

HAPPENINGS AROUND GRACE THIS WEEK

June 2, 2024—June 9, 2024

3rd Sunday of Pentecost 6/2/24

8:00AM Spoken Worship
8:45AM Adult Forum Group
10:15AM Traditional Worship
4:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

MONDAY 6/3/24

7:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous
7:00PM Grief Support Group

TUESDAY 6/4/24

6:30PM Narcotics Anonymous
7:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

WEDNESDAY 6/5/24

11:30AM Bayside Duplicate Bridge
7:00PM Narcotics Anonymous

THURSDAY 6/6/24

2:00PM Grief Support Group
5:00PM Choir Rehearsal
7:00PM Al-Anon

FRIDAY 6/7/24

10:30AM Grace Stitchers
1:00PM Set up for 100th Anniversary
Community Event: Strawberry Social
7:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous

SATURDAY 6/8/24

No events

4th Sunday of Pentecost 6/9/24

8:00AM Spoken Worship Service
8:45AM Adult Forum Group
10:15AM Traditional Worship
12:00PM 100th Anniversary
Community Event:
Strawberry Social
4:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Tues 10:00AM-3:00PM

Thurs-Fri 10:00AM-3:00PM

SHORE DINER

Present this bulletin on a Sunday and Shore Diner will donate 20% to Grace Lutheran Church. Present this on any other day, and we will donate 10%.

Shore Diner
6710 Tilton Road
Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234
609-641-3669

June 2, 2024

2nd Sunday of Pentecost



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

11 East Dawes Avenue, Somers Point, NJ 08244

Church Office: 609-927-3082 **Food Pantry:** 609-927-9982

Website: www.gracelutheranspnj.org

E-mail: office@gracelutheranspnj.comcastbiz.net

Rev. Wendolyn Trozzo, Pastor † Scott J. Breiner, Music Director
Corinne Rhodes, Administrative Assistant
Alison Toth, Social Media Consultant

We welcome you to worship here at Grace!

*Note that all text written in **bold** is for congregation participation.
Our hymn songs are found in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship
red hymnal found in the pews.*

GATHERING

Thank you for joining us as we worship our Lord together!

INTRODUCTION

Deuteronomy makes clear that sabbath-keeping is meant for the welfare of all. God delivered the Israelites out of slavery, so they should observe this freedom with a day of rest. No one should work seven days a week; even slaves and foreigners should be able to rest. Yet human beings can turn even the most liberating religious practice into a life-destroying rule. Jesus does not reject sabbath-keeping, but defends its original life-enhancing meaning. Our worship and our religious way of life are to lead to restoration: the hungry being fed and the sick being healed.

WELCOME

Rev. Wendolyn Trozzo

PRELUDE

In Times Like These

arr. by Fred Bock

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy 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.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SENDING HYMN *Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing*

ELW #545

*Please be seated. Enjoy the postlude music.
and meditate on how God spoke to your heart today.*

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune in G Major

by David N. Johnson

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

We are glad for your presence today.

We hope you come again soon!

We thank all those serving in worship today:

Reader: Edna Cordery

The flowers this week are dedicated to the glory of God!

The candles sponsor this week is: Roberta Blumenthal, in memory of her parents, John and June Stieska.

Members of the Call Committee:

Chairperson: Stephen Gring

Chris Dennis

Wendy Dolan

Carol Landes

Meg Markkanen

Eddie Thompson

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

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come! **Amen.**

COMMUNION HYMN *Lamb of God* *white booklet page 4*

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

EVERYONE IS INVITED to come forward at the direction of the ushers. If you are unable to come to the altar, you may remain seated and the pastor will bring you communion after everyone has come forward. White grape juice is available in the center ring. Children may come forward to receive a blessing.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

SENDING

BLESSING

May the blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, + be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved.

In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

Gather Us In

ELW # 532

VERSE 1 & 4 ALL, VERSE 2 MEN, VERSE 3 WOMEN

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

white booklet page 1

THIS IS THE FEAST

white booklet page 2 & 3

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, throughout time you free the oppressed, heal the sick, and make whole all that you have made. Look with compassion on the world wounded by sin, and by your power restore us to wholeness of life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

GREET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Take a brief moment to share the peace by greeting someone sitting near you. Verbal greetings are appropriate if you are not comfortable shaking hands or touching.

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING : Deuteronomy 5:12-15

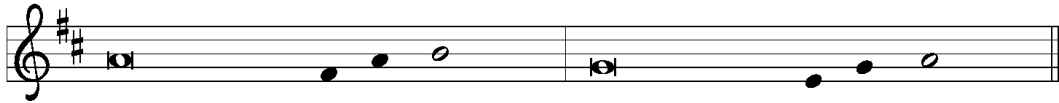
This portion of the Ten Commandments instructs the Israelites to keep the sabbath. The Israelites are to rest, and they are to allow their slaves, their livestock, and the foreigners living among them to do the same.

