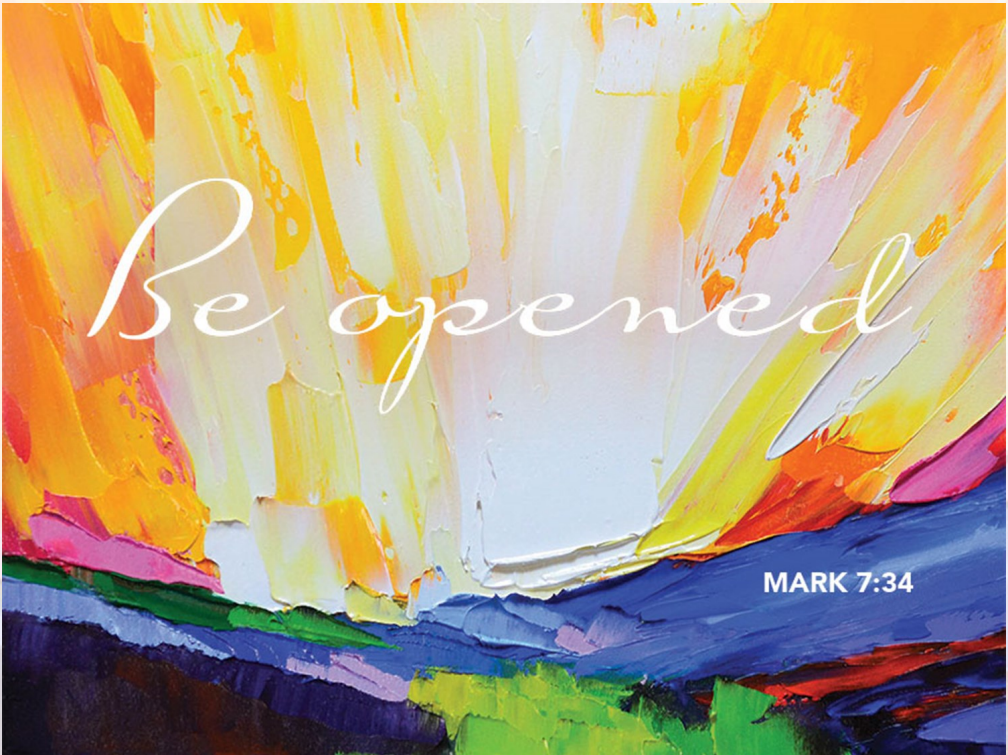


Pentecost 15

September 5, 2021



Grace Lutheran Church

Worship at 8:00 am (Spoken) & 10:15 am (Liturgical)

Shore Road @ Dawes & Meyran Aves.

11 East Dawes Ave., Somers Point, New Jersey 08244

Phone: 609-927-3082—Fax: 609-927-6672—Food Pantry: 609-927-9982

Email: office@gracelutheranspnj.comcastbiz.net

Website: www.gracelutheranspnj.org

Pastor: Rev. Althea Albright

Guest Organist: H. Ray Hunsicker

Music Director: Mr. Scott J. Breiner

Church Secretary: Diana McArdle

Sexton: Andrew McCarrick

Welcome

Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church! We are glad you are here whether you are here to worship with us as a first time visitor, friend, neighbor, or lifelong member. If you have any questions, concerns, or need pastoral care, Pastor Althea would love to talk with you. Feel free to speak with her after worship or contact her by email at: pastoralthea3@gmail.com or by phone 484-345-0399.

Mission Statement

Through God's Word and Holy Spirit, Grace Lutheran Church will be...

- Inviting all people to ***belong*** to the church of Jesus Christ,
- Equipping those who ***believe*** as faithful disciples of Jesus, and
- Sending members to ***become*** caring servants of God in the world.

Serving in Worship Today—Worship Assistant: Ruth Bowden

Altar Guild: Brenda Traa

NO Fellowship

Sound Technicians: Jim Foreman, Michael Piskun, Shawn Welfield

In Our Hearts and Prayers

Greetings members, friends, and family of Grace! We are trying a new way of listing our prayer concerns in the coming weeks. If you notice someone who is missing or if anyone has someone new to add, please don't hesitate to contact Pastor Althea via phone, Facebook, or email or contact our secretary in the office to add people who are on our hearts each week and include our ongoing concerns.

