Pentecost 3

## June 13, 2021

## The birds of the air make nests in its shade

**MARK 4:32** 



## Grace Lutheran Church

Worship at 8:00 am (Spoken) & 10:15 am (Liturgical) Shore Road @ Dawes & Meyran Aves. II East Dawes Ave., Somers Point, New Jersey 08244 Phone: 609-927-3082—Fax: 609-927-6672—Food Pantry: 609-927-9982 Email: office@gracelutheranspnj.comcastbiz.net Website: www.gracelutheranspnj.org Pastor: Rev. Althea Albright Music Director: Mr. Scott J. Breiner Church Secretary: Diana McArdle Sexton: Andrew McCarrick

# <sup>2</sup> Welcome

Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church! We are glad you are here whether you are here to worship with us as a first time visitor, friend, neighbor, or lifelong member. If you have any questions, concerns, or need pastoral care, Pastor Althea would love to talk with you. Feel free to speak with her after worship or contact her by email at: pastoralthea3@gmail.com.

## **Mission Statement**

Through God's Word and Holy Spirit, Grace Lutheran Church will be ...

- Inviting all people to *belong* to the church of Jesus Christ,
- Equipping those who *believe* as faithful disciples of Jesus, and
- Sending members to *become* caring servants of God in the world.

## Serving in Worship Today—

Worship Assistant: Corinne RhodesAltar Guild: Brenda TraaSound Technicians: Jim Foreman, Michael Piskun, Shawn Welfield

## In Our Hearts and Prayers

Greetings members, friends, and family of Grace! We are trying a new way of listing our prayer concerns in the coming weeks. If you notice someone who is missing or if anyone has someone new to add, please don't hesitate to contact Pastor Althea via phone, Facebook, or email or contact our secretary in the office to add people who are on our hearts each week and include our ongoing concerns. **Members of Grace:** Jim C., Cheryl R., Betty N., John N.

Family and friends:

Andrea and family, (friend of Pastor Althea). Jody (niece of Grings), Maria, Cecilia, and Richard (friends of Wellfields), JoAnn, (sister of Diana McArdle), Dr. Frank, (friend of Diana McArdle), Jim, Vicki, Don, and Barbara (friends of Meg LaSpina), Bill and Annmarie (friends of Marlene D.), Tami (friend of Brenda T.)

<u>**Those Serving Our Country:</u>** Matt Bilello, ANG; Daniel Casner 3rd, USN; Sgt. Joshua McArdle, USN; Cainan Johnson, USAF</u>

<u>At Home</u> - Bonnie Condliff, Joan Glenz, Ruth Kruger, Dot Reichelt, Lois Rahme, Lois Reardon, & Skip Uhrmann <u>Shores@Wesley Manor</u>: Dot Crawshaw, Eleanor Guire, Eileen Rumble <u>Woodview Estates</u>: Lorraine Moore

## WITH ONE VOICE BREAD OF LIFE Congregation responses in bold print.

## GATHERING

### WELCOME

Rev. Althea Albright

**HYMN SING** Selected hymns are inserted in the bulletin.

Please stand as you are able

#### **REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.** 

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

#### We give you thanks, O God,

for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling all life into being. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

At the river your Son, Jesus, was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,

We receive your promises and we are called to serve you.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,

and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit,

and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise

through Jesus Christ our Lord

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

#### 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**









#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray....O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated

## Sacrament of Holy Baptism

## Makinley Rose French

Born: July 25, 2019 + Baptized: June 13, 2021

Pastor: Rev. Althea Albright

Mother: Amanda French

Father: Matthew French

**Sponsors:** 

Jennifer Bolton

Tommy French

#### WELCOME TO BAPTISM

*Pastor*: Dear friends in Christ, we gather today with the family of Makinley Rose French who have brought her to be baptized.

Together, let us welcome them to this community of faith in Jesus Christ.

- Pastor: Let us pray...O God, again and again in ages past you showed your mercy and grace to children. You saved the infant Moses from death with the help of his mother and sister. As you blessed Joseph and Mary and the child Jesus, bless also the families, that they may care for this child entrusted to them, bring them to baptism and to the bread and cup of blessing, and help them mature in faith through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
- *Pastor*: God brings you in peace and joy to fullness of life in Christ and calls you to the waters of baptism.

