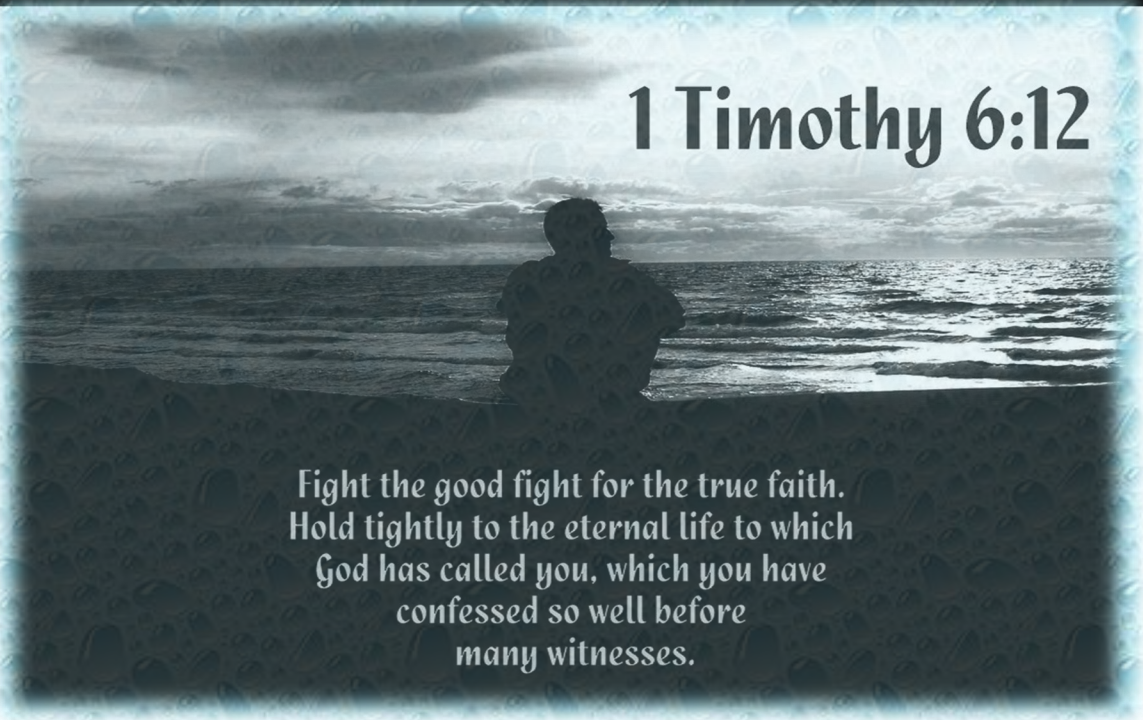


# 1 Timothy 6:12



Fight the good fight for the true faith.  
Hold tightly to the eternal life to which  
God has called you, which you have  
confessed so well before  
many witnesses.

## ✚ GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH ✚

Shore Road @ Dawes & Meyran Aves.

11 East Dawes Ave., Somers Point, NJ 08244

**Office:** 609.927.3082 **Fax:** 609.927.6672

**+Food Pantry:** 609.927.9982+

**Website:** [www.gracelutheranspnj.org](http://www.gracelutheranspnj.org)

**Email:** [office@gracelutheranspnj.comcastbiz.net](mailto:office@gracelutheranspnj.comcastbiz.net)

**Pastor:** Rev. Althea Albright **Music Director:** Scott J. Breiner

**Church Secretary:** Michelle Allen



*Thank you to all serving in worship today:*

**Reader:** Shirley B. **Altar Guild:** Clare B., Marliegh & Ruth B. & Ruth T.

*We welcome you to worship with us. Everything you need to follow along is in this bulletin. All text in **BOLD** is read by the congregation. Our hymn selections are from the Red Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal and insert. Please record attendance & communion with our connection cards. Thank you for joining us.*

# GATHERING

*Worship is the work of God's people. We worship in response to God's love and care for us.  
We remember the sacrifice given for us on the cross so that we may know mercy, love, and grace.*

## WELCOME

Rev. Althea Albright

**TEMPLE TALK** with Helene Pearson from the Seaman's Church Institute

## PRELUDE

*Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life* arr. by Alice Jordan

*Please stand as you are able*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God, our Creator, we come before you, knowing that you are always with us. You know us inside and out and all the places where we need to grow as people of God. Renew and refresh us so that we may feel your love, be ready to serve you, and love our neighbors. **Amen.**

Let us come before God with all of our imperfections ready to hear God's call for our lives.