Members of Grace: Jim C., Cheryl R., Betty N., John N., John S., MaryAnn T., Joyce B.

Family and friends: Tammy (Relative of Rene Pugliese)

Elliott, Gage, Virginia (friends of Pastor Althea); Jody (niece of Grings); Maria, Cecilia, and Richard (friends of Welfields); Shirley & Carl (Parents of Debbie Kleuser) Jim, Vicki, (friends of Meg LaSpina), Payton (friend of Joyce Bianco), Annmarie (friends of Marlene D.), Tami (friend of Brenda T.), Family of Ambrose O'Donnell, 3rd (Friend of Claire Brick); Timothy Gibson (cousin of Ruth Bowden)

Those Serving Our Country: Matt Bilello, ANG; Daniel Casner 3rd, USN;

Sgt. Joshua McArdle, USM; Cainan Johnson, USAF

At Home- Bonnie Condcliff, Joan Glenz, Ruth Kruger, Dot Reichelt, Lois Rahme, Lois Reardon, & Skip Uhrmann

Shores@Wesley Manor: Dot Crawshaw, Eleanor Guire, Eileen Rumble

Woodview Estates: Lorraine Moore

WITH ONE VOICE
BREAD OF LIFE
Congregation responses in bold print.

GATHERING

WELCOME

Rev. Althea Albright

PRELUDE

Assurance

by John Ness Beck

Please stand as you are able

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Gracious God, we open our hearts to you. You know each of us inside and out.

We cannot hide anything from you. Create in us hearts of love and humble us to serve you by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit. Renew our relationship with you and restore our joy as we worship you and magnify your holy name. **Amen**

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

God of Grace, have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We humbly repent and we want to be close to you again. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Restore our relationship with you. Uphold us and strengthen us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may live and serve you once again through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace you have been saved through faith. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, all of your sins are forgiven. May God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that you may know Jesus' great mercy and love for you. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

Open Your Ears, O Faithful People

ELW # 519



1 O - pen your ears, O faith-ful peo-ple, o - pen your ears and hear God's word.

2 They who have ears to hear the mes-sage, they who have ears, now let them hear;

O - pen your hearts, O roy - al priest-hood, God has come to you.
they who would learn the way of wis - dom, let them hear God's word.*Refrain*

To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!

God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!

God has spo - ken words of wis-dom, hal - le - lu - jah!



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!

God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!

God has spo - ken words of wis-dom, hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: Hasidic traditional; Willard F. Jabusch, b. 1930, English version

Music: YISRAEL V'ORAITA, Hasidic tune

Text © 1966, 1982 Willard F. Jabusch, admin. OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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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



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **C** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

L O R D H A V E M E R C Y
Christ have mercy
 L O R D H A V E M E R C Y

GLORY TO GOD



Refrain: Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



I Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we

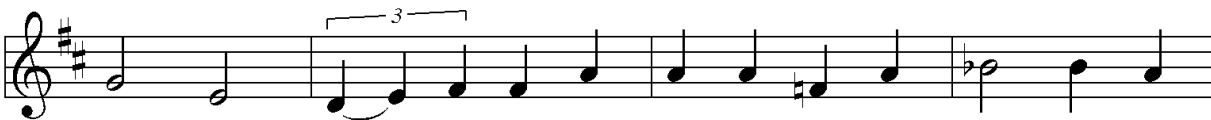


wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

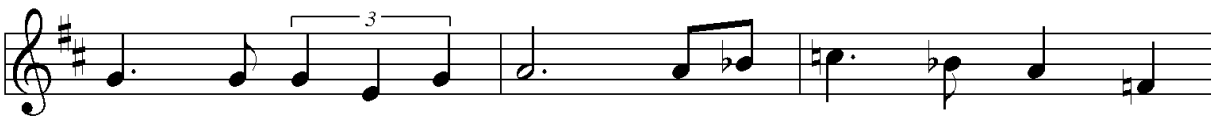
Refrain:



II Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



I For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
II



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together....**Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:4-7a

These verses are a word of hope to the exiles in Babylon. Isaiah 34 portrays God's vengeance on Edom, Israel's age-old enemy, which makes the path from Babylon to Zion safe for the exiles' return. The desert itself will flow with water to give drink to the returning exiles.

