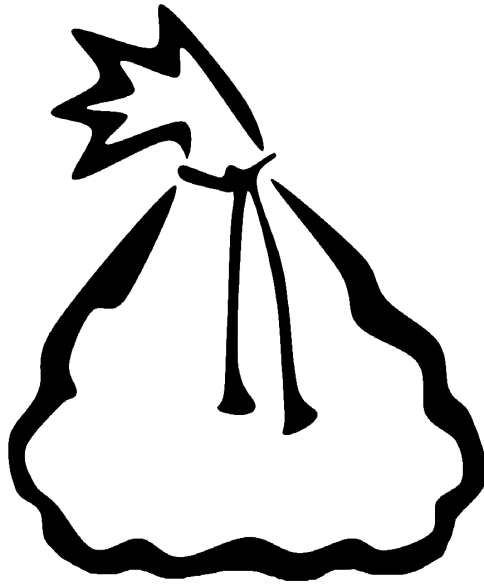


25th Sunday after Pentecost



November 19, 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-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

The Day of the Lord is ever upon us, even though believers have been waiting for his return since his ascension long ago. Time for us is vastly different than God's time, and so we wait with anticipation and patience for the return of Christ. In the meantime we are encouraged to be good stewards of all that God has given us: investing in others, sharing His Word, and living each day with joy and mercy.

PRELUDE

Linda Hoch

"Meditation on *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*" - arr. James Biery

"Gather Us In" - arr. David Lasky

11:00 "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" - arr. Mark Patterson

Grace Youth Choir

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 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.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

"Gather Us In"



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

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 al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

C **Gracious God, in baptism you pour out upon us gifts of immeasurable, eternal worth — faith, salvation, and the calling to serve as your witnesses in the world. Help us to deepen our baptismal life, walking wet daily and responding with abandon to your gracious gifts; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Word

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD!

For the day of the LORD is at hand;
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice,
he has consecrated his guests.

¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who rest complacently on their dregs,
those who say in their hearts,
“The LORD will not do good,
nor will he do harm.”

¹³Their wealth shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.

¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there.

¹⁵That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

¹⁷I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the LORD,
their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.

¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed;
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

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

Psalm 90:1– 12

Refrain

So teach us to num - ber our
days that we may ap - ply our hearts to wis - dom.

Psalm Tone

L Lord, you have¹ been our refuge
from one generation¹ to another.

C ²**Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the¹ earth were born,
from age to age¹ you are God.**

L ³You turn us back to the¹ dust and say,
"Turn back, O child-¹ ren of earth."

C ⁴**For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when¹ it is past
and like a watch¹ in the night; Refrain**

L ⁵you sweep them away¹ like a dream,
they fade away suddenly¹ like the grass:

C ⁶**in the morning it is¹ green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried¹ up and withered.**

L ⁷For we are consumed¹ by your anger;
we are afraid because¹ of your wrath.

C ⁸**Our iniquities you have¹ set before you,
and our secret sins in the light¹ of your countenance. Refrain**

L ⁹When you are angry, all our¹ days are gone;
we bring our years to an end¹ like a sigh.

C ¹⁰**The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength¹ even eighty;
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,
for they pass away quickly and¹ we are gone.**

L ¹¹Who regards the power¹ of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your¹ indignation?

C ¹²**So teach us to num-¹ ber our days
that we may apply our¹ hearts to wisdom. Refrain**

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The day of the Lord will come suddenly like a thief in the night. It will be like the sudden onset of labor pains of a mother ready to give birth. Paul urged the Christians at Thessalonica to keep awake, be sober, do not sleep or fail to be ready, for the coming of the Lord is near. Those who believe bear the marks of faith and are not destined for wrath, but for salvation through Christ.

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
 You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus taught about stewardship by using a story about a master who entrusted his property to his servants' care while he was away. Two invested what they had been given, realizing a profit before the master's return. One, however, buried his portion in the ground. The master returned to judge the "worthless servant."

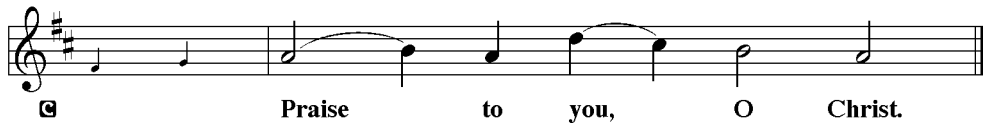
P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹After a long

time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' ²¹His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' ²³His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

P The gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

MESSAGE

Pr. Matt Cox

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous - ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with

light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain

In him there is no dark - ness at all. The night and the

day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the

cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

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

8:30 "Assurance" - arr. John Ness Beck

Grace Singers Chancel Choir

11:00 "Now Thank We All Our God" - arr. Becki Slagle Mayo


Robin Buser - Piano

Please stand.