Merciful and Forgiving God, **we acknowledge that we are not perfect. We turn away from you and we do not always follow your path. We are not always patient, or kind to our neighbors. We seek your will and we ask that you have mercy on us. Forgive us for what we have not done and for the things we have done which have hurt others. Renew our courage and strength so that we do not lose heart in following you. Lead us and refresh us so that you may show us a new vision for loving one another and for our ministry together. Amen.**

Christ became human to know us and love us. God is with us through all of life's joys and frustrations. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, I declare that you are forgiven all of your sins, in the name of Almighty God, Son, and Holy Spirit. May our God, uplift you and strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit that you will find eternal love and everlasting life. **Amen.**

## OPENING HYMN

*Gather Us In*

**ELW # 532**

## APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

## KYRIE

*Lord Have Mercy*

*see page 1 of insert: Service Music*

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*Glory to God*

*see page 2 of insert: Service Music*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

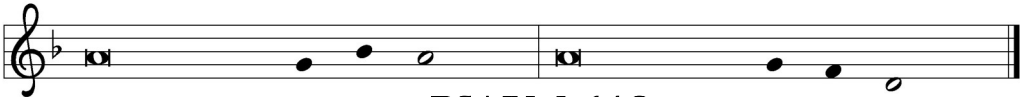
# WORD

*We believe that the Spirit can speak to our hearts in many ways. God works in and through both the read and spoken word of God.*

## **FIRST LESSON:** Amos 6:1a, 4-7

*The prophet Amos announces that Israel's great wealth is a cause not for rejoicing but rather sorrow, because God's people have forgotten how to share their wealth with the poor. The wealthy will be the first to go into exile when judgment comes.*

<sup>1a</sup>Alas for those who are at ease in Zion,  
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria,  
<sup>4</sup>Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory, and lounge on their couches, and eat lambs  
from the flock, and calves from the stall; <sup>5</sup>who sing idle songs to the sound of  
the harp, and like David improvise on instruments of music;  
<sup>6</sup>who drink wine from bowls, and anoint themselves with the finest oils,  
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!  
<sup>7</sup>Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,  
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.  
The word of the **Lord. Thanks be to God.**



## **PSALM: 146**

*The LORD gives justice to those who are oppressed. (Ps. 146:7)*

<sup>1</sup>Hal- | lelujah! Praise the LORD, | O my soul!  
<sup>2</sup>**I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;**  
**I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.**  
<sup>3</sup>Put not your | trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there | is no help.  
<sup>4</sup>**When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth, and in that day |**  
**their thoughts perish.**  
<sup>5</sup>Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help,  
whose hope is in the | LORD their God;  
<sup>6</sup>**who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that |**  
**is in them; who keeps promis- | es forever;**  
<sup>7</sup>who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to | those who hunger.  
The LORD sets the | captive free.  
<sup>8</sup>**The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who |**  
**are bowed down; the LORD | loves the righteous.**  
<sup>9</sup>The LORD cares | for the stranger; the LORD sustains the orphan and widow,  
but frustrates the way | of the wicked.  
<sup>10</sup>**The LORD shall | reign forever, your God, O Zion,**  
**throughout all generations. | Hallelujah!**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 6:6-19**

*Timothy is reminded of the confession he made at his baptism and of its implications for daily life. His priorities will be different from those of people who merely want to be rich.*

<sup>6</sup>Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; <sup>7</sup>for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; <sup>8</sup>but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. <sup>9</sup>But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup>For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