They were once slaves, and so they are to treat their own slaves justly.

¹²Observe the sabbath day and keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. ¹³Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁴But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, or your son or your daughter, or your male or female slave, or your ox or your donkey, or any of your livestock, or the resident alien in your towns, so that your male and female slaves may rest as well as you. ¹⁵Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the sabbath day.

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

PSALM 81:1-10



¹Sing with joy to | God our strength
and raise a loud shout to the | God of Jacob.

²**Raise a song and | sound the timbrel,
the merry harp, | and the lyre.**

³Blow the ram's horn at | the new moon,
and at the full moon, the day | of our feast;

⁴**for this is a stat- | ute for Israel,
a law of the | God of Jacob.**

⁵God laid it as a solemn charge upon Joseph, going out over the | land of Egypt,

where I heard a voice I | did not know:

⁶**“I eased your shoulder | from the burden;
your hands were set free from the grave- | digger's basket.**

⁷You called on me in trouble, and I de- | livered you;

I answered you from the secret place of thunder and tested you at the wa- | ters of Meribah.

⁸**Hear, O my people, and I will ad- | monish you:
O Israel, if you would but lis- | ten to me!**

⁹There shall be no strange | god among you;

HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

white booklet page 3

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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb, who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

white booklet page 4

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

We give you thanks for Jesus' coming into the world to fulfill for us 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 as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of the Holy Trinity: in our gathering; within this meal; and in the many ways you make yourself known to your people throughout the world. May all blessing, praise, and thanks be to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, and by your Life-giving Spirit. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world. *Brief silence.*

A: Guide your church to expressions of faith that bring rest and release. Teach your faithful people to be attentive to the spiritual, physical, and societal weariness of our neighbors, that we proclaim your grace through tangible acts of mercy and justice. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: Keep us mindful of the rhythms of nature as the days lengthen and the seasons shift toward summer. Grant relief to areas facing flooding or drought and bring favorable weather for the flourishing of crops, gardens, and orchards. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: Where there is affliction in our world, bring healing. Where world leaders are perplexed, bring clarity of vision. Give a spirit of discernment to political advisors, institutional researchers, economic analysts, and all vocations that inform the work of governments and policymakers. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: Provide wholeness and respite to all who are weary: those who struggle in any way and those who care for them *especially all those we name aloud or in our hearts...* Strengthen first responders and health care workers in their times of exhaustion or frustration. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: Stir our hearts toward abundant generosity among neighbors who experience hunger and food insecurity. Bless feeding ministries and community food efforts, especially community gardens, farmers markets, food pantries and our Grace Place Food Pantry. Open both our hearts and our tables. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: We remember the communion of saints whose lives made visible the saving life of Jesus Christ. Guide us by their example to embody the treasure of your love for the sake of our world, until we come to our final rest in you. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

you shall not worship a¹ foreign god.

¹⁰**I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the¹ land of Egypt.**

Open your mouth wide, and¹ I will fill it.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 4:5-12

When we carry out God's ministry we do so not for our glory but for the sake of Jesus Christ whom we proclaim as Lord. The power for ministry comes from God, not us, so that we persevere no matter what, trusting in God's power and promises at work through us.

⁵We do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

⁷But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. ⁸We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; ⁹persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. ¹¹For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. ¹²So death is at work in us, but life in you.

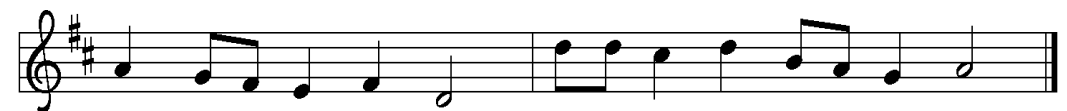
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 2nd chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Mark 2:23-3:6

Jesus challenges the prevailing interpretation of what is lawful on the sabbath and tells his critics that the sabbath was made for humankind, not the other way around. Healing the man with the withered hand is work that cannot wait until the next day.

²³One sabbath [Jesus] was going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. ²⁴The Pharisees said to him, “Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?” ²⁵And he said to them, “Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food? ²⁶He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions.” ²⁷Then he said to them, “The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; ²⁸so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath.”

^{3:1}Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. ²They watched him to see whether he would cure him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him. ³And he said to the man who had the withered hand, “Come forward.” ⁴Then he said to them, “Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to kill?” But they were silent. ⁵He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. ⁶The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

Rev. Wendolyn Trozzo

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY *Come, Join the Dance of Trinity* **ELW #729**

VERSE 1, 3, & 5 ALL, VERSE 2 MEN, VERSE 4 WOMEN

INSTALLATION OF CALL COMMITTEE

THE 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 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 ANTHEM *Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown*

arr. by Thomas Gibbs

Please stand as you are able.

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS *Create in me a Clean Heart* **WOV page 732**

OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.

Please be seated.