PREFACE



P The Lord be with you. **Q** And al - so with you.



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



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



Q 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:



Q Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:



Heav'n 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples and said, "Take, eat, this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way he also took the cup after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and said, "Take and drink it all of you. This cup is the New Testament in my blood, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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; 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.

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

Robin Buser - Piano

"We Gather Together" - *arr. Joel Raney*

"Praise to the Lord the Almighty" - *Larry Shackley*

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

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

1 Come, thou al - might - y King, Help us thy name to
 2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, Gird on thy might - y
 3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, Thy sa - cred wit - ness
 4 To thee, great One in Three, E - ter - nal prais - es

sing; Help us to praise; Fa - ther all - glo - ri - ous, O'er all vic -
 sword; Our prayer at - tend. Come and thy peo - ple bless, And give thy
 bear In this glad hour! Thou, who al - might - y art, Now rule in
 be Hence ev - er - more! Thy sov - reign maj - es - ty May we in

to - ri - ous, Come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
 Word suc - cess, And let thy righ - teous - ness On us de - scend.
 ev - 'ry heart, And ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.
 glo - ry see, And to e - ter - ni - ty Love and a - dore.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

"Come, Thou Almighty King" - arr. Paul Laubengayer

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.

Flowers are given by...

Joe and Shirley Moleno in celebration of granddaughter Alison Nussbaum's birthday.
Fred Pfanz in memory of sister Letitia.

Remember in our prayers...

Diane Boone, 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** 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 TODAY at 12:15pm.

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

Upcoming Events

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 available
Nov. 26	No Youth Sunday School
Dec. 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reception for Pr. Matt and Debbie Cox • Nativity Showcase • 3pm Christmas Caroling
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)

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.*

2024 Red Cross Blood Drives have been set! All drives at Grace are on Tuesdays.



You can schedule an appointment 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

2024 Blood Drive Schedule: noon-6pm

1/16/24	3/12/24	5/14/24
7/9/24	9/3/24	11/12/24



Come join us for Christmas Caroling on December 3 at 3:00. We will be caroling for a couple of hours and giving each family a small poinsettia for the Holidays. When we are finished we will have cookies and hot chocolate in Loaves and Fishes. If you are interested, sign up at the Welcome Center. Any questions see Chris Troutman.



83 boxes were delivered to the Operation Christmas Child collection location and on their journey to bring good news and great joy to children around the world! Thank you to all who filled boxes, donated money for shipping, volunteered, prayed over, and supported this years collection!

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.

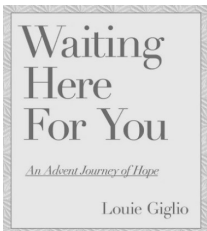
Grace Ringers Bell Choir rehearsals are Wednesdays, 6:15-7PM. Contact Maria Laderman with questions or interest in ringing.



"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.

Dartball's 2023-2024 season is here! Contact Robert Bassett at 419.236.4293 or rgbassettiii@gmail.com with any questions. Upcoming matches:
11/23 No Match 11/30 Christ



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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.

24th Sunday after Pentecost: 8:30am: 75; 11:00am: 130; Total: 205

MUSIC NOTES

"Meditation on I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" – arr. James Biery

The author of this hymn, Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934) regards this hymn as a scriptural meditation and prayer, stimulated by a host of biblical verses mostly related to light, among them these: God gave the dome of the sky (Genesis 1:17); the Lord will be your light (Isaiah 60:19); the night is as bright as day (Psalm 139:12); once you were darkness, but now live as children of light (Ephesians 5:8-9); God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts crying "Abba" (Galatians 4:6); the Son is the reflection of God's glory (Hebrews 1:3); you are children of light, so encourage one another (1 Thessalonians 5:5); be

attentive to the prophetic message as a lamp shining in a dark place (2 Peter 1:19); whoever says “I abide in him” ought to walk as he walked (1 John 1:5-7); and the city has no sun or moon, for the glory of God is its light and its lamp the Lamb (Revelation 21:23).

“Gather Us In”- arr. David Lasky

Marty Haugen (b. 1950) was inspired to write this hymn in 1979 after he sang what he calls “the wonderful hymn from the Netherlands, ‘What Is This Place’ (ELW 524)”. At that occasion, he says: “a presenter had described how the Dutch writer Huub Oosterhuis and his colleague, Bernard Huijbers, had created worship music for a creative Amsterdam church. The lyrics, in keeping with an incarnational understanding of God’s presence, are very concrete in ‘What Is This Place’ – walls, roof, floor, windows. I wanted to experiment with how an American worship community might similarly understand gathering together in Christ’s presence.”

Haugen composed both the text and tune for this hymn, which first appeared in the collection *Gather Us In* (1983).

