

# Day of Pentecost May 19, 2024

## PRELUDE

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**All: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

**Cong: Amen.**

Pastor: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. Holy God,

**All: in mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew. Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.**

Pastor: Gracious Lord, satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

**All: Amen.**

## HYMN

***Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness.....WOV #684***

*Refrain:*

*Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness calling and free:*

*Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.*

1. You moved on the waters, You called to the deep,  
Then You coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;  
And over the eons You called to each thing:  
"Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings." *Refrain*

2. You swept through the desert, You stung with the sand  
And You goaded Your people with a law and a land;  
And when they were blinded with idols and lies,  
Then You spoke through Your prophets to open their eyes. *Refrain*

4. You call from tomorrow, You break ancient schemes.  
From the bondage of sorrow all the captives dream dreams;  
Our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.  
With bold new decisions Your people arise. *Refrain*

## **GREETING**

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

**Cong: And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**All: Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **HOLY SCRIPTURE**

### **FIRST READING: Acts 2:1-21**

**<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.**

**<sup>5</sup>Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup>Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup>Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." <sup>12</sup>All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup>But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."**

**<sup>14</sup>But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup>No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:**

**17** In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.  
**18** Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;  
and they shall prophesy.  
**19** And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.  
**20** The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.  
**21** Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' "

**PSALM 104:24-35b**

**24** How manifold are your works, O LORD!  
In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.  
**25** Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number,  
living things both small and great.  
**26** There go the ships to and fro,  
and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.  
**27** All of them look to you  
to give them their food in due season.  
**28** You give it to them; they gather it;  
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.  
**29** When you hide your face, they are terrified;  
when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.  
**30** You send forth your Spirit, and they are created;  
and so you renew the face of the earth.  
**31** May the glory of the LORD endure forever;  
O LORD, rejoice in all your works.  
**32** You look at the earth and it trembles;  
you touch the mountains and they smoke.  
**33** I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;  
I will praise my God while I have my being.  
**34** May these words of mine please God.  
I will rejoice in the LORD.  
**35b** Bless the LORD, O my soul.  
Hallelujah!

## **SECOND READING: Romans 8:22-27**

**<sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.**

**<sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.**

## **GOSPEL READING: John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15**

**[Jesus said,] <sup>26</sup>“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. <sup>27</sup>You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.**

**<sup>16:4b</sup>“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. <sup>5</sup>But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ <sup>6</sup>But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. <sup>7</sup>Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup>And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: <sup>9</sup>about sin, because they do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup>about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; <sup>11</sup>about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.**

**<sup>12</sup>“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. <sup>13</sup>When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. <sup>14</sup>He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup>All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”**

## **SERMON**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

***Spirit of the Living God.....W&P #129***

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me,  
Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.  
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.

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## APOSTLE'S 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.**

## PRAYERS

Pastor: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

Each petition ends with "God of grace "  
**The response is "Hear our prayer"**

Pastor: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

**Cong: Amen.**

## OFFERING/OFFERTORY

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

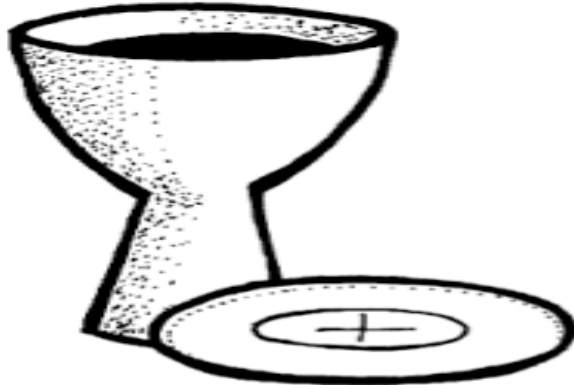
Pastor: Let us Pray....

**All: Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

In 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.



## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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; 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.**

## **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace.

**Cong: Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**All: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.**

## **FINAL BLESSING**

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Pastor: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and Spirit of Easter hope ✝ bless us now and always.

**All: Amen.**

## **SEND FORTH IN SONG**

Pastor: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**Cong: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## SENDING HYMN

**Bring Forth the Kingdom.....W&P #22**

1. You are salt for the earth, O people: salt for the kingdom of God!  
Share the flavor of life, O people: life in the kingdom of God!