#### **BAPTISMAL SERVICE**

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

#### Family: We present Makinley for baptism.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Makinley baptized into Christ? **I do.** 

As you bring Makinley, to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with her among God's faithful people, bring her to the word of God and the holy supper, teacher her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in her hands the holy scriptures, and nurture her in faith and prayer, so that your child may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. Do you promise to help your child grow in the Christian faith and life? I do.

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Makinley in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church? I do.

People of God, do you promise to support Makinley and pray for her in her new life in Christ? **We do.** 

Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises? I do

#### **\*PROFESSION OF FAITH**

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you believe in God, the Father? I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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

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### THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

#### It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you. Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through

Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

#### BAPTISM

Makinley, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen** 

You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized.

Let us pray together.... We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Makinley with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

Makinley, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.** 

WELCOME

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

### We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.



## WORD

### FIRST READING: Ezekiel 17:22-24

Leader: A reading from Ezekiel.

Tree imagery is used in a messianic prophecy to tell how the LORD will choose someone from Judah's royal family (the cedar tree) to reign over all creation. This tree will be planted on Mount Zion, the location of the holy temple.

<sup>22</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD:

I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar;
I will set it out. I will break off a tender one
from the topmost of its young twigs;
I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain.
<sup>23</sup> On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it,
in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.
Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest
winged creatures of every kind.
<sup>24</sup> All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD.
I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree;
I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish.
I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.
The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



## PSALM: Psalm 92:1-4; 12-15

<sup>1</sup>It is a good thing to give thanks | to the LORD,/to sing praise to your name, | O Most High;
<sup>2</sup>to herald your love | in the morning / and your faithful- | ness at night;
<sup>3</sup>on the psaltery, and | on the lyre, / and to the melody | of the harp.
<sup>4</sup>For you have made me glad by your | acts, O LORD; and I shout for joy because of the works | of your hands. R
<sup>12</sup>The righteous shall flourish | like a palm tree, and shall spread abroad like a ce- | dar of Lebanon.
<sup>13</sup>Those who are planted in the house | of the LORD shall flourish in the courts | of our God;
<sup>14</sup>they shall still bear fruit | in old age; / they shall be | green and succulent;
<sup>15</sup>that they may show how up- | right the LORD is, my rock, in whom there is | no injustice.

## SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17

Paul encourages believers to live by faith and not by sight. We do not consider Jesus from a human perspective but through the eyes of faith, believing he died for all and was raised. All who are in Christ are now in God's new creation.

<sup>6</sup>So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—<sup>7</sup>for we walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup>Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup>So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. <sup>10</sup>For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

[<sup>11</sup>Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. <sup>12</sup>We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. <sup>13</sup>For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ] <sup>14</sup>For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. <sup>15</sup>And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



#### GOSPEL READING: Mark 4:26-34

The holy gospel according to St Mark. Glory to you, O Lord.

### Mark 4:26-34

Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.

<sup>26</sup>[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,<sup>27</sup>and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. <sup>28</sup>The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

<sup>30</sup>He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

<sup>33</sup>With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup>he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

The gospel of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

## SERMON

**HYMN OF THE DAY** He Came to Us as One Unknown Verses 1,3, & 5, All; Verse 2, Men; Verse 4, Women

ELW # 737



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#### WEEKLY OFFERING

We are thankful for however you are able to continue supporting our ministry at Grace. Offering may be received through the mail, church office, or Simply Giving online. Please call the church office if you need assistance with Simply Giving, or have any questions or concerns.

#### OFFERTORY

*Largo* G. F. Handel, arr. By R. S. Stoughton Stephen Gring: Piano

#### **PRESENTATION OF GIFTS**



Please be seated

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

We pray together for however we have made offerings to God in our lives.

Let us pray. We praise you, God, Creator of the universe. We thank you for all of the blessings in our lives and in the lives of those around us. Take these gifts and use them for your holy work. Grant us opportunities to serve those in need. Send your Spirit to watch over us and guide us in all that we do through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Pastor: Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

A brief silence.

