

+GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**+**

(Shore Road at Dawes and Meyran Avenue) **11 E Dawes Avenue, Somers Point, NJ 08244 Office:** 609-927-3082 **Fax:** 609-927-6672 **Website:** www.gracelutheranspnj.org **Email:** office@gracelutheranspnj.comcastbiz.net **Pastor:** Rev. Althea Albright **Music Director:** Scott Breiner **Church Secretary:** Michelle Allen

~WELCOME~

Welcome to worship at Grace Lutheran Church. Everything you need to fully participate in our liturgical worship is contained in the bulletin. If you are visiting our church for the first time or have been away, welcome. Please sign our visitors book in the Narthex (lobby) or fill out a connection card located in the seating areas of the sanctuary.

+ 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.

We thank those serving in worship today... Altar Guild: Brenda, Clare, Marleigh, Nancy and Ruth Worship Assistant/Leader: Ruth Bowden

~IN OUR HEARTS AND PRAYERS~

If you notice someone missing or if anyone has someone new to add, please don't hesitate to contact Pastor Althea by phone, Facebook, email or by calling the church office so we can lift their name in prayer next service. Please keep the following people in your daily prayers:

Members of Grace: Jim C., Jon N., Ruth T., Debbie K., Carol F., Mike D., Carole T., and friends and family of Kathy K..., friends and family of Lois R. Family & Friends: Donna W., Gage, Donna L., Diana S., Virginia, Elliot, Pastor Inge, Kristi and Lily, Amanda , Cat & Diana S. (*Pastor Althea*); Payton (*Joyce Bianco*); Stephanie B. (*Roberta Blumenthal*); Deb, Glen, Marilyn, Jeanne, Mc Cowan Family (*Bowdens*); Ron, Bonnie & Bob (*Susan Johnson*); Bob & Kim (*Jim Foreman*) Annmarie, Michael Ann (*June Jordan*); Shirley & Carl (*Debbie Kleuser*);Bob & Lou (*Dale Kredatus*); Jim & Vicki (*Meg La Spina*); Janice and Betty (*Diana McArdle*) Bernadette, Lou, Ron, Berl, Cindy, Eric, Donny, Carol (*Renee Pugliese*); Catherine, Sal and Ana (*Corinne Rhodes*); Karen (*Sue Robinson*); Bob T.(*Brenda Traa*) Dottie Currie (*Deborah Walker*); Jeff & Amanda (*Welfields*); Eileen, Marie, Beverlee and Darlene; Mary Anna & Frank.

Those serving our country: Matt Bilello, ANG; Daniel Casner 3rd, USN; Cainan Johnson, USAF

At Home: Bonnie Condliff, Joan Glenz, Ruth Kruger, Dot Reichelt, Lois Reardon, & Skip Uhrmann Shores at Wesley Manor: Eleanor Guire, Eileen Rumble Woodview Estates: Lorraine Moore

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

All text in **bold** is to be read aloud (All respond)

Please take part in our service by referring to these hymnals: red Evangelical Lutheran Worship **(ELW)** and blue With One Voice **(WOV)**



Rev. Althea Albright

by J. Bert Carlson

PRELUDE Please stand as you are able

WELCOME

Diessea Assu

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God,

whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.** God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

Most Merciful God, we confess that we

have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.

Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves. **Amen.** **OPENING HYMN** God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens **ELW #764**

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.

Please turn to the front section of the red ELW hymnals.

KYRIE

HYMN OF PRAISE

ELW p. 204

ELW p. 203

Please be seated

PRAYER OF THE DAY

WORD - DANIEL

FIRST READING: Daniel 6:7-17, 19-23

Daniel defies the king and ends up in the lions' den. Daniel prays for God's mercy.

⁷All the presidents of the kingdom, the prefects and the satraps, the counselors and the governors are agreed that the king should establish an ordinance and enforce an interdict, that whoever prays to anyone, divine or human, for thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions. ⁸Now, O king, establish the interdict and sign the document, so that it cannot be changed, according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, which cannot be revoked." ⁹Therefore King Darius signed the document and interdict.¹⁰Although Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he continued to go to his house, which had windows in its upper room open toward Jerusalem, and to get down on his knees three times a day to pray to his God and praise him, just as he had done previously. ¹¹The conspirators came and found Daniel praying and seeking

mercy before his God. ¹²Then they approached the king and said concerning the interdict, "O king! Did you not sign an interdict, that anyone who prays to anyone, divine or human, within thirty days except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions?" The king answered, "The thing stands fast, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be revoked." ¹³Then they responded to the king, "Daniel, one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, O king, or to the interdict you have signed, but he is saying his prayers three times a day."¹⁴When the king heard the charge, he was very much distressed. He was determined to save Daniel, and until the sun went down he made every effort to rescue him. ¹⁵Then the conspirators came to the king and said to him, "Know, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians that no interdict or ordinance that the king establishes can be changed."