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

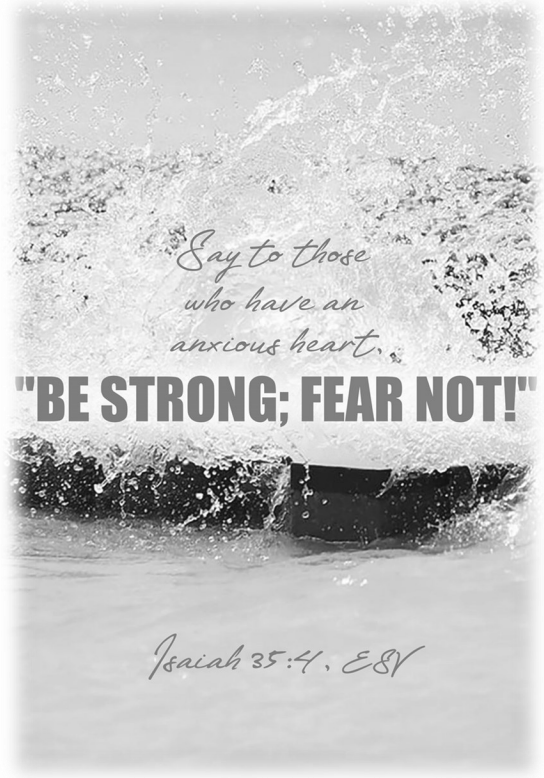
⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

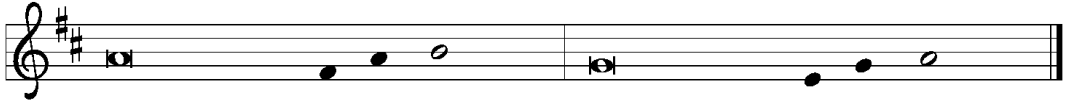
⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

^{7a}the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

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





PSALM: Psalm 146

¹Hal- | lelujah!

Praise the LORD, | O my soul!

²**I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;**

I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.

³Put not your | trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there | is no help.

⁴**When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth,**

and in that day | their thoughts perish.

⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help,

whose hope is in the | LORD their God;

⁶**who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that | is in them;**

who keeps promis- | es forever;

⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to | those who hunger.

The LORD sets the | captive free.

⁸**The LORD opens the eyes of the blind;**

the LORD lifts up those who | are bowed down;

the LORD | loves the righteous.

⁹The LORD cares | for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way | of the wicked.

¹⁰**The LORD shall | reign forever,**

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. | Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: James 2:1-10, 14-17

Faithful Christians do not show partiality to the rich and powerful of the world, especially at the expense of the poor and weak. Likewise, faith does not pay mere lip service to God's will. Instead, a living Christian faith expresses itself in acts of compassion and mercy for those in need.

¹My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

⁸You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The Holy Gospel according to Mark **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL READING: Mark 7:24-37

In Mark's gospel, encounters with women usually signify turning points in Jesus' ministry. Here, a conversation with a Syrophoenician woman marks the beginning of his mission to the Gentiles.

²⁴[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,²⁵ but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

