

24th Sunday after Pentecost



November 12, 2023

Welcome to Grace

We give thanks that you have come to Grace to worship in God's house.

To our guests — We invite you to worship with us often and consider our family of faith yours.

Everything you need for worship is printed in this bulletin. Large Print Bulletins and Quiet Books (for our very young worshipers) are available from the ushers.

Our facility is equipped with a hearing assistance system to accommodate hearing difficulties. Please ask the sound technician for a receiver.

Please turn off or silence your personal communication device.

We also ask that you not bring food or drink into our worship space.

We are a congregation of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC). The NALC embraces four core values: Christ Centered, Mission Driven, Traditionally Grounded and Congregationally Focused. The NALC is focused on living out Christ's Great Commission to go and make disciples in North America and around the globe. We invite you to learn more about our congregation and the NALC.

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

The question of how to be prepared for Jesus' return is answered four times in today's lessons. Being ready for Jesus' return is not passivity on our part; instead, it is an active preparing, an active waiting and serving and doing justice in the world in the name of Christ. There is no reason to fear anything. Christ promised he would return in due time. We await this moment with an active and vibrant faith.

PRELUDE

"Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain" - arr. Michael Burkhardt

"Oh Happy Day When We Shall Stand" - arr. Paul Manz

Linda Hoch

Parish Concerns

Please stand and face the baptismal font.

Confession and Forgiveness

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

P 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.

P Merciful Father,

C **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 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.**

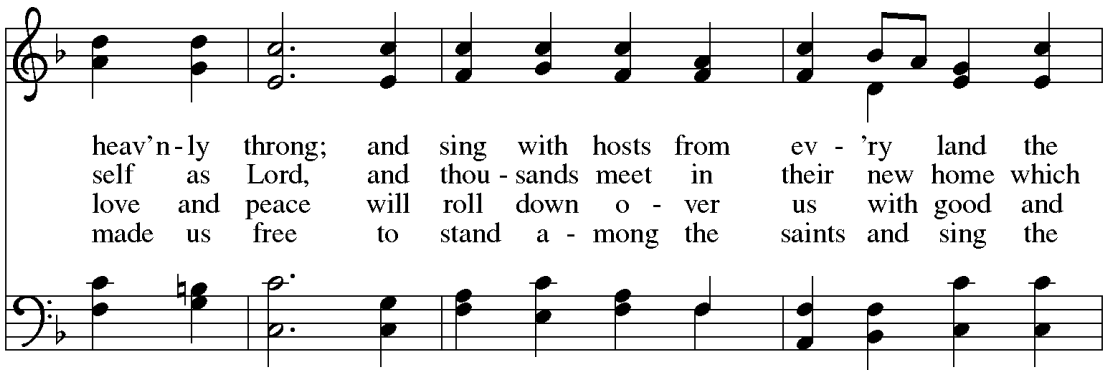
P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

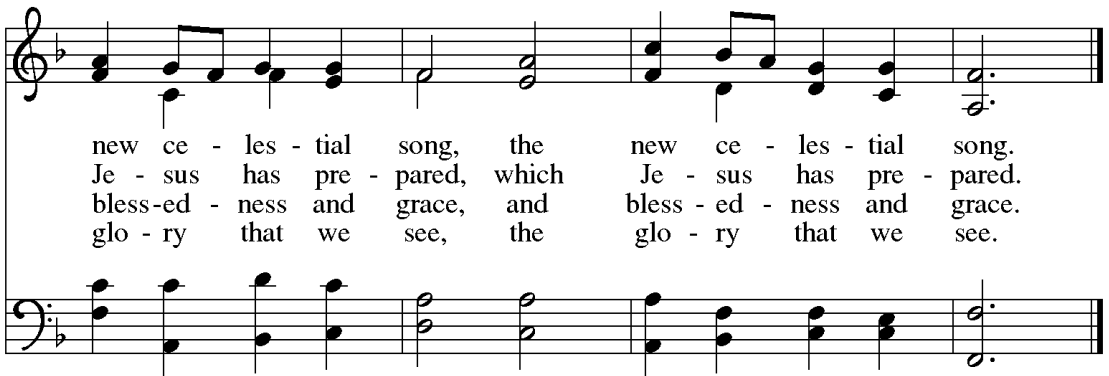
GATHERING HYMN "Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand"



