

October 5, 2025

17th Sunday After Pentecost



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

11 East Dawes Avenue, Somers Point, NJ 08244

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Interim Pastor ✝ Wendolyn Trozzo, Scott J. Breiner, Music Director
Corinne Rhodes, Administrative Assistant

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

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

WELCOME

Rev. Wendolyn Trozzo

PRELUDE

Variations on "Christ Is Made The Sure Foundation"

by Vernon Hoyle

Please stand as you are able.

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather today to worship the One who created us,

The One who calls us,

The One who equips us,

The One who loves us without end.

God has set this day before us,

A day set apart, a day of rest and praise.

God has set our lives before us,

A span of years in which we love, and learn, and serve.

God has set God's seal upon our hearts,

So that we might live fully in deep love.

With joyful hearts, let us worship God.

OPENING HYMN

My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less

ELW #596

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, 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.

NEW TESTAMENT 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.

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

² To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³ I 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. ⁴ Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I 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. ⁶ For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷ for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

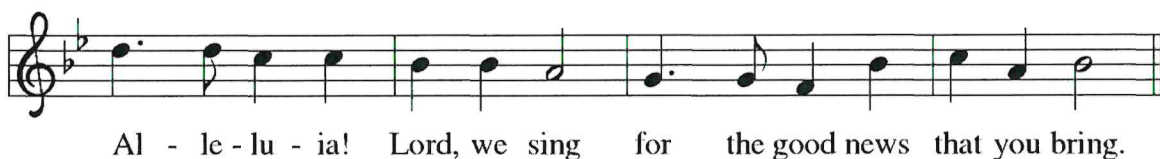
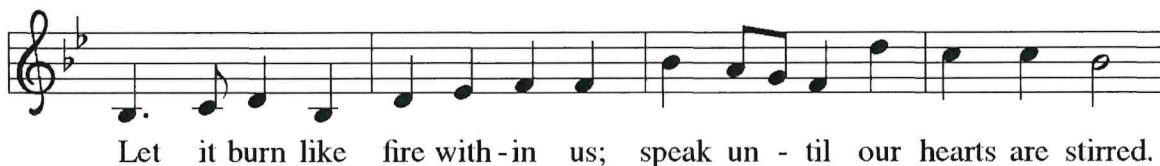
⁸ Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God, ⁹ who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given

to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began,¹⁰ but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.¹¹ For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher,¹² and 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 the deposit I have entrusted to him.¹³ Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.¹⁴ Guard the good deposit 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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 17th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: 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.

⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" ⁶ The 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'? ⁸ Would 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'? ⁹ Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰ So 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.

SERMON

Rev. Wendolyn Trozzo

Please stand as you are able.

THE APOSTLE'S 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

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

by Vernon Hoyle

*Christ is made the sure foundation, and the precious cornerstone,
Who, the two walls underlying, bound in each, binds both in one,
Holy Sion's help forever, and her confidence alone.*

Please stand as you are able.

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

WOV #732

OFFERING PRAYER

Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P: Our God is good, and welcomes us to offer our prayers through our Lord Jesus Christ. *Brief silence.*

At the end of each prayer petition when the worship assistant or pastor says, "God of grace," please respond with "receive our prayer."

P: In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: **Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

COMMUNION HYMN

Lamb of God

ELW page 208

COMMUNION HYMN

My Faith Looks Up To Thee

ELW #759

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

EVERYONE IS INVITED to receive Holy Communion. The ushers will invite worshippers forward to fill the altar railings. Once you have received the wafer and the red wine/white grape juice, place your empty cup in the container on your way to return to your pew. If you do not wish to receive communion, or are worshipping with children who have not had First Communion, we welcome you to come forward for a blessing; as you kneel at the railing, cross your arms over your chest to show your preference to the pastor.

COMMUNION BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

God + bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing

ELW #545

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
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:
Worship Assistant: Edna Cordery**



**The flowers sponsor this week is: Mary Ann & Stephen Gring,
in memory of Mary Ann's father, Franklin Geise.**

**The flowers sponsor this week is: Mary Ellen & Robert
Bartholomew, in celebration of their 70th Wedding Anniversary!**

**The candles, wine and bulletins sponsor this week is: Gay Rowland, in
memory of loved ones.**

**PLEASE STAY AFTER WORSHIP FOR AN INFORMATIONAL
MEETING TO DISCUSS FINANCES AND STEWARDSHIP. WE
WILL BE COLLECTING ALL ADDITIONAL CONGREGATIONAL
SURVEYS. YOUR INPUT IS VERY VALUABLE!**

**Lutheran Social Ministries Workshop:
Navigating Senior Living**

Sunday, October 12 at noon here at Grace. Lunch will be provided.
This workshop discusses different types of care communities. Walk away
with 5 key items to look for when choosing a retirement or healthcare
community.

Please RSVP so we have a headcount for lunch.