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

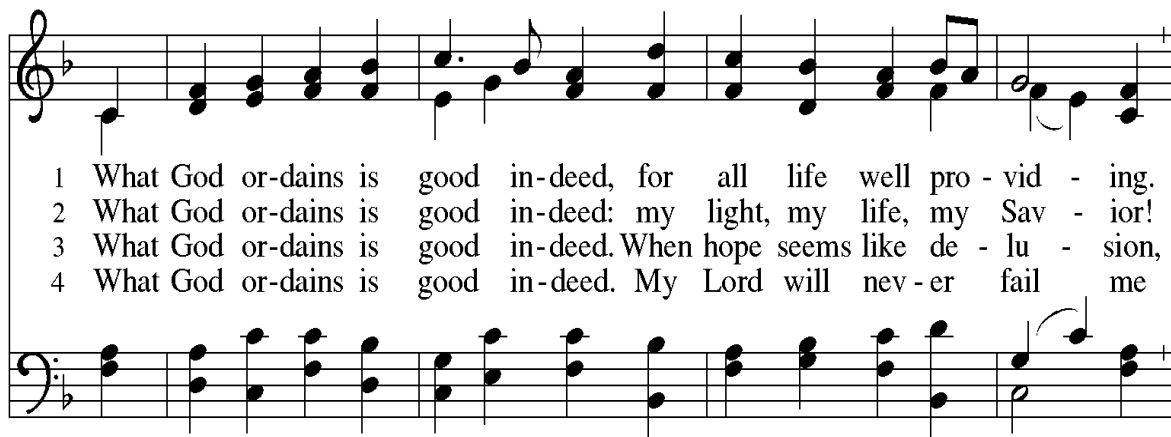
SERMON

Rev. Althea Albright

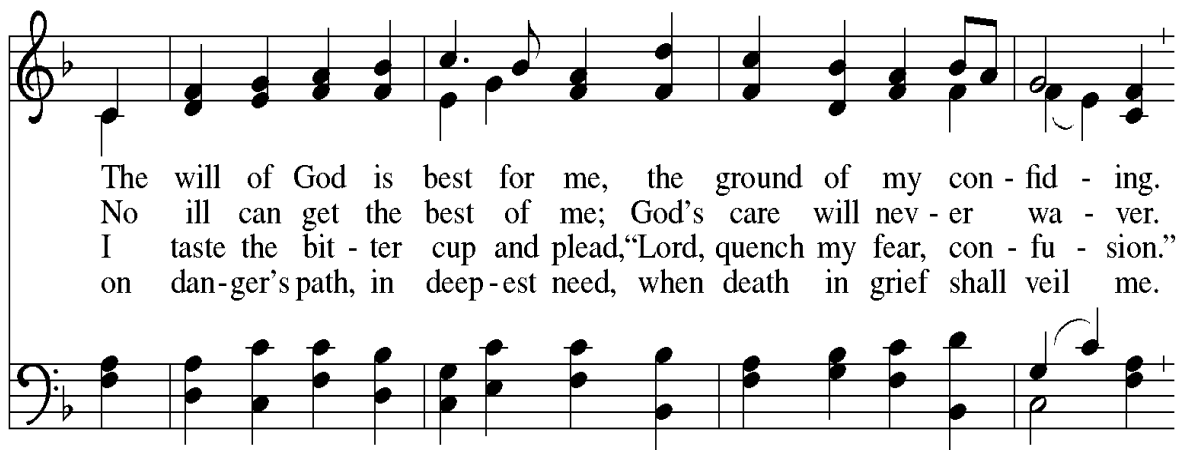
HYMN OF THE DAY

What God Ordains Is Good Indeed

ELW # 776



1 What God or-dains is good in-deed, for all life well pro - vid - ing.
 2 What God or-dains is good in-deed: my light, my life, my Sav - ior!
 3 What God or-dains is good in-deed. When hope seems like de - lu - sion,
 4 What God or-dains is good in-deed. My Lord will nev - er fail me



The will of God is best for me, the ground of my con - fid - ing.
 No ill can get the best of me; God's care will nev - er wa - ver.
 I taste the bit - ter cup and plead, "Lord, quench my fear, con - fu - sion."
 on dan-ger's path, in deep-est need, when death in grief shall veil me.

My faith - ful God, on ev - 'ry road you know the way un -
 Through joy and pain I shall at - tain the dawn dis - clos - ing
 God ends the night, re - stores de - light; by faith I face to -
 My God so dear will draw me near, in lov - ing arms will

fold - ing and my hand you are hold - ing.
 clear - ly that God has loved me dear - ly.
 mor - row and yield to God all sor - row.
 hold me, at last in light en - fold me.

Text: Samuel Rodigast, 1649–1708; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951

Music: WAS GOTT TUT, Severus Gastorius, 1646–1682

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APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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

WEEKLY OFFERING

We are thankful for however you are able to continue supporting our ministry at Grace. Offering may be received through the mail, church office, or Simply Giving online. Please call the church office if you need assistance with Simply Giving, or have any questions or concerns.

OFFERTORY

I'll Walk With God

Webster/Brodsky

Corinne Rhodes / Kendra Werner. Vocalists

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

Please stand as you are able



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were



sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.



Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we



of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,



Lord, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Please be seated

OFFERING PRAYER

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

Let us pray. **We praise you, God, Creator of the universe. We thank you for all of the blessings in our lives and in the lives of those around us.**

Take these gifts and use them for your holy work. Grant us opportunities to serve those in need. Send your Spirit to watch over us and guide us in all that we do through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Pastor: Coming together as people of God, we pray for the church, the world,
and all in need.