1 Oh, hap - py day when we shall stand a - mid the
2 Oh, bless - ed day when Christ shall come and show him -
3 Oh, what a might - y rush - ing flood of joy and
4 O Lord, your grace is ev - 'ry - thing; your love has



heav'n - ly throug; and sing with hosts from ev - 'ry land the
self as Lord, and thou - sands meet in their new home which
love and peace will roll down o - ver us with good and
made us free to stand a - mong the saints and sing the



new ce - les - tial song, the new ce - les - tial song.
Je - sus has pre - pared, which Je - sus has pre - pared.
bless - ed - ness and grace, and bless - ed - ness and grace.
glo - ry that we see, the glo - ry that we see.

The Gathering

GREETING

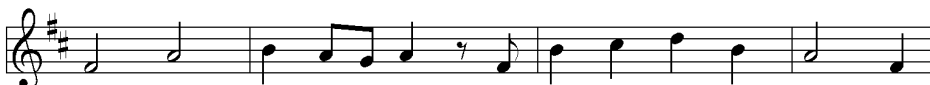
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you!**

HYMN OF PRAISE



A Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



B 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.



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.



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



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

C **God of light and life, through your most Holy Spirit, illumine our lives with your grace so that we may be ready for the coming of your Son. Grant that we may bear the light of your love to the world in need, that all may know of your justice and mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Word

FIRST READING: Amos 5:18-24

The prophet Amos conveyed God's anger toward his people for their empty sacrifices and meaningless worship. He called them to act with justice rather than to offer vain gifts, and to live in righteousness rather than sing noisy songs and try to appease him with fattened calves. True peace comes not from solemn assemblies but from serving faithfully in the name of God.

¹⁸Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why do you want the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, not light;

¹⁹as if someone fled from a lion,

and was met by a bear;

or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,

and was bitten by a snake.

²⁰Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,

and gloom with no brightness in it?

²¹I hate, I despise your festivals,

and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,

I will not accept them;

and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals

I will not look upon.

²³Take away from me the noise of your songs;

I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

²⁴But let justice roll down like waters,

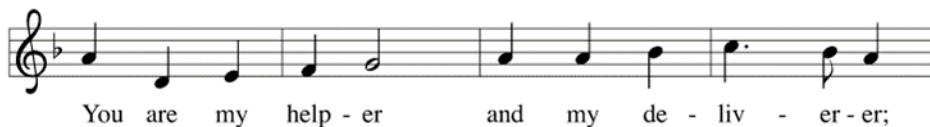
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 70

Refrain



Psalm Tone



- L Be pleased, O God, to de-¹ liver me;
O LORD, make¹ haste to help me.
- C** ²**Let those who seek my life be put to shame¹ and confounded;
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune
draw back and¹ be disgraced. Refrain**
- L ³Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat¹ over me
turn back because¹ of their shame.
- C** ⁴**Let all who seek you rejoice and be¹ glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great¹ is the LORD!"**
- L ⁵But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quick-¹ ly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD,¹ do not tarry. **Refrain**

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

¹³We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





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

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus offered a parable about being ready for the bridegroom when he arrives. Ten virgins were awaiting that bridegroom's arrival. Before he arrived, five of the virgins found themselves without enough oil to keep their lamps going. They were advised by the wise virgins to go and buy more oil, but while they were away, the bridegroom returned and those who had left found themselves excluded from the banquet.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

P The gospel of the Lord.



Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

MESSAGE

Molly King, Commissioned Lay Minister

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain"



1 Come to Cal-v'ry's ho - ly moun-tain, sin - ners, ru - ined by the fall;
2 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, wound - ed, im - po - tent, and blind;
3 Those who drink shall live for - ev - er; 'tis a soul re - new - ing flood.



here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain flows to you, to me, to all,
here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion, here the trou - bled peace may find.
God is faith - ful; God will nev - er break his cov - e - nant of blood,



in a full per - pet - ual tide, o - pened when our Sav - ior died.
Health this foun - tain will re - store; those who drink shall thirst no more.
signed when our re - deem - er died, sealed when he was glo - ri - fied.

APOSTLES' CREED

A We confess our Christian faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A Let us pray for the Church, the world, and one another.
A brief silence

After each petition:

A Lord, in your mercy,
C Hear our prayer.