¹⁶Then the king gave the command, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you faithfully serve, deliver you!" ¹⁷A stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, so that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel.

¹⁹Then, at break of day, the king got up and hurried to the den of lions. ²⁰When he came near the den where Daniel was, he cried out anxiously to Daniel, "O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God whom you faithfully serve been able to deliver you from the lions?" ²¹Daniel then said to the king, "O king, live forever! ²²My God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths so that they would not hurt me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no wrong." ²³Then the king was exceedingly glad and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able



Psalm 33:12-22 Happy is the nation whose God | is the LORD! Happy the people chosen to | be God's heritage! The LORD looks | down from heaven, and sees all | humankind. God sits firmly en- | throned and watches all who dwell | on the earth. God fashions | all their hearts and observes | all their deeds. A king is not saved by the size | of the army, by | their great strength. nor are warriors rescued The horse gives vain | hope for victory; despite its great strength it | cannot save. Truly, your eye is upon those who fear | you, O LORD, upon those who wait for your | steadfast love, to deliver their | lives from death, and to keep them alive in | time of famine. ²⁰Our innermost being waits for | you, O LORD, our helper | and our shield. ²¹Surely, our heart rejoic- | es in you, for in your holy name we | put our trust. ²²Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, | be upon us, even as we place our | hope in you.

Please be seated

SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

¹Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ²Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹²Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

¹³All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the twelfth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 12:32-40

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

Jesus said, ³²"Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Althea Albright

ELW p. 205

SERMON

Please stand as you are able

HYMN OF THE DAY

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 power of 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

Treasures

by Joseph M. Martin

Please stand as you are able

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS Create in Me a Clean Heart WOV#732

OFFERING PRAYER Pastor Althea will now bless our offering.

Please be seated

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Pastor: Trusting in God's extraordinary love ...

Leader/Pastor: O God, you are... Merciful God, Response to each petition: receive our prayer.

Pastor: Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God... *All respond:* Amen.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor Althea: It is indeed right... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Pastor Althea: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord...May all honor and glory be yours O Lord, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE 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.

COMMUNION HYMN Lamb of God

ELW p.208

ELW p. 206

ELW p.207

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able

SENDING

Blessed Assurance

ELW #638

BLESSING

The God of peace, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Love your neighbor. Thanks be to God.

DEDICATIONS

Sanctuary Flowers are dedicated by Gay Blohm, Wishing Avery a very Happy 8th Birthday All my Love, Grandmom

EVENTS THIS WEEK AUGUST 7, 2022-AUGUST 14, 2022

Sunday August7, 2022

8:00 am Spoken Service 10:15 am Liturgical Worship Service 4:00 pm AA Group

Monday August 8, 2022

9:00 am-11:30 am Food Pantry 7:00 pm AA Meeting

Tuesday August 9, 2022

9:00 am-11:30 am Food Pantry 6:30 pm NA Meeting

Wednesday August 10, 2022

9:00 am-11:30 am Food Pantry 11:30 Bayside Duplicate Bridge 7:00 pm Support Team Meeting 7:00 pm NA Meeting

Thursday August 11, 2022

9:00 am-11:30 am Food Pantry 5:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm Antique Collectors **Board** Meeting 6:00 pm AA Meeting 12 Steps 7:00 pm Antique Collector's Meeting

Friday August 12, 2022

10:30 am Grace Stitchers 7:30 pm AA Meeting

Saturday August 13, 2022

No events today

Sunday August 14, 2022

8:00 am Spoken Service 10:15 am Liturgical Worship Service 4:00 pm AA Group



MONDAY-FRIDAY 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM (609)927-3082**GRACE PLACE FOOD PANTRY** MONDAY-THURSDAY 9:00 ам - 11:30 ам (609)927-9982