and their families. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A We entrust to your care all who are in need of healing: *Charlie, Jim Carlisle, Peggy Christian, Claude Dixon, Michael Good, Amy & Bryan Jackson, Paula Murray, Dave O'Shea, Sue Robinson, Dean Shetter, Allie Steele, Mark Steiner, Mike & Barb Studebaker*, as well as those whom we name in our hearts (*silent prayer*). Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,

**C Trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

OFFERING

VOLUNTARY

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE: "Doxology"**

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise
him, all crea - tures here be - low; Praise him a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711
Tune: Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

OLD HUNDRETH
LM

Reproduced as an active subscriber to SOWeR (Sola Online Worship e-Resource) www.solapublishing.com

***OFFERTORY PRAYER:**

- P Let us pray. Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things.
C **Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***LORD'S PRAYER:**

- C **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.**

***THE BLESSING:**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.
C Amen.

***SENDING HYMN: “My Life Flows On” (WOV 781)**

DISMISSAL:

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God by:
**Scott & Nancy Parkinson in Honor & Celebration of their 26th Wedding
Anniversary on June 30, 2026.**

The additional arrangement is given to the Glory of God by: the Coffman
Family in Honor & Celebration of Kelly’s 46th Birthday!

GRACE AT A GLANCE

Grace Lutheran Church

111 Lutheran Dr., P.O. Box 86 - Eaton, OH 45320
Phone: 937-456-6258 Email: GraceEaton111@gmail.com
www.gracelutheranofeaton.com ~ ~ Like us on Facebook

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday -Friday: 10—1, 2—5

TODAY June 28, 2026 — Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m. Worship
10:30 a.m. Fellowship & Adult Education — Lessons of the Day

Monday June 29

Pastor's Day Off
9:45 a.m. Choose to Lose

Tuesday June 30

5:30 p.m. Mom's Bible Study—Boundaries

Wednesday July 1

9:00 a.m. Bible Study

Thursday July 2

12:30 p.m. Bulletin Production
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

Friday July 3 — OFFICE CLOSED In Observance of Independence Day

Saturday July 4

7:30 a.m. Men of Grace (Bob Evans)

UPCOMING WEEK SPECIAL EVENTS

Sun 7/5—Worship with Holy Communion (outside), American History Presentations, Family Picnic

Mon. 7/6—Pastor Off, Choose to Lose

Tues. 7/7—Mom's Bible Study

Wed. 7/8—Bible Study

Thurs. 7/9 NO CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Fri. 7/10— Bulletin Production

Sat. 7/11— Schaeff Family Reunion

ANNOUNCEMENTS

See the back page of this bulletin for info on “Faith and Freedom Sunday”, July 5th:



Campfires of Grace—Summer 2026:

When? The third Wednesday of each summer month: July 15, and August 19.

What time? 7:00 PM.

For whom? Everyone.

Where? By the campfire ring near the picnic shelter.

What to bring? Just yourself (and a friend, if you like), a lawn chair, and a heart that’s ready to relax and enjoy an old-fashioned, outdoor tradition.



First Communion Class of 2026: “Taste and see that the Lord is good” (Psalm 34:8a).

Saturday, July 18, 9:00 AM (final prep/bread making) // First Communion Sunday—July 19th



Phoebe Women's Bible Study

PRESENTS:

Phoebe Goes to the Movies

Monday, July 13

"5,000 Blankets"

and

Monday, August 10

"Flywheel"

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Altar Guild for June: Karen & Joe Leeds
Altar Guild for July: Janice Barnes, Jane Coggin
Offering Counter for June: Nancy Childs
Offering Counter for July: Jane Coggin

Sunday, June 28 – Pentecost 5

9:30 a.m.

Greeter: Nancy & Scott Parkinson
Usher: Darryl Leyes
Lector: Jane Coggin
Acolyte: Jessa Barnes

Sunday, July 5 – Pentecost 6 – Faith & Freedom Sunday

9:30 a.m. (outdoors)

Greeter: Gerry & Barb Myers
Usher: John Kiracofe
Lector: Carol Matevia
Communion: Nancy Childs, Jane Coggin
Acolyte: Sophia Steiner

Sunday, July 12 – Pentecost 7

9:30 a.m.