A brief silence.

Leader: Heavenly Father, when we exile ourselves from you, rescue us. Open our deaf ears and our blind eyes. Quench our thirsty souls and repair our crippled feet, that we may rejoice in your coming. Loving God, **hear our prayer.**

Leader: Whether we be rich or poor, Lord God, you especially plead the cause of the poor. Help us hear and heed that call with generosity and honor for all persons. Loving God, **hear our prayer.**

Leader: Holy Spirit, lift our spirits to happiness when we sing the praise of the Lord, for He is with us and delights in our song. Loving God, **hear our prayer.**

Leader: Holy Spirit, you invite us to have a living faith by caring for those in need. Keep us from begrudging help, for whether we be rich or poor we have great need for each other. Loving God, **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, as you made the mute speak and the deaf hear; as you healed those with an unclean spirit, so touch us all where we suffer from spiritual deficit or physical pain. Hear us as we pray for one another, *especially we name in our hearts or out loud.....* Loving God, **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

THE 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.**

PREFACE

It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God, for you have taken us by the hand, and offered yourself to us in a sacred sacrament. You are the creator of all things; you knew the earth and its inhabitants before their birth. You know our inner most being and offered us love and forgiveness in the new covenant embodied in your Son, Jesus, who died for all the world. Now, with the whole church, the angels, and all of heaven we praise you and sing:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Almighty God, at this, your holy table, we come to you to be fed by your presence.

We give you thanks for Jesus' coming into the world to fulfill 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 we celebrate this holy meal. May all praise and thanks be to you, Holy God,
through Christ Jesus, and by your Life-giving Spirit. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by Christ, let us pray.

**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**

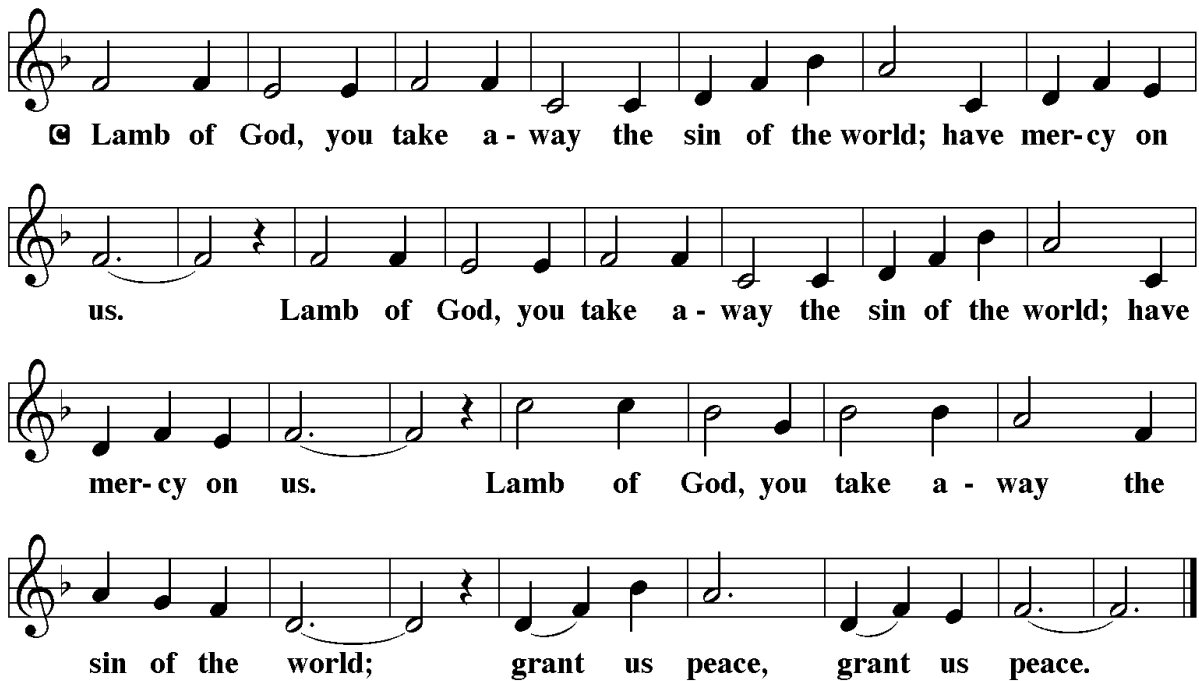
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet for Christ is our host. **Amen.**

Communion will be offered in two ways, continuous at the chancel step, and at the direction of Pastor after everyone has come forward (for those at home online and those who choose to remain seated).