A Into your hands, gracious Father, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
C Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.
C And also with you.

***You may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace,
and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.***

Please be seated.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Maria Laderman - Flute, Linda Hoch - Piano

"The Water Is Wide" - arr. Brant Adams

Please stand.

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and salutary . . . *The Presider continues with the preface,
concluding:...*we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





THE RITE FOR LAY OR DIACONAL DISTRIBUTION

P When our congregation gathered for the celebration of Holy Communion, we heard again the story of God’s mighty acts, and of the love shown to us in the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. With thanksgiving, we remembered that “in the night in which he was betrayed, he 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.”

We were given assurance of our Lord’s presence through the gift of His Holy Spirit. Now, we receive this same bread of life and this same cup of blessing, that we may be strengthened through these gifts.

LORD’S PRAYER

P Together we pray.
C **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.

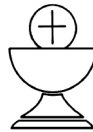
Please be seated.

LAMB OF GOD



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.



All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in and under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation.

As no ordained pastor is present today, our worship will include distribution of those elements set apart earlier by Pastor Matt. In this sense, the Lord's body and blood offered today is an extension of the celebration of the Sacrament of the Altar at that time.

Children who do not commune are invited forward to receive a blessing.

You may receive the Communion Wine by taking a communion glass from the tray as it is offered to you.

As always, the common cup is offered for those who desire to use it, everyone is also welcome to use the individual cups. If you desire the common cup, please point to it as the individual cups pass by you.

Grape juice is available in the center of the communion tray.

After you have received, please place the empty communion glass in the basket provided (Gluten-free hosts are available by telling the person giving the host.)

COMMUNION MUSIC

Maria Laderman - Flute, Linda Hoch - Piano

"Morning Has Broken" - arr. Brant Adams

After communion is finished, please stand.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

The Sending

BLESSING

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ grant you peace.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"Now Thank We All Our God"



1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voic - es,
2 Oh, may this boun-teous God through all our life be near us,
3 All praise and thanks to God the Fa-ther now be giv - en,



who won-drous things has done, in whom his world re - joic - es;
with ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us,
the Son, and him who reigns with them in high - est heav - en,



who, from our moth - ers' arms, has blest us on our way
and keep us in his grace, and guide us when per - plexed,
the one e - ter - nal God, whom earth and heav'n a - dore;



with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
for thus it was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

DISMISSAL

Children Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

"Now Thank We All Our God" - arr. Robert A. Hobby

Linda Hoch

Offering: A basket will be placed by the baptismal font for offering. Offerings can be placed in the basket before or after the service.

Remember in our prayers... Joe Moleno, Betty Lou Miliner, Janis Boughton, Evelyn Boughton, Tami Stone, Grace Sima, Rod Rice, Don Slemmer, Jan Perry, John Moffett, Rick Arreguin, Bob Bower, Barbara Muller, Clarence Clapham, Janice Hardick, Joan Hassler

Notes & News

WELCOME, GUESTS! We welcome you as our guest in our church home and invite you to continue to worship with us. We invite guests to take a welcome bag at the Welcome Desk to learn more about Grace and sign the Pew Pad to let us know you were worshipping with us today.

Service Recording: The recorded 8:30am service will be available at www.grace43081.org around 11am.



The Annual Meeting will be held Next Sunday, November 19 at 12:15pm.



The office will be closed Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24.

OUTREACH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join Freedom a la Cart in providing socks to include in bags of restoration for survivors of human trafficking in our community! The holidays can be a difficult time, financially and emotionally, for the survivors served by Freedom a la Cart. Donations of new socks will be collected in a bin in the Gathering Space and are due **Sunday, December 3rd. Our goal is 75 pairs of socks.**



The Annual Progressive Christmas Concert is FRIDAY, Dec 8, 7-9:15PM. Our choir will be at Church of the Master this year. Tickets are \$15 (children under 14 free) and available before or after services. Tickets are also available for the Soup for Shelter (\$20) at the Otterbein Campus Center before the concert, 5:00 - 7:00. Both events benefit building projects for Habitat for Humanity. See Lois Rumph in the gathering space to purchase your tickets for this years concert. See you there!