Greeter: Jeff & Lisa Kiracofe
Usher: Jeff Kiracofe
Lector: Mary Shetter
Acolyte: Jessa Barnes

Attendance & Stewardship — (\$4,187 needed wkly)

06/21/2026 88 \$4,404.98

Great Commission Outreach Partners:

World Mission Prayer League—Chris & Emily and family, Lutheran Military Veterans and Families, Abundant Grace, West Chester

Grace Lutheran Mission Endowment Fund: The purpose of this fund is to extend the ministry of Grace Lutheran Church, apart from the general operation of the congregation. To learn more about our Mission Endowment Fund, please contact the church office and we'll give your question to the appropriate person.

IN OUR PRAYERS

After 4 weeks we will remove names from this list. If you would like to keep someone on the list, please note their name on the back of the “Attendance & Communion Registration” form.

URGENT PRAYER LIST:

HEALING: (In Alphabetical Order)

Charlie: (11-year-old son of a former student of Nancy Parkinson—Charlie is awaiting a liver transplant)

Jim Carlisle: (Healing from hip surgery)

Peggy Christian: (Recovering at Vancrest from a fall at home)

Claude Dixon: (Father of Suzie Dell — under Hospice care at home in Columbus)

Michael Good: (Receiving treatments in Columbus).

Amy & Bryan Jackson: (for comfort and healing)

Jim Kay: (Son-in-law of the late Elsie Burkle—he is dealing with health issues)

Paula Murray: (Has a serious infection in foot; and other health issues)

Dave O’Shea: (Father of Kelly Hanson — Dealing with Parkinson’s Disease/ fell and broke his hip)

Sue Robinson: (Friend of Grace & AA Coordinator—in nursing home with leg infection and heart issues.)

Dean Shetter: (Recovering from shoulder replacement surgery).

Allie Steele: (Niece of Mary & Dean Shetter—as she prepares for brain surgery in August to remove a mass)

Mark Steiner: (Matt’s father — prayers for healing).

Mike & Barb Studebaker: (Mike: dealing with health issues; Barb: recovering from surgery for leg fracture).

LONG-TERM PRAYER LIST....George & Barb Suggs, Violet Forney, Mark & Jary Tannehill, Jackie Steiner, Connie Martin, Maggie Risko, Rhonda Paige Atkinson, Amy & Bryan Jackson, Andy Proeschel, Judy Newkirk, Mike & Judy Schamel, Suzan Pauley, Carmen Hasdorff, Tom Schamel, Amanda & Shayla Dell, Fran Kester, Teddi & Mike Watkins, Jenifer Combs, Doug Davis, Pastor Dean & Sandy Haferman, Dave Brumbaugh, Scot Emig, Barbara Worley, Carolyn MacFadyen, Judy Jay, Will Suggs, Earl House, Barbara Lakes, Becky Hoskins, Kayli Johnson, Joe McHenry, Tom Barnes: and those serving in the military: Maj. Love Hartman; Brad Newkirk; Lt. Col. Kyle Hundley, Staff Sergeant-Brandon Mann, Travis Deck & family.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY:

Fellowship & Education

Following Worship—Refreshments for all are served in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship on Sundays.

- **Youth Sunday School classes** meet @ **10:30 a.m.** — ***Are now OFF for the Summer!*** Classes will resume the Sunday after RALLY DAY in the Sunday School music room (Education wing) and start with songs and prayer, then go to the adjacent classroom for our lesson. Bring a friend! Parents are always welcome.
- **Adult Education**— Following 9:30 a.m. worship, the adults meet to discuss the lessons of the day unless there is a theme. Coffee and snacks provided.
- **Every other Sunday— Sunday S’mores @ 6:00 p.m.** —**They are also on a summer break and will resume this fall.** A Middle School & High School-aged Youth Sunday Evening Ministry. Friends are welcome. Tina Ebright is the moderator and she can be reached at 937-472-5663.