Follow the direction of the ushers to come to the front or remain seated and after all have come forward, direction for the prefilled host and grape juice will be given.

COMMUNION HYMN



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

IF YOU CHOOSE TO COME FORWARD:

Follow the directions of Pastor and the Ushers.

IF YOU CHOOSE TO REMAIN AT YOUR SEAT OR YOU ARE ONLINE:

Prepare your elements after all have come forward and wait for direction from Pastor.



CANTICLE

☐ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -

one what God has done. Let all who seek the

Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.

Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and

lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -

giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in the sharing of this holy meal you bless us with the body and blood of your Son to refresh and restore all of your people.

Give us courage and guidance that we may continue to be your hands and feet in the world. Amen

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

Beloved children of God, as we are sent from this place, know that God loves you.

Remember Christ's presence is with you wherever you go.

Know that the Spirit is with you whenever you call on the Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate

ELW # 722

Please be seated for the postlude.

Take this time to listen to the music and contemplate the message presented today.

POSTLUDE

Fairest Lord Jesus

by Matthews/Hunsicker

DISMISSAL

Go and serve others with the love of Christ! **Thanks be to God!**

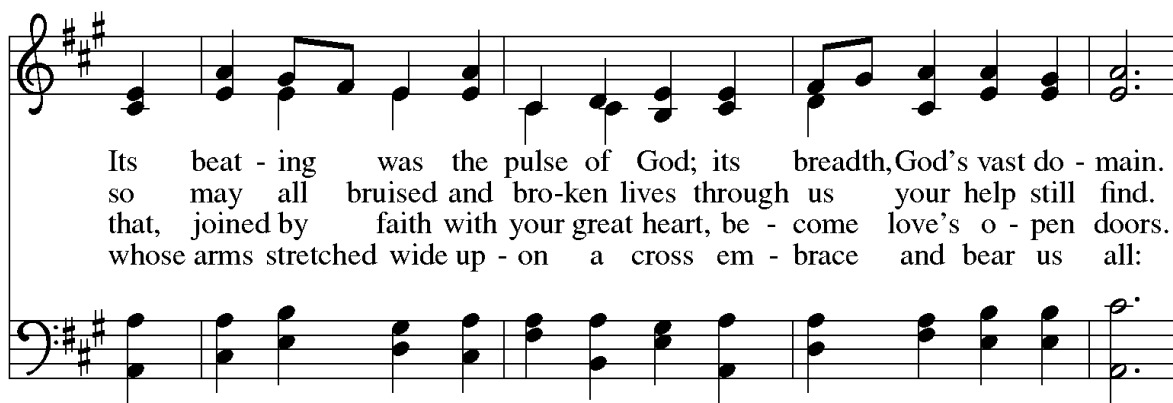
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1 O Christ, your heart, com - pas - sion - ate, bore ev - 'ry hu - man pain.

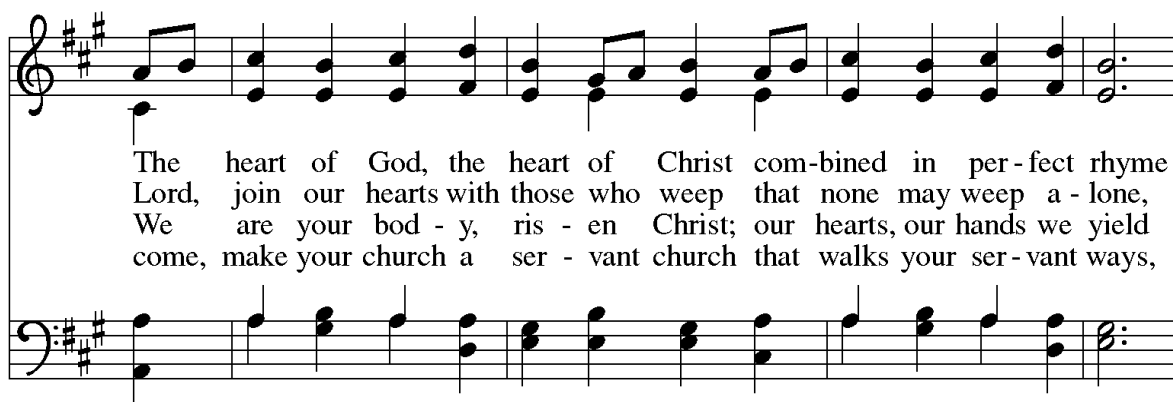
2 As once you wel - comed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind,