<sup>11</sup>But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. <sup>12</sup>Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. <sup>13</sup>In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you <sup>14</sup>to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup>which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. <sup>16</sup>It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

<sup>17</sup>As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. <sup>18</sup>They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, <sup>19</sup>thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

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

*Please stand as you are able*

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. The sixteenth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **GOSPEL READING: Luke 16:19-31**

*Jesus tells a parable in which the poor one is “lifted up” and the rich one is “sent away empty.” Jesus makes it clear that this ethic of merciful reversal is not new but is as old as Moses and the prophets.*

Jesus said, <sup>19</sup>“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. <sup>20</sup>And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, <sup>21</sup>who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. <sup>22</sup>The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup>In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. <sup>24</sup>He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have

mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.’ <sup>25</sup>But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. <sup>26</sup>Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ <sup>27</sup>He said, ‘Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father’s house—<sup>28</sup>for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ <sup>29</sup>Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ <sup>30</sup>He said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ <sup>31</sup>He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”  
The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

## **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE SERMON**

**Rev. Althea Albright  
Rev. Althea Albright**

*Please stand as you are able*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Christ Be Our Light*

**ELW #715**

Verses 1, 3 & 5 (ALL) Verse 2 (Women) Verse 4 (Men)



## **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**

*I Waited For the Lord*

by Felix Mendelssohn

Duet: Ruth Bowden & Corinne Rhodes

*Please stand as you are able*

**PRESENTATION OF GIFTS** *Let the Vineyards be Fruitful pg. 3 of insert: Service Music*

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

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

**Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. You are our Creator and bless us with all that we have. We are thankful for many things in our lives. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need.**

**Bless our time, our talents, and all the offerings we give back to you for your holy work, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Pastor:* As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

*Brief silence*

*Shirley:* O God, rich in mercy, fill your church with righteousness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness.

Empower those baptized by your Spirit to be motivated to do good works and share their gifts. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*Shirley:* Protect the earth and its creatures. Provide water, food, shelter, and favorable habitats, especially for endangered species. Preserve threatened ice caps, glaciers, forests, waterways, and beaches.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*Shirley:* Increase justice in nations, local governments, and courtrooms. Guide lawyers and those who hold public office to act with compassion and discernment.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*Pastor:* Give food to the hungry. Set the captives free. Lift up those who feel down. Watch over the stranger. Tend to all those who are ill especially all those we name now or in our hearts... Stir us take action and show love for our neighbors. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*Shirley:* Enliven our praise. Inspire musicians, artists, teachers, writers, poets, and all who create beauty in this place. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*Pastor:* Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

# HOLY COMMUNION

*God reminds us of his faithfulness to us in Holy Communion.  
We are given a tangible sign of God's promises of forgiveness and love.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

## PREFACE

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, through our Savior  
Jesus Christ; who overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious  
resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of  
heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

*(see page 4 of insert: Service Music)*

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Almighty God, You formed the earth from chaos; you encircled the globe with air;  
you created fire for warmth and light; you nourish the lands with water.

You molded us in your image, and with mercy higher than the mountains,  
with grace deeper than the seas, even when we feel lost or far from you,

Your promises remain with us always and you call us all through your Son,  
Jesus Christ.

In 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.

With this bread and cup we remember your Son.

We remember his life lived for others, and his death and resurrection which renews  
the face of the earth.

We await his coming again, when all our sins and sorrows will be no more. **Amen.**

## 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

### COMMUNION HYMN

*page 1 of insert: Service Music*

### DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*Please come forward to the altar for communion at the rail. Choir will be communed first, followed by the congregation as you are able. Pastor Althea will come out to commune anyone unable to come forward.*

### BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

As we have experienced Christ in this Holy Supper, may Almighty God nourish you and encourage you as you continue your journey in faith. **Amen.**

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection, you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth now as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.