*Refrain:*

*Bring forth the kingdom of mercy, bring forth the kingdom of peace;  
Bring forth the kingdom of justice, bring forth the city of God!*

2. You are a light on the hill, O people: light for the city of God!  
Shine so holy and bright, O people: shine for the kingdom of God! *Refrain*
3. You are a seed of the word, O people: bring forth the kingdom of God!  
Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice, grow in the kingdom of God! *Refrain*

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today we celebrate with the family of Chase Declan Daman who is our newest member received through **Holy Baptism** today.

Today's **Altar Flowers** are given in celebration of Jenn & Chuck Specht's 23rd Anniversary.

Today's **Bulletins** are given by Jenn & Chuck Specht in celebration of their 23rd Anniversary.

**Adult Bible Study** Join Pastor each Wednesday evening at 7 PM in the lounge (hallway behind the stage in Fellowship Hall) Easy entry through Ohio Ave. automatic doors/ no steps.

**Please share Email/Contact info:** Share any email, phone number or address updates/additions (if you've never filled out a church new member form they are available at rear of church.) Help us keep in touch by sending a quick email to the church [glc11@comcast.net](mailto:glc11@comcast.net) with your updates/additions.

**\*\*Altar Flowers\*\*** Altar flowers orders & payments are to be made directly to **Engle Florist -724-774-9449** or florist of your choice. Continue to provide your dedication information on the Altar Flower sign-up sheets.

## UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETINGS

**Senior Adult Group** Will meet for lunch **Wednesday, June 19th**, 12 Noon at the Grand Valley Inn. Please see Regina Blinn 724-843-7707 to sign-up.

**Birthday Invite** Elma Buttermore is celebrating her 100th Birthday with a celebration **Today** Sunday, May 19th @1PM. Join her at Lutheran Senior Life, Scholt Auditorium, Zelienople, PA





# Join us for breakfast!

On Sunday, May 19th we will have our Stewardship & Sunday School celebration together in Fellowship Hall at 9:30 AM. We will break bread together as a family over a breakfast feast.

We'll have games/activities for the kids as we celebrate their last day of Sunday School until September!

Beaver Valley Choral Society  
Spring Pops Concert  
*Land That I Love!*  
SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2024  
4:00 P.M.  
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, ROCHESTER  
Featuring the Principal Choir, Orchestra,  
and Treble Youth Chorale  
Music to celebrate our great nation!  
Free and open to the public



# SUMMER

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

# Sunday, May 26th

## 8:30 AM & 10:00 AM



## Invitation and Response

Heavenly Father, help us to be good stewards for the resources you have given us, whether material wealth, abilities, or spiritual gifts. Lead us to step out in faith and trust you with what you have entrusted to us. May we use our resources wisely, taking risks for your kingdom. Help us always to trust you, so we do not just bury our talents out of fear. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

Sunday, May 19 is Commitment Sunday. During worship, you will be invited to bring forward your enclosed Commitment Card, offering your gifts to God. You may also mail your commitment card to the church office or fill out an online commitment card.

The following Sunday we will announce the current results of our commitments, including the number of Commitment Cards received and the faithful response of the congregation.

We are excited about the opportunities to meet the needs of the church and community in coming year. Together we will change lives for the sake of the gospel.

## Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

393 Adams Street  
Rochester, PA 15074

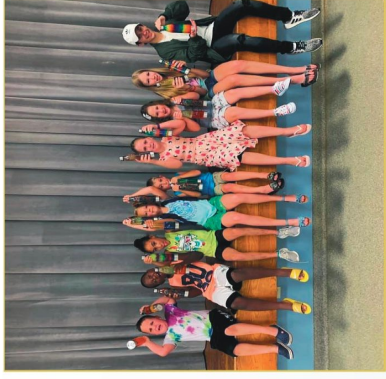
Phone: 724-774-3792  
E-mail: [glc11@comcast.net](mailto:glc11@comcast.net)

## Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church



# Because of YOU Our Church Changes Lives

STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2024



## Introduction

Grace church is a people created by God in Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, called and sent to bear witness to God's creative, redeeming, and sanctifying activity in the world. We live out this calling as we feed the hungry at Judy's Table and through the hands that prepare meals for shut ins through Meals on Wheels.