- *Leader:* Holy God, you plant the seeds of faith in every nation. Enliven your church, so that the good news of your grace may root and grow throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- Leader: Creator, even the trees, shrubs, and flowers delight in your goodness. From the depths of the soil to the highest mountain, bring forth new plants. Restore growth to places suffering drought. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
- *Leader:* Judge of nations, we pray for our leaders and those in power. Grant them the ability to regard those under their charge with humility, dedicating their lives in service to others. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.
- *Pastor:* Divine comforter, you show compassion to those in need and provide relief to those who call on you. Bless all who suffer, especially people trapped in cycles of poverty and homelessness. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.
- *Leader:* Sovereign God, this house of worship belongs to you. We give thanks and pray for our church musician(s) (*especially*). We dedicate to you the joyful noise that comes from this place; the cries of children, the melody of voice and instruments, and the songs from our hearts. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- *Leader:* Eternal God, we give thanks for our ancestors in the faith who are now at home with you. We look forward to that day when we are reunited in your new creation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- Pastor: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace. Amen.

MEAL

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God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

## THE 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.** 

### PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; 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 the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Almighty God, at this, your holy table, we come to you to be fed by your presence. We give you thanks for Jesus' coming into the world to fulfill your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, Shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Together we celebrate this holy meal. May all praise and thanks be to you, Holy God, through Christ Jesus, and by your Life-giving Spirit. Amen.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by Christ, let us pray.

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

We will partake of the bread and grape juice together. Wait for direction from the pastor.

Taste and see the love of Christ. Amen.





This is the body of Christ given for you. Amen. (brief silence)

This is the blood of Christ shed for you. Amen. (brief silence)



### CANTICLE



#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## SENDING

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

#### BLESSING

Beloved children of God, as we are sent from this place, know that God loves you. Christ's presence is with you wherever you go. Finally, know that the Spirit is with you whenever you call on the Lord. **Amen.** 

SENDING HYMN

Shout to the Lord *Music is located on the next page*  ELW # 821

Please be seated for the postlude. Take this time to listen to the music and contemplate the message presented today.

POSTLUDE

Pomp and Circumstance

by Edward Elgar

#### DISMISSAL

Go and serve others with the love of Christ! Thanks be to God!

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**SENDING HYMN** 





Text: Darlene Zschech, b. 1965

Music: SHOUT TO THE LORD, Darlene Zschech Text and music © 1993 Darlene Zschech/Hillsong Publishing, admin. in U.S. and Canada by Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP), c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

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Sunday 6/13 Pentecost 3	
8:00 am—Spoken Service - Lounge	<u>Thursday 6/17</u>
10:15 am - Liturgical Worship Service	5:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal
Holy Communion	
Baptism - Makinley Rose French	<u>Friday 6/18</u>
	10:30 am - Grace Stitchers
<u>Monday 6/14</u>	7:30 pm - AA Meeting—Lounge
9:00 am - 11:30 am - Food Pantry 7:00 pm - AA Meeting—Social Hall Tuesday 6/15 9:00 am - 11:30 am - Food Pantry 6:30 pm - NA 7:00 pm - Support Team Meeting	Saturday 6/19 Sunday 6/20 Pentecost 4 8:00 am—Spoken Service - Lounge 10:15 am - Liturgical Worship Service
<u>Wednesday 6/16</u> 9:00 am - 11:30 am - Food Pantry 11:30 - 3:30 - Bridge Group 7:00 pm—NA Meeting - Social Hall	Father's Day

Events This Week - June 13 - 20, 2021



**2021 FLOWER CHART** is posted on the bulletin board outside the Church Office. Available for weekly dedications are Candles, Sanctuary Flowers, Bulletins, Wine & Anthems. Please sign your name next to the date and item on the chart you wish to have dedicated in the bulletin.

Be sure to fill out the payment envelope with all the information for the bulletin, a week before (or sooner) your desired date, place it in the Offering plate or bring to the church office. Thank you, Diana

# Dedications

## SANCTUARY FLOWERS

In Loving Memory of my Husband Bob on our 68th Anniversary Given by Bettie

#### **CANDLES 6/6/2021** In Memory of Loved Ones Given by Meredith and Holly Henry

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