FIRST FRUITS SUNDAYS *Let all that you do be done in love". (1 Corinthians 16:14)*
November Shopping List: Tissues; Diapers; Sugar – granulated, brown, powdered; Coffee; Raisins; Alfredo Sauce; Soft Soap (liquid hand soap); Fruit juices (other than apple); Jello/Pudding Mixes; Toothbrushes/Toothpaste; *and*

Plastic shopping bags are needed. We cannot accept food that has reached its expiration date. Any fresh produce, baked goods and dairy products take directly to WARM. Make Checks Payable to: Grace Lutheran Church, memo notation for WARM.



*Blessings to all who are making this a part of your regular tithes and offerings.
MONTHLY FOOD/HYGIENE=242 lbs.; YEAR TO DATE FOOD/HYGIENE=3,345 lbs.
MONTHLY MONETARY= \$1,040.00; YEAR TO DATE MONETARY= \$12,236.00
CROP WALK: \$2,580 (includes a matching \$1,000 contribution from the Mission Reserve Fund)
THANKSGIVING BAGS=29 BAGS (560lbs); THANKSGIVING MONETARY=\$ 1,410 (includes a matching \$705 contribution from the Mission Reserve Fund, which was matched by \$1,410 from CODREA Financial Services.)*



TODAY a box cake and box brownie mix collection will take place to send overseas for Rick Arreguin's Amy National Guard Unit. Please reach out to Jodie Arreguin or Karen Bale with any questions.

The next Red Cross Blood Drive at Grace is Tuesday, Nov.14, 2023 - 12 noon to 6 pm. Appointments are open now. You can schedule an appointment



Blood Drive

by contacting the Red Cross at RedCrossBlood.org and use our sponsor code: GraceLuthWesterville or call 1-800-Red Cross. Questions? Contact Vanessa Stewart at 614-588-2712 or vschn55@gmail.com

CHRISTIAN GROWTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vision Statement: To nurture Youth and Family in Christ through Bible based teaching, music, activities and community outreach.

Nativity Fair: What is the difference between a nativity set and a creche? Really



there is none, the word "creche" is French for crib or cradle, which is the main feature. They can contain any number of pieces and be made of almost any material. Did you know that in Australia the animals include koalas and kangaroos? What kind do you have?

If you want to share your "creche" in our Nativity Fair, sign up at the welcome desk and bring it in between November 26 and December 1. You may set it up or leave it to the A&E Team. They will be on display from December 3 and 10 after which you may take them home for your own enjoyment.

We are looking forward to seeing the many ways that the story of the birth of Christ is portrayed.

Direct your questions to Sue Mahrt or Karen Grant.

This fall, Sunday School's offering is being collected to purchase an Alpaca from World Vision. The cost to purchase an Alpaca is \$360. An alpaca is a great



investment in a family's future! Your gift will make a big difference in the lives of farming families in Ecuador's Andean highlands. Alpaca wool can be knitted into hats, scarves, gloves, blankets, and other items to protect against harsh weather. Each week our 1-4 grade class will document collection progress by coloring in our Alpaca friend in the Sunday School hallway.



Grace Chancel Choir rehearsals are 7:00-8:15 PM on Wednesdays. Contact Jeff Daubenmire with questions or interest in singing.

Grace Youth Choir rehearsals are Sundays 9:30-9:45 AM. Contact Jeff Daubenmire, Director of Music Ministries.

Grace Ringers Bell Choir rehearsals are Wednesdays, 6:15-7PM. Contact Maria Laderman with questions or interest in ringing.

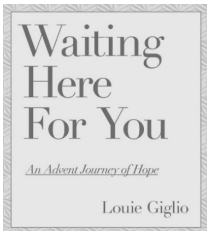
“That the World May Know” – Adult learning class: In volume 14, “The Mission of Jesus”, Discover how Jesus triumphantly made God’s presence known on earth, and how he asks you to do the same – bringing God’s Peace to the chaos of others.



Renowned teacher and historian Ray Vander Laan guides you through the lands of the Bible. In each lesson, Vander Laan illuminates the historical, geographical, and cultural context of the sacred Scriptures.

Filmed on location in the Middle East, the “That the World May Know” film series will transform your understanding of God and challenge you to be a true follower of Jesus. This session started November 5th and is facilitated by Bill Kulju. This class meets in fellowship hall between services beginning at 9:45.

