

HAPPENINGS AROUND GRACE THIS WEEK

August 4, 2024–August 11, 2024

11th Sunday of Pentecost 8/4/24

8:00AM Spoken Worship
 8:45AM Adult Forum Group
 10:15AM Traditional Worship
First Holy Communion:
Nathan & Zander Bilello
 4:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

MONDAY 8/5/24

7:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

TUESDAY 8/6/24

5:00PM Oktoberfest Committee Meeting

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

WEDNESDAY 8/7/24

11:30AM Bayside Duplicate Bridge
 6:00PM Alateen
 7:00PM Narcotics Anonymous

THURSDAY 8/8/24

5:00PM Choir Rehearsal
 7:00PM Al-Anon

FRIDAY 8/9/24

10:30AM Grace Stitchers
 7:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous

SATURDAY 8/10/24

No Events

12th Sunday of Pentecost 8/11/24

8:00AM Spoken Worship Service
 8:45AM Adult Forum Group
 10:15AM Traditional Worship
 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

August 4, 2024 11th 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

Vice Pastor ✝ Wendolyn Trozzo, 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

Apparently not satisfied by Jesus' feeding of thousands, some who were there press him for a sign of his power; perhaps it is daily manna they want. As always in John's gospel when people want a sign, Jesus offers himself. He is the bread come from heaven to give life to the world. He calls us to come to him and believe in him, and through that relationship to know the one who sent him.

WELCOME

Rev. Wendolyn Trozzo

PRELUDE *O Bread of Life From Heaven* by Johann Gottfried Walther

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God, **we confess that we are in bondage to sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your son, Jesus Christ, have**

Our Church Directory is in progress! We would like to add a page or two of pictures of the different committees and ministry groups here at Grace. If you would like to have a picture of your ministry group in the directory, please take and submit those pictures by August 30 to:

gracelutheranmedia24@gmail.com.

If you have not yet had a personal/family picture taken or submitted a picture, this would be the very last call for you to submit that, as well.

If you are able to help at the **Good Old Days Festival at Kennedy Park on Saturday, September 7**, please sign up in the narthex for a time that works for you. This is a great opportunity to get our name out there, hand out items and brochures, and advertise our 100th Anniversary and Oktoberfest!

Please join us for cake and fellowship following worship, as we celebrate the First Holy Communion of Nathan and Zander Bilello!

1924 - 2024



We thank all those serving in worship today:

Reader: Edna Cordery



The flowers sponsor this week is: Bob Klingensmith, in honor of all who work and volunteer at the church!

The music sponsor this week is: Mary Goodman, in memory of her friend, Dotte.

Home Reading of the Week:

Ephesians 4:1-16

¹ I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

⁷ But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸ Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people."

⁹ (When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.)

¹¹ The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. ¹⁴ We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. ¹⁵ But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Holy name, Amen.

Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

Come, Ye Disconsolate

ELW #607

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us; we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

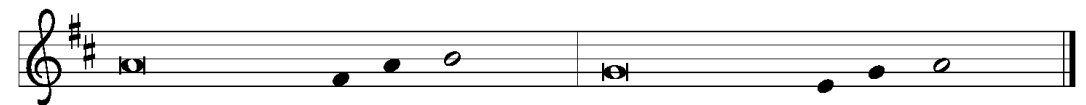
PEACE The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

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.

PSALM 78: 23-29



²³ So God commanded the | clouds above
and opened the | doors of heaven,

²⁴ **raining down manna upon | them to eat
and giving them | grain from heaven.**
²⁵ So mortals ate the | bread of angels;
 God provided for them | food enough.
²⁶ **The LORD caused the east wind to blow | in the heavens
and powerfully led out | the south wind,**
²⁷ raining down flesh upon | them like dust
 and flying birds like the sand | of the seas,
²⁸ **letting them fall in the midst | of the camp
and round a- | bout the dwellings.**
²⁹ So the people ate and | were well filled,
 for God gave them | what they craved.

READING : Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

A food crisis becomes a faith crisis for the Israelites in the wilderness. The hungry people forget God's saving work in the exodus, and they wish for the food they had in Egypt. Nevertheless, God miraculously meets their needs, with manna for bread and quail for meat.

² The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³ The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not."

⁹ Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.'"¹⁰ And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud.¹¹ The LORD spoke to Moses and said,¹² "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'"

¹³ In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the

will invite worshippers forward to fill the altar railings. Once you have received the wafer and the wine/grape juice, you will place your empty cup in the tray and return to your pew. As places open up, worshippers will fill them in so that communion is a continuous process.

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

The Lord Bless you and keep you; The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you; The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace, in the name of the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

ELW #618

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

POSTLUDE

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

by J. Bert Carlson

DISMISSAL Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

*We are glad for your presence today.
We hope you come again soon!*

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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

We give thanks for your Son, who in the night in which he was betrayed, 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. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Together, we pray as our Lord taught us, saying:

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.**

We joyfully acknowledge the first Holy Communion of Nathan James Bilello and Zander Noah Bilello, and invite them to come forward first to share in this meal with their family.

COMMUNION HYMN

Lamb of God

white booklet page 4

COMMUNION HYMNS

We Are All One in Christ

ELW #643

What a Feast of Love

ELW #487

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

EVERYONE IS INVITED to receive Holy Communion. The ushers

morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴ When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵ When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat."

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



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The Holy Gospel according to John the 6th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: John 6:24-35

Many of the five thousand people Jesus fed in the wilderness continued to follow him throughout the countryside. Jesus challenges them to consider the real nature of their quest.

²⁴ When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were [beside the sea,] they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

²⁵ When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" ²⁶ Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷ Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." ²⁸ Then they said

to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?”²⁹ Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.”³⁰ So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?”³¹ Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’”³² Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven.³³ For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”³⁴ They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

³⁵ Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

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

O Bread of Life from Heaven

ELW #480

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

I am the Bread of Life

by Limon Lole

Baritone: Andrew Ehrhardt

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P: Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. *Brief silence.*

At the end of each prayer petition when the worship assistant or pastor says, “Merciful God,” please respond with “Receive our prayer.”

P: We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping. **Amen.**

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