3 O Christ, cre - ate new hearts in us that beat in time with yours,

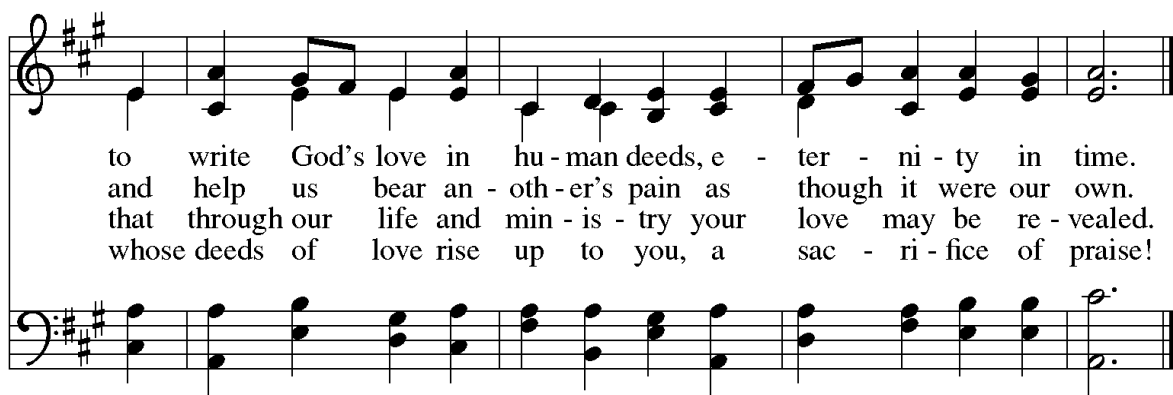
4 O Love that made the dis - tant stars, yet marks the spar-row's fall,



Its beat - ing was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast do - main.
so may all bruised and bro - ken lives through us your help still find.
that, joined by faith with your great heart, be - come love's o - pen doors.
whose arms stretched wide up - on a cross em - brace and bear us all:



The heart of God, the heart of Christ com - bined in per - fect rhyme
Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep a - lone,
We are your bod - y, ris - en Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield
come, make your church a ser - vant church that walks your ser - vant ways,



to write God's love in hu - man deeds, e - ter - ni - ty in time.
and help us bear an - oth - er's pain as though it were our own.
that through our life and min - is - try your love may be re - vealed.
whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sac - ri - fice of praise!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833

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Adult Sunday School is coming back!

(also known as Adult Forum)

Starting Sunday

September 19, 2021 at 9:00am

we will go back to our regular schedule of having Adult Sunday School between our worship services. This adult class consists of videos, Bible study, current event discussions, and other faith related topics. Anyone and everyone is welcome!



Blessing of Backpacks Sunday, September 26, 2021

All school age kids are invited to bring their backpacks to be blessed. during the Children's Sermon this week. Teachers are also welcome to come forward to receive a blessing for their school year.

SUNDAY SCHOOL will begin Sunday, September 26th, to be known as **"GRACE FRIENDS"**
CONFIRMATION CLASS will gather this Fall.

NEW MEMBER CLASS date will be chosen soon.
Look for the announcement.



JOYFUL NOISE offering collected on Sunday, August 15th for The Atlantic City Rescue Mission was **\$139.23**. Thank you for your generosity to this much needed ministry.



FUNERAL SERVICE

Pr. Althea presided at the funeral service held in our sanctuary for Mark A. Tait on Tuesday, August 31st at 11:00 am.

The burial of ashes followed the service at the Grace Columbarium. Military

Honors were presented by the US Airforce.

We pray God's blessing of comfort and consolation upon his wife, MaryAnn and their family.