The Women’s Bible Study: Started a new study Wednesday, Nov. 8 at 10:30am, the women’s Bible study is "Waiting Here For You, An Advent Journey of Hope." By Louie Giglio. Louie Giglio reminds us that it's in the richness of Advent- a season of expectant waiting and preparation that we find our answer. It's throughout this waiting season that we prepare our hearts to greet December 25th with joy, peace, hope, and refreshed promise in our newborn King. Contact Molly King, m.king@grace43081.org, if interested.



HOSPITALITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

NURSERY is open! The Nursery is open Sunday mornings during both services and the Sunday School hour. Trained, professional sitters are present every week to care for your children, ages 6 and younger. Questions? Molly King, 614-882-3026 or m.king@grace43081.org.



Loaves and Fishes café is OPEN! Please stop in between services for a drink and a snack! There is a sign-up sheet in the café if you are interested in helping. Please call Vanessa Stewart, 614-588-2712 with any questions or concerns.



Grace Supper Club had a wonderful evening at El Vaquero Mexican Restaurant last month. For November we have a reservation at The Whitney House on Thursday, November 16 at 6:15 p.m. The Whitney House is located at 666 High Street, Worthington 43085. You may want to arrive early as the lot



behind the restaurant with access off New England Avenue East may fill up. There is also parking along High Street in front of the restaurant. A sign up sheet is at the Welcome Center Desk. EVERYONE WELCOME! Please join us for an evening of fun and fellowship. Any questions, please see either Bev Grubb or Tami Stone.



Dartball's 2023-2024 season is here! Contact Robert Bassett at 419.236.4293 or rgbassettiii@gmail.com with any questions. Upcoming matches:

11/16 at FBGC 1 11/23 No Match 11/30 Christ

Upcoming Events

Nov. 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12:15pm: Youth and Family Event: Operation Christmas Child packing and Christmas Card making • <i>Operation Air Mail</i>: Box cake and brownie mix collection to send overseas for Rick Arreguin's Amy National Guard Unit. • WHP Progressive Christmas Concert and Soup for Shelter tickets go on sale for Dec. 8
Nov. 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12:15pm Annual Meeting • Youth Christmas Program rehearsals begin (program during 11am service, Dec. 17) • A Joyful Noise! Community Concerts presents Nick Cosgrove "Home for Christmas" album debut, 4pm • Angel Tree Kick-off • Poinsettia order forms go out
Nov. 26	No Youth Sunday School
Dec. 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reception for Pr. Matt and Debbie Cox • Nativity Showcase
Dec. 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6pm: Supper • 7pm: Advent Service
Dec. 8	Westerville Habitat Partnership Progressive Christmas Concert and Soup for Shelter Event
Dec. 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9am Sunday School • 10:00am Worship and Installation of Pr. David Wendel (Reception to follow)



Scan to *Simply Give*

This QR code connects you to the mobile version of Grace's online giving page to give you a quick and easy way to access our webpage without having to type out a long web address. Through this link, you can create a one-time or on-going donation and to specify where you want your gift to be applied. The *Simply Giving*® Program (endorsed by Thrivent Federal Credit Union) is an automated stewardship program that helps members give generously. Scan to *Simply Give* today.

Financial Update: If you would like a copy of the full monthly Treasurer's report as presented to Council, please reach out to the Treasurer, Melissa Hodek, at melissa.hodek@gmail.com and it will be emailed to you.

All Saints Sunday: 8:30am: 87; 11:00am: 123, Total: 210

MUSIC NOTES

"Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain" – arr. Michael Burkhardt

In January 1815, James Montgomery (1771-1854) wrote a review of Wordsworth's *The Excursion* for *The Eclectic Magazine*. In his reviews, Montgomery had been accused of sounding more like a preacher than a poet. In this review, he began with the fall into sin and encouraged Wordsworth to turn from speaking of nature to singing of salvation, for "a 'wounded spirit,' a guilty conscience, 'an evil heart of unbelief,' cannot be healed by the breezes, purified by the streams, or regenerated by the light of the morning." He later noted that Wordsworth "*forebore* sending him to the only fountain whence refreshment and rest can be found for a wounded spirit and a heavy-laden soul, - the Gospel of Christ." In the face of a culture prone to turn toward nature rather than God, Montgomery used the language of nature and the commonplaces of earlier hymnody to compose this hymn that called his culture to come to Christ.