## SENDING

*We are blessed to remind us that God goes with us into the world. Jesus said he will never leave or forsake us. God is with us always even when we face earthly challenges.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please stand as you are able*

## SENDING BLESSING

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. And may the Lord look upon you with favor, ✚ and give you peace. **Amen.**

## SENDING

*Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life*

**ELW #719**

## POSTLUDE

*Allegro Con Brio*

by Reginald De Koven

*Please be seated during the postlude. Please take this time to reflect and meditate in prayer...*

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live as beloved children of God! **Thanks be to God.**

## DEDICATIONS

The sanctuary flowers are dedicated by Kathy Nigsch (Wopatek),  
Happy heavenly birthday to my mom, Kay Wopatek  
Love, Kathy & Wopatek/Nigsch Family



# Grace Notes

Blessing of the Animals on Wednesday October 5, 2022 at 6 pm



Blessing of the Animals Ceremony  
will be held here at  
Grace Lutheran Church  
on Wednesday October 5, 2022 at 6:00 pm.  
Bring your pet (s), a photo of your pet (s),  
and children are invited to bring their stuffed  
animals for a brief service of blessing.



## *Food Pantry Needs*

**Grace Place Food Pantry needs your help!!! Our pantry is out of many items. Please help us replenish our shelves for the fall. See the list below...**



*Thank you for your continued generosity and supporting our ministries at Grace Lutheran Church.*

**\*\*Shoprite, acme & grocery store gift cards accepted\*\***

- \* Condiments: ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise etc.
- \* Canned/powdered gravy mix
- \* Instant mashed potatoes
- \* Easy sides- i.e., Knorr sides, rice/pasta mixes
- \* Spaghetti sauce
- \* BBQ Sauce
- \* Sugar, flour, various simple mixes: cakes, brownies, cookies, corn bread (Jiffy brand), frostings (various)
- \* Baked beans, canned meats
- \* Salad dressings (various)
- \* Canned/powdered various soups (clam chowder), Stews
- \* Peanut butter (Crunchy), jelly & jam (various)
- \* Bread, rolls, & crackers
- \* Coffee
- \* Canned fruit (peaches), applesauce
- \* Snacks, granola bars
- \* Instant oatmeal, cereal (various)
- \* Shampoo & Conditioner, body wash, soaps, toothpaste

# EVENTS THIS WEEK

## September 25, 2022 - October 1, 2022

### Sunday September 25, 2022

8:00 am Spoken Word

10:15 am Liturgical Word

*Helene Pearson will be here to talk about the Seaman's Church Institute's annual Christmas at Sea donation drive.*

4:00 pm AA Group

### Monday September 26, 2022

9 am - 11:30 am Food Pantry

7:00 pm AA Group

### Tuesday September 27, 2022

9 am - 11:30 am Food Pantry

6:30 pm NA Meeting

### Wednesday September 28, 2022

9 am - 11:30 am Food Pantry

11:30 am Bayside Duplicate Bridge

7:00 pm NA Meeting

### Thursday September 29, 2022

9 am - 11:00 am Food Pantry

5:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

6:00 pm AA Meeting 12 Steps

7:00 pm Al-Anon Group

### Friday September 30, 2022

10:30 am Grace Stitchers

7:30 pm AA Meeting

### Saturday September 31, 2022

*No Events*

### Sunday October 1, 2022

8:00 am Spoken Word

10:15 am Liturgical Word

4:00 pm AA Group

### *A note from Pastor Althea...*

On behalf of the church congregation and church council, I want to thank everyone who participated in our Yard Sale and Bake Sale event. It was hard work but we managed to get rid of a lot of things we no longer need, and make money for our ministries here at Grace.

None of this would have been possible without many hours of preparation from volunteers. I am truly grateful for all the hard work.

In Service of Our Lord,

*Pastor Althea*

### OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY to  
FRIDAY

**10:00 AM to 3:00 PM**

*or by appointment*

**609.927.3082**

### GRACE STITCHERS & ANNUAL CHRISTMAS @ SEA

Calling all knitters and crocheters. Christmas at Sea is here again. The Grace Stitchers meet every Friday @ 10:30 am to make essential items (hats, scarves etc.) for the brave men & women serving at sea during Christmas.