It is our aspiration at Grace to ensure our building is a welcoming and inviting space for all who gather in worship, in learning His ways, and in teaching the way back to God, giving purpose to lives as it has done for many generations. We are committed to serve God by promoting our love for Christ, reviving our relationships with each other, and dedicated to ensuring our youth have a safe space to explore their forming talents in a Christian family. The commitment to providing family ministry is a promise that Grace will be serving as God's people through the ministries of Christ for many years to come.

## Needs

Grace Lutheran is a gift and blessing to the community. We consistently respond to the needs in our community, from tutoring to meals and more. Programs like Meals on Wheels and the Adelphoi Education classrooms continue to make a difference. We bear witness to the gifts of God through these ministries.

At the same time, maintaining a church building is no small task. For our building to serve us and the community we need to ensure we put our best foot forward. We want people to feel welcomed and comfortable, and invited back.

We have all experienced the increase in costs of everything from gas for our cars to groceries. All those increases impact the church as well. We are called to respond generously to this challenge.



**1 Peter 4:10** Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in various forms



# Ministry Initiatives

Our goal this year is to increase our offerings by **\$23,400** or **\$450** per week to:

## Feed Hungry People

(\$100/week)

Judy's Community Table was a blessing to many, but in the pandemic it stopped. People in the community are still in need, and we have the space and resources to make a difference. This year we will begin offering a monthly meal to the community. We intend to grow this to a weekly ministry by involving other churches in the community.

## Care For Our Building

(\$250/week)

We need to ensure our building is fresh and welcoming for everything from Sunday worship to community groups using the space. We will hire a custodian for regular cleaning to ensure our pastor and other staff are not distracted from their duties by routine cleaning and maintenance tasks. In keeping with supporting our staff, we will put a family ministry leader into place to ensure organization and planning for activities from VBS to family field trips and activities for families.



## Sustain Ministry Excellence

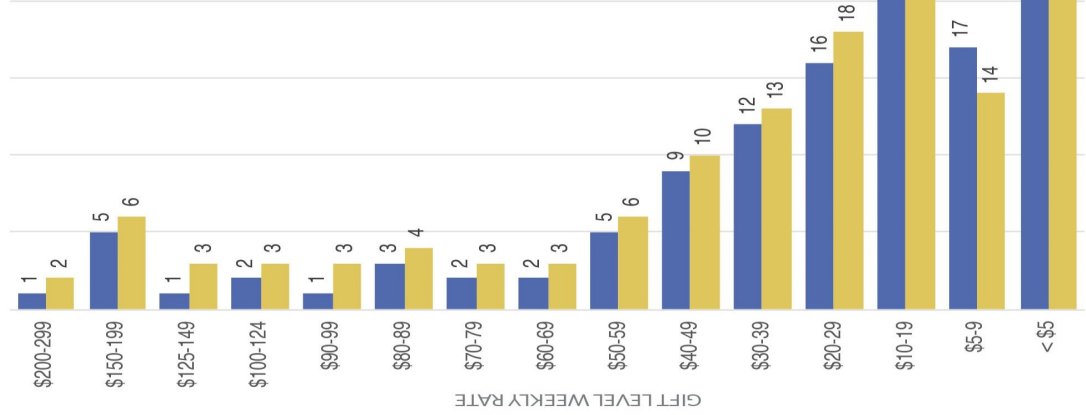
(\$100/week)

This is where we plan together to deal with increased costs for everything from electricity and gas, to staff compensation and benefits. This is also where we seek funds to replace gifts from people who have died or moved away and no longer support Grace. This also helps provide resources for routine building maintenance.



# Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

RANGE OF GIFTS GIVEN AND HOPED FOR



■ NUMBER OF CURRENT GIVERS = 144 TOTAL  
 ■ NUMBER OF HOPED-FOR GIVERS = 145 TOTAL

This graph displays two charts of our giving. The first shows how many gifts are currently being given at the indicated weekly amounts. The other shows how many gifts are needed in each level to reach our goal.

As you look over the charts, prayerfully ask yourself the following:

- » How does my giving level compare with other ways I use my money?
- » How adequately does my giving reflect my gratitude to God for all the blessings I have received?
- » Where would I be if I doubled my offerings? And can I consider doing that?
- » How much more could I give if I really wanted to?