"Oh Happy Day When We Shall Stand" – arr. Paul Manz

Wilhelm A. Wexels (1797-1866) wrote this hymn for the general convention of the Norwegian Missionary Society on July 6 and 7, 1846. He published it in *Missions-Psalmer* (Christiania, 1846). It was sung at the morning service on July 6 at the Church of Our Savior, Christiania (Kristiania after 1877, Oslo after 1924). It eventually made it into the *Kirkesalmebog* (1869), the official Norwegian hymnal.

"The Water Is Wide" – arr. Brant Adams

"The Water Is Wide" (also called "O Waly, Waly") is a folk song of Scottish origin. Cecil Sharp (1859- 1924) published the song in *Folk Songs From Somerset* (1906) and consolidated the lyrics from multiple older sources in southern England. The imagery of the lyrics describes the challenges of love: "Love is handsome, love is kind" during the "honeymoon phase" of any relationship, but as time progresses, "love grows old, and waxes cold." The lyrics say even true love can "fade away like morning dew."

"Morning Has Broken" – arr. Brant Adams

The Gaelic melody BUNESSAN first appeared with a Christmas text, "Child in a manger," but it was the source of inspiration for the morning text by Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965), who wrote

nursery rhymes and singing games for children. The music first appeared with “Morning has broken” in *Songs of Praise* (1931).

“Now Thank We All Our God” – arr. Robert A. Hobby

Beginning “Nun danket alle Gott,” the first two stanzas of this hymn were written by Martin Rinkart (1586-1649) as a table grace for his family during the time of the Thirty Years’ War in 17th century Germany. The hymn was first published in Rinkart’s *Jesu Hertz-Büchlein* (1636) and was sung at the conclusion of the Peace of Westphalia, ending that devastating war.

Listening for the Promise

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 27) – November 12, 2023

“We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.”

-1 Thessalonians 4:13-

St. Paul writes to the Thessalonians to set the record straight regarding the End Times. Paul writes out of care and concern for the Thessalonian people. He comforts them concerning matters of death and grief. Paul assures the Thessalonians that those who have died in Christ will be among the first to experience the resurrection and the risen Christ. When Christ comes again, we will all be reunited and together once again. This is what gives us Christians living hope.

That said, this doesn't mean that the Christian never grieves. In fact, Jesus sets the example for us as he grieved over the loss of his dear friend Lazarus (see Jn. 11:33-36). We grieve over the death of loved ones, but we don't grieve like those who don't have hope. Indeed, death separates us from our loved ones. Death stings. Death causes great pain. Despite that, we have victory over death through Jesus' death and resurrection.

From a young age, I experienced grief. The first loss of a loved one I had experienced happened when I was about eight years old. The woman who died was in her nineties- she lived a full life, and she was a devout Christian woman. My parents ached as they saw their daughter grieving, but for them, they were able to give me comfort and hope because our hope is in the Lord and in him alone.

For these brand-new Christians in Thessalonica, they needed someone to remind them of the power of Jesus' death and resurrection. Paul proclaims to them once again the life-saving power of Christ and his victory over sin, death, and the resurrection. May we, too, seek to share the truth of the Gospel in the same way.

Prayer: Gracious God and Father, we give you thanks for the gift of your son Jesus Christ, who died to save us from sin, death, and the devil. Strengthen our hope in him that, even as we grieve the loss of loved ones, we might not lose sight of your promise life eternal. We pray in Jesus' name, amen.

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God is Great

Find the 29 **bold** words from Psalm 70 (ESV).