Adult Bible Studies (during the week)

- **The 2nd Monday of each Month — 6:30 p.m.—The Phoebe Women’s Bible Study.** **During this summer:** they will be viewing a **movie** at each meeting and discussing it afterwards. The next movie is “**5,000 Blankets**” on July 13 at 6:30 pm. In September they will resume the study — **Discerning the Voice of God** by Priscilla Shirer. Contact Kelly Mt. Castle (937-336-1223 or kelly.mtcastle@gmail.com).
- **The 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the Month:**
 - * **6:00 p.m. — Wine & The Word** — this group shares a light meal (at the home of Carol Perry). **They are taking a break for the summer** and plan to resume in the fall. If you would like to join them, please contact Carol at 937-456-6683 or cbperry122@embarqmail.com
 - * **7:00 p.m. — Lakeside Fellowship is held** at the Lakengren home of Dan & Karen Schultz. ***They are also taking a break until the fall.***
- **The 2nd Tues. of each month — 5:30 p.m. — FOR MOMS . . .** They are beginning a new study called **Boundaries** .
- **The Wednesday Morning Prayer & Bible Study — 9:00 a.m.** — meets in the Meeting Room off of the Fellowship Hall. They are studying the ***minor prophets***.
- **The 3rd Thursday of each month — 2:00-4:00 p.m. — “Graceful Fiber Guild”** — **meets** in the Fellowship Hall or the adjacent meeting room. Bring a craft you’ve been working on or just come to learn a new craft. Everyone is welcome to join us! Our next meeting is ***Thurs., July 16th.***

These studies are open to any member and our friends. No prior Bible study background is needed. Please bring your Bible.



You're invited to a Life Line Screening event!

Where: Grace Lutheran Church

When: Thursday, July 23, 2026

Life Line Screening is the nation's leader in **Stroke and Cardiovascular Disease Risk** Screenings.

Trusted by over 10 million customers.

Screenings are simple and painless. Get peace of mind or early detection.

Who should attend:

Anyone over the **age of 40**

Special Member Pricing for \$159

- ♥ Carotid Artery Disease Screening
- ♥ Atrial Fibrillation Screening
- ♥ Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening
- ♥ Peripheral Artery Disease Screening
- ♥ Plus a **FREE** Hypertension Screening

4 ways to book your appointment...

Call **888-814-0466** and use promo code **HSCA001**

Visit  [LLSA.SOCIAL/HSCA](https://llsa.social/hscatext)



Text the word **"circle"** to **216-279-1607**

These tests cannot detect all risk factors for all conditions, such as and including the presence of coronary artery disease. Those with abnormal results should discuss possible next steps with their family healthcare provider and ensure they understand the risk and benefits of any additional testing or procedures.

Take Up Your Cross

Find the 27 **bold** words from Matthew 10:34-39 (ESV)

B D F O L L O W Y K H D N R L
R A G I K O H H U A C I T E I
I U K L M D T O G M O R E H F
N G R G M R F A U X Q S S T E
G H O E O M I V T S T O S O K
W T T W H N S E I M E N E M P
D E T H S T H T R A E H V C N
T R D T I I A I K P L P O W N
N A O N S N Z F E O K S L L G
N O K W I J K A S D S N I J D
K M T E S F C E N O Q Z U S B
U P W U A E V A R S Z J H G B
E K A S P H M C B I X I G X Y
E G W P Y Z P S W M M H X K S
Q U D P D I X S X U F T B X R

Do not **think** that I have come to **bring peace** to the **earth**. I have not come to bring peace, but a **sword**. For I have come to **set** a **man against** his **father**, and a **daughter** against her **mother**, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And a person's **enemies** will be those of his **own household**. Whoever **loves** father or mother **more** than me is **not worthy** of me, and whoever loves **son** or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And whoever does not **take his cross** and **follow** me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his **life** will **lose** it, and whoever loses his life for my **sake** will **find** it.

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Join us as we celebrate America's 250th Anniversary
Sunday, July 5th, 2026

The Worship Committee along with the Church Council invite you to:

"Faith and Freedom Sunday"

This is our only outdoor worship (9:30) for this summer.

All of the following events are planned for being outside, but inside if necessary.

- * Following worship, a brief break for bathrooms and refreshments.
- * A program of American history presented by members/friends of Grace Lutheran Church regarding important historical people or events, in celebration of 250 years of faith and freedom.
- * Ending with a picnic! We'll fire up the grill with hamburgers, hot dogs and Smokies. Grace will supply these meats, along with buns, table settings, and drinks. **You** are asked to bring side dishes and desserts. Feel free to bring your lawn chairs and some lawn games, too. We'll make a time of it!
- * May God bless our land with wisdom and appreciation for the blessings we have.