REMINDER:

ONE SERVICE

AT 10:15 AM

SUNDAY

**SEPTEMBER 12th
INSTALLATION OF**

**Rev. Althea Albright
As the pastor of Grace.**

Luncheon following the service in the Social Hall, Today is the last day to make a reservation. Forms to sign-up are located in the Narthex/Lobby and at entrance to the sanctuary through the Social Hall door.

WE WELCOME today, as our guest organist, Mr. H. Ray Hunsicker.

NEED PRAYER?

Date: / /

CARD

CONNECTION

Date: / /

CARD

New

**Connection/Communion
& Prayer Cards**

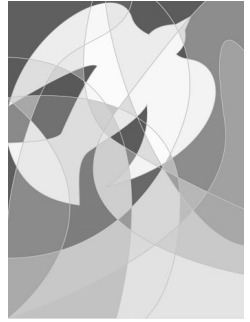
Are located in the Narthex/Lobby & at the Social Hall entrance.

Please begin using these cards to record your attendance/communion and prayer requests. Place the filled cards in the offering plates. Thanks!

Spirit, Lead Us:

Grace's Ministry Retreat Series

**Join Us on Sunday
October 10th & November 14th**



I woke up this morning, saw a world full of trouble now...

I thought, how did we ever get so far down?

And how's it ever gonna turn around?

So, I turned my eyes to heaven,

I thought, "God, why don't You do something?"

He said, "I did. I created you."

If not us, then who? If not me and you?

Right now - It's time for us to do something.

Lyrics adapted from the song,

"Do Something" by Christian artist Matthew West.

**Calling all friends and family of Grace! Come one! Come all!
Our spirit-led visioning and strategic planning retreat is back!**

God has been calling us to "do something" in Somers Point for many years. Now it's time to take a look at our calling in 2021-2022 and beyond. Just like the disciples would gather to support one another and rekindle their mission, so we also will gather, discuss, and refresh our mission in Somers Point and beyond.

In October and November, we will be gathering on Sunday right after 10:15am worship to enjoy a light lunch, have discussion, and do some purposeful planning for our future ministry.

It is helpful if you are able to read (or skim through) the book "Growing Young" ahead of time. Pastor will be using this book, some Bible verses, and other resources to lead our discussion and planning sessions.

**THINKING
OUTSIDE
THE BOX**



**All Pastor Althea requires of you ahead of time is to
come with your prayerful ideas,
come with an open mind,
and come prepared to
think outside the box!**

Events This Week - September 5 - 12, 2021

Sunday 9/5 Pentecost 15
8:00 am—Spoken Service - Lounge
 10:15 am - Liturgical Worship Service
 Holy Communion
 4:00 pm - AA Meeting - Lounge



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6
OFFICE CLOSED
PANTRY CLOSED

7:00 pm - AA Meeting—Social Hall

Tuesday 9/7
 Food Pantry Closed
 6:30 pm - NA

Wednesday 9/8
 9:00 am - 11:30 am - Food Pantry
 11:30 - 3:30 - Bayside Bridge Group
 7:00 pm—NA Meeting - Social Hall
 7:30 pm - Compassionate Friends

Thursday 9/9
 5:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal
 7:00 pm - Al-Anon Meeting - Lounge

Friday 9/10
 10:30 am - Grace Stitches
 7:30 pm - AA Meeting—Lounge



Saturday 9/11

Sunday 9/12 Pentecost 16
 10:15 am - Liturgical Worship Service
 Installation of Pastor Althea Albright
 Holy Communion
 Luncheon following worship
 in the Social Hall
 4:00 pm - AA Meeting - Lounge

2021 FLOWER CHART is posted on the bulletin board outside the Church Office. Available for weekly dedications are Candles, Sanctuary Flowers, Bulletins, Wine & Anthems. Please sign your name next to the date and item on the chart you wish to have dedicated in the bulletin. For your convenience, flower /dedication envelopes are now available in the Narthex/Lobby. Please be sure to write your name on the date requested on the flower chart located in the Office Wing outside the Church Office.

Be sure to fill out the payment envelope with all the information for the bulletin, a week before (or sooner) your desired date, place it in the Offering plate or bring to the church office. Thank you, Diana

Dedications

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

In Honor of
 Our Daughter Karen's Birthday
 Given by Brenda and Bob Traa