E F I L T O S U T O L I J D H
D L C D H D X A S U R O I O A
P A H A G Q W P L C R S R P S
C O N F U S I O N V H N D D T
Y R O K O G T G H O A J E M E
D M E R R O M A N T Q T L D N
E Q N V B D S O K T T Y I L A
E D F F I T R H Y H A H V O K
N M A K E L B P G L O E E F N
R E J O I C E I E E C L R Y T
Q F E F Q G L D S K S P E G R
E R O M R E V E H A C H R D U
L O V E D H E R Y W G A A Q H
M N O E S K E M A H S L B M V
E L I Q Z N X S M A G P H B S

Make haste, O God, to deliver me! O LORD, make haste to help me! Let them be put to **shame** and **confusion** who **seek my life!** Let them be **turned back** and **brought to dishonor** who **delight** in my **hurt!** Let them turn back because of their shame who **say, “Aha, Aha!”** May all who seek you **rejoice** and be **glad** in you! May those who **love** your **salvation** say **evermore, “God is great!”** But I am **poor** and **needy; hasten to me, O God!** You are my help and my **deliverer;** O LORD, do not **delay!**

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Serving Today

OFFICIATING/ PREACHER	Molly King, Commissioned Lay Minister
ASSISTING MINISTER	Fred Pfanz
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	Jeff Daubenmire
ORGANIST	Linda Hoch
SACRISTAN	Fred Pfanz
CANTOR	Sue Mahrt
LECTOR	8:30 Aaron Singleton 11:00 Ron Hoch
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	8:30 Lisa Kuhar 11:00 Nelson Grover
ACOLYTE	8:30 Charlie Nickoli 11:00 Molly Young
USHERS	8:30 Paul Whitacre, Bob Ayers, Ted Ray, Jim Caldwell 11:00 Aaron Bally, Jim Monroe, Eric Bush
GREETER	8:30 Aaron and Heather Singleton 11:00 Sue Taylor
ALTAR GUILD <i>Team 3</i>	Lois Bernhardt, Jodie Arreguin, Dorothea Fuhrman, Verna Kreachbaum, Amy Quinn, Linda Reasoner, Ellen Paulus, Joanne Figge
SOUND TECHNICIANS	Chris Banks, Dan George, Paul Grant, Eric Bush
NUSERY ATTENDANTS	Alma Lovins, Petria Walker



This Week at Grace: November 12-19, 2023

Nov. 12 **24TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**
MOLLY KING, COMMISSIONED LAY MINISTER
8:30 am Worship Service

9:30 am Youth Choir
 9:45 am Adult Learning and Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service
 12:15 pm Y&F: Operation Christmas Child Event
 2-4 pm Assemblée Chretienne La Parole
 (Christian Assembly of the Word) (Sanctuary)
 Operation Air Mail: Box cake and box brownie mix collection
 Sock Collection kicks off for Freedom AI a Cart
 WHP Progressive Concert and Soup for Shelter Tickets go on sale

MON 9:30am Ohio Mission Region Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
 1:00 pm Ruth Circle (Rose Garden 1)

TUES 12:00pm Blood Drive (Gathering Space and Loaves and Fishes Café)
 8:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

WED. 10:30am Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
 6:15 pm Grace Ringers (Sanctuary)
 6:30 pm Council Meeting
 7:00 pm Grace Singers (Sanctuary)

THURS 6:15pm Supper Club
 6:30 pm Dartball @ FBGC1

FRI. 8:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

SAT 8:00 am Men of Grace (Loaves and Fishes Café)
 9:30 am AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
 8:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

Nov. 19 **25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

PR. MATT COX
 8:30 am Worship Service
 9:30 am Youth Choir
 9:45 am Adult Learning, Sunday School, and Christmas Play Practice
 11:00 am Worship Service
 12:15 pm Annual Congregation Meeting
 2-4 pm Assemblée Chretienne La Parole
 (Christian Assembly of the Word) (Sanctuary)
 4:00 pm Joyful Noise Community Concert: Nick Cosgrove
 Angel Tree Kick-off
 Poinsettia order forms available

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“NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT/ Now Thank We All Our God” – arr. Robert A. Hobby, from Augsburg Organ Library: Marriage, ©2008 Augsburg Fortress



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Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church has been serving the Westerville community for more than 108 years, supporting local ministries such as the Westerville Area Resource Ministry, Westerville Partnership Habitat for Humanity, and Westerville CROP Walk. Grace also supports Lutheran Social Services programs like Faith Mission and provides weekly meeting space for four AA groups.

Vision Statement: We envision Grace to be a welcoming Christ-centered community of faith, inviting all, growing in discipleship, sharing in ministries.

Mission Statement: Our mission is to reach out with the love of Jesus to grow disciples and serve our community.