



Faith the size of a *mustard seed*.

-Luke 17:5-10

✠ GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH ✠

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

Email: 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: Ruth B. **Altar Guild:** Brenda T., Clare B., Marliegh & Ruth B.

*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 to worship our Lord together!

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

PRELUDE

My Faith in Thee is Sure

by J.S. Bach

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

God is Here!

ELW #526

Verse 1 & 4 (All) Verse 2 (Men) Verse 3 (Women)

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Benevolent and Merciful God, when we are feeling empty, fill us. When we are weak in our faith, strengthen us. When our hearts are hardened, soften our spirit so that we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of 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 READING: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Injustice and violence in the time leading up to the Babylonian exile move this prophet to lament: How can a good and all-powerful God see evil in the world and seemingly remain indifferent? God answers by proclaiming that the righteous will live by faith.

¹The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

²O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen?
Or cry to you “Violence!” and you will not save?

³Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble?
Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise.

⁴So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails.
The wicked surround the righteous—

therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

^{2:1}I will stand at my watch post, and station myself on the rampart;
I will keep watch to see what he will say to me,
and what he will answer concerning my complaint.

²Then the LORD answered me and said:

Write the vision; make it plain on tablets,
so that a runner may read it.

³For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the
end, and does not lie.

If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay.

⁴Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous
live by their faith.

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



PSALM: 37:1-9

Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD. (Ps. 37:5)

¹Do not be provoked by | evildoers; do not be jealous of those |
who do wrong.

²**For they shall soon wither | like the grass, and like the green grass |
fade away.**

³Put your trust in the LORD | and do good; dwell in the land and |
find safe pasture.

⁴**Take delight | in the LORD, who shall give you your | heart's desire.**

⁵Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust | in the LORD,
and see what | God will do.

⁶**The LORD will make your vindication as clear |
as the light and the justice of your case like the | noonday sun.**

⁷Be still before the LORD and wait | patiently. Do not be provoked by the one
who prospers, the one who succeeds in | evil schemes.

⁸**Refrain from anger, leave | rage alone; do not be provoked;
it leads on- | ly to evil.**

⁹For evildoers shall | be cut off, but those who hope in the LORD
shall pos- | sess the land.

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

This letter written to Timothy is a personal message of encouragement. In the face of hardship and persecution, Timothy is reminded that his faith is a gift of God. He is encouraged to exercise that faith with the help of the Holy Spirit.

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,
for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

²To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the
Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my
ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day.

⁴Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵I am
reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois
and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶For this reason I
remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on
of my hands; ⁷for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit
of power and of love and of self-discipline.

⁸Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, ⁹who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, ¹²and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. ¹³Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

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

Please stand as you are able

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. The seventeenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL READING: : Luke 17:5-10

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus instructs his followers about the power of faith and the duties of discipleship. He calls his disciples to adopt the attitude of servants whose actions are responses to their identity rather than works seeking reward.

⁵The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” ⁶The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

⁷“Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table?’ ⁸Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink?’ ⁹Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’”

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

Please be seated

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE
SERMON**

Please stand as you are able

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

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

O Lord, Increase My Faith

by Orlando Gibbons

Please stand as you are able

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

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,
so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need,
and all of God's good creation.

Brief silence.

Ruth: We pray for your holy church in every place and for those who serve following the example of Christ. Be with all who serve our congregation in positions of leadership. Help them to live by faith and walk by the light of your gospel.

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

Ruth: For parts of the world ravaged by natural disaster especially those being hit by tropical storms and hurricanes in Puerto Rico, Cuba, and Florida. Relieve those affected by floods, wildfires, droughts, earthquakes, tornadoes, and hurricanes.

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

Ruth: For every nation and for those entrusted with authority: grant our leaders self-discipline in all things, and inspire them with love for your people.

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

Pastor: For victims of violence, abuse, and neglect: heal those who have been harmed and protect those who are vulnerable. We also pray for all who are sick or suffering especially all those we name now or in our hearts...

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

Pastor: Gathered together in the 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

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

All are welcome at the table of Christ. Come and be fed. **Amen.**

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 HYMN

Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises

ELW #535

POSTLUDE

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

In loving memory of Pam LaSpina, missing you today and always...

Love, The La Spina & Friedrich Families.



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

October 2, 2022 - October 9, 2022

Sunday October 2, 2022

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

Monday October 3, 2022

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

Tuesday October 4, 2022

9 am - 11:30 am Food Pantry
5:00 pm Dream Team Meeting
6:30 pm NA Meeting

Wednesday October 5, 2022

9 am - 11:30 am Food Pantry
11:30 am Bayside Duplicate Bridge
6:00 pm Blessing of the Animals
Ceremony
7:00 pm NA Meeting

Thursday October 6, 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 October 7, 2022

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

Saturday October 8, 2022

No Events

Sunday October 9, 2022

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

REVISED

OFFICE HOURS
MONDAY to FRIDAY
9:30 AM to 2:30 PM
or by appointment
609.927.3082



The Grace Stitchers need your help!!!

These dedicated knitters and crocheters are working hard to make essential items for the men & women working at sea during Christmas (*Christmas at Sea donation drive*). Along with unperishable items (ex. *granola bars, popcorn & candy*) and travel size personal hygiene items, they need yarn. Specifically wool yarn, this is durable for work and will keep them warm aboard the ships in winter. Please donate cash, gift cards for specific stores that sell yarn (Joann's Crafts/Fabrics or Michaels) or any wool or wool blend yarn (*please refrain from buying pastel colors, most of the Seamen are male, please stick to a darker pallet*). Thank you for your generosity. If you have questions call **609.927.3082**