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing” – arr. Mark Patterson

Originally titled “Come, Children, Join to Sing,” this hymn appeared in *Sacred Melodies for Sabbath Schools and Families* (1843), edited by author Christian Henry Bateman. For many years the book was Scotland’s “Sabbath School hymnal.”

“Assurance” – arr. John Ness Beck

This text by Fanny Crosby (1820-1915) was written after listening to a new melody composed by her friend, Phoebe Palmer Knapp (1839-1908). When asked what the melody said to her, Fanny Crosby replied “Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!”

Words began to form and the result was this gospel hymn, which has been associated with the Billy Graham Crusades. It first appeared in John R. Sweeney’s *Gems of Praise* (1873). This arrangement by John Ness Beck combines the hymn “Blessed Assurance” with J.S. Bach’s “Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring.”

“Now Thank We All Our God” – arr. Becki Slagle Mayo

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.

“We Gather Together” – arr. Joel Raney

The original Dutch text was a patriotic song written at the end of the 16th century to celebrate the release of the Netherlands



Youth Christmas Program

will take place during the 11am Service
Sunday, Dec. 17.

Wednesday Advent Services

will follow *Holden Evening Prayer* by Marty
Haugen.

Service begins at 7pm on Dec. 6, 13 and 20.

A light dinner will be served beginning at
6pm before service.

Christmas Eve Services:

Sunday, Dec. 24, 10am: 4th Sunday of
Advent (Service of the Word)

5:00pm Family Service

8:00pm

Christmas Day Service:

Monday, Dec. 25 at 10:00am



from Spanish rule. Its theme is the providence of God and the prayer “O Lord, make us free!” Edward Kremser, director of a male choral society in Vienna, first arranged the old folksong for men’s voices.

“Praise to the Lord the Almighty” – arr. Larry Shackley

The text for this hymn, based on Psalms 103 and 150, is one of about 60 hymns written by Joachim Neander (1650-1680) during his short life. Neander is widely regarded as the best poet of the Reformed Church in Germany and this is his best-known hymn, published in his *Glaub-und Liebesübung* (1680). The present translation by Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878) appeared in her *Chorale Book for England* (1863). The tune LOBE DEN HERREN (“Praise the Lord”) is an adaptation of a melody which appeared in *Stralsund Gesangbuch* (1665) and is thought to be an old secular air. Neander chose it for his words in their first printing.

“Come, Thou Almighty King” – arr. Paul Laubengayer

For more than a hundred years the authorship of this hymn, originally titled “an hymn to the Trinity,” was attributed to Charles Wesley, though that idea has been strongly debated. It is now thought that the hymn was an imitation of the English national anthem, “God Save Our Gracious King,” and for this reason the author chose to remain anonymous. For many years, these words were sung to the same tune, which we know as “America.”

Serving Today

OFFICIATING/ PREACHER	Pastor Matt Cox
ASSISTING MINISTER	Molly King, Commissioned Lay Minister
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	Jeff Daubenmire
ORGANIST	Linda Hoch
SACRISTAN	Fred Pfanz
CANTOR	Peggy Jones
LECTOR	8:30 Lisa Kuhar 11:00 Karen Holmes
COMMUNION	8:30 Vanessa Stewart
ASSISTANT	11:00 Cheryl Bush
ACOLYTE	8:30 Jack Young 11:00 Claire Cain
USHERS	8:30 Paul Whitacre, Bob Ayers, Ted Ray, Jim Caldwell 11:00 Aaron Bally, Jim Monroe, Eric Bush
GREETER	8:30 Lisa Kuhar 11:00 Jenny, Landon, and Stella Blankenship
ALTAR GUILD <i>Team 3</i>	Lois Bernhardt, Jodie Arreguin, Dorotha Fuhrman, Verna Kreachbaum, Amy Quinn, Linda Reasoner, Ellen Paulus, Joanne Figge
SOUND TECHNICIANS	Chris Banks, Dan George, Paul Grant, Eric Bush
NUSERY ATTENDANTS	Kathleen Betz, Alma Lovins



This Week at Grace: November 19-26, 2023

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

MON 1:00 pm Art and Environment Nativity Fair Preparations (Cry Room)

TUES 8:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

WED. 10:30am Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)

6:15 pm Grace Ringers (Sanctuary)

7:00 pm Grace Singers (Sanctuary)

THURS —OFFICE CLOSED—

FRI. —OFFICE CLOSED—

8:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

SAT 9:30 am AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

8:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

Nov. 26 **CHRIST THE KING**

PR. MATT COX

8:30 am Worship Service

9:30 am Youth Choir

9:45 am Adult Learning (No Youth Sunday School)

11:00 am Worship Service

2-4 pm Assemblée Chretienne La Parole
(Christian Assembly of the Word) (Sanctuary)

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Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-3pm, Fri 9am-Noon

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.