

# 23 PENTECOST

November 8, 2020  
9:00 a.m.



**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
705 West State Street  
Fremont, Ohio

*The mission of Grace Lutheran Church is  
“to present the Light of Christ.”*

Maureen Pump.....Lay Associate Minister  
Tom Curry .....Director of Music  
Heather Hawn.....Youth Ministry  
Tricia McElfresh.....Director, Noah’s Ark Preschool

**9:00 a.m. CELEBRATION WORSHIP**

PRELUDE

**+THE GATHERING+**

*(P: Presiding Minister; A: Assisting Minister; C: Congregation)*

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

**C: Amen.**

*A moment of silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Holy One,

**C: we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.**

P: Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through ✚ Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

**C: Amen.**

## HYMN

P: The grace and peace of Jesus Christ, who was raised from the dead to bring everlasting hope, be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: Let us pray. O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### +THE WORD+

#### FIRST READING

**Amos 5:18-24**

18 Woe to you who long for the day of the LORD! Why do you long for the day of the LORD? That day will be darkness, not light. 19 It will be as though a man fled from a lion only to meet a bear, as though he entered his house and rested his hand on the wall only to have a snake bite him. 20 Will not the day of the LORD be darkness, not light— pitch-dark, without a ray of brightness? 21 “I hate, I despise your religious festivals; your assemblies are a stench to me. 22 Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them. Though you bring choice fellowship offerings, I will have no

regard for them. 23 Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps. 24 But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!

Reader: Word of God, Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

### 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

13 Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. 14 For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

15 According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Reader: Word of God, Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the twenty-fifth chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

## GOSPEL READING

### Matthew 25:1-13

1 “At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish and five were wise. 3 The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. 4 The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. 5 The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. 6 “At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’ 7 “Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.’ 9 “‘No,’ they replied, ‘there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’ 10 “But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut. 11 “Later the others also came. ‘Lord, Lord,’ they said, ‘open the door for us!’ 12 “But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I don’t know you.’ 13 “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

P: This is the gospel of our Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE MESSAGE - *23 Pentecost* -

Maureen Pump

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

## **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 OF INTERCESSION**

**A:** Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world and all in need.

*Each prayer petition ends:* **A:** Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

**A:** Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until the day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever.

**C: Amen.**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**A:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

## OFFERING

*Please place your offering in the bucket as you leave  
the sanctuary at the conclusion of worship today.*

## +THE MEAL+

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.**

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in  
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us  
our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against  
us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from  
evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the  
glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at  
Jesus' table.

**C: Amen.**

## **DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

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

**C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray. Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.

**C: Amen.**

## **+SENDING+**

### **BENEDICTION**

A: May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, ✝ Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.

**C: Amen.**

### **DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**



## **SERVING IN WORSHIP**

**GREETER** - Jerry Moses (Sunday 9 a.m.)

**ATTENDANCE** - Christine Smith (Saturday 5 p.m.)  
Connie Amor (Sunday 9 a.m.)

**BULLETINS /COMMUNION** - Mark Smith (Saturday 5 p.m.)  
Bill Hollister (Sunday 9 a.m.)

**USHER** - Tina Moses (Sunday 9 a.m.)

**DRIVE-IN CHURCH ATTENDANT** - Jan Harris (9 a.m.)

**GUEST MUSICIAN** - Cindy Scranton

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# THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

**A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!** You are God's gift to us today. Please introduce yourself to one of the pastors and come worship with us again.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given in loving memory of our parents, John & Jan House and Kenneth & Patricia Damschroder, by the House family.

**RADIO BROADCAST** is given as a gift to the congregation by Clarence and Sandy Weickert. (Radio Broadcasts can be heard each Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. on Eagle 99.1. Anyone wishing to sponsor a radio broadcast [cost is \$72.50], please contact Les Widmer, 419-341-1850.)

**THIS WEEK AS YOU PRAY** please remember: Anne, Donna, Mike Amor, Mrs. Kathleen Burmeister, Peggy Dorr, Joanne Druckenmiller, Jean Dupey, Rosie Evans, Linda Merrill, Marv Mulholland, Peggy Rutherford, Tim Rutherford, Tanya Schardt, Betty Jo Sherman, Sharon Zilles, and the family & friends of Tim Merrill.

**HOSPITAL VISITS!** If you, or a member of your family, are in the hospital, please call the church office and let us know. Our pastoral staff would like to visit and pray with you – if we know you are there.

**HEARING DEVICES** are available at the Usher's station in the back of the Sanctuary. Please return after worship so that they can be charged and ready for the next service.

## **SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT:**

The **LIFT Call Committee**, following prayerful discernment, has confidently and enthusiastically recommended a pastor to fulfill our shared ministry call! The committee reviewed the candidate profile, assessment from a prior church council member, sermons posted on the candidate's blog, and two zoom interviews. You will learn more about this fantastic candidate over the next few weeks. As you may know, the LIFT Board requires authorization from each partner parish to officially issue the pastoral call for the combined ministry operation. Grace Lutheran Church will hold a special congregational meeting on Sunday, November 22, 2020 at 10:15 am in the sanctuary to review the call details and prayerfully vote on authorizing the LIFT Board to issue the call. Successfully journeying through this discernment process has been a blessing, and this call will usher in new and exciting opportunities and possibilities for LIFT. We hope to see you on November 22 to contribute to this important step forward in shared ministry!

## **FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

**BOOKWORMS** - Our next meeting will be held on **Monday, November 23 at 2 p.m.** in the lounge. During this meeting we will discuss *Redemption* by David Baldacci. Members are responsible for buying their own books.

**FOOD GIVE AWAY** - The Toledo Food Bank along with the Ohio National Guard will be giving away food boxes on **Monday, November 23 from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.** in the parking lot here at Grace. Pre-registration is encouraged and a photo id is required. To register call the Toledo Food Bank at 419-242-5000 ext. 204

**DID YOU KNOW THERE IS FINANCIAL HELP FOR MEMBERS?** My Bother's Keeper is a member to member ministry that is available to anyone that could use help with rent, a house payment or utilities. This is confidential. If you need assistance contact Maureen by calling the church office, 419-332-1558.

## **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

**HANGING OF THE GREENS** - Yes, it is just about time to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas! We will gather after worship on **Sunday, November 29** to decorate. If you could lend a hand it takes about an hour. Please call the church office and let us know that you plan to help. Thank you!

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!** Are you able to help with worship on Saturday evening or Sunday morning? We are looking for help passing out bulletins and communion kits, taking attendance and ushering. If you are willing to help please call the church office, 419-332-1558.

## **FOR OUR YOUTH**

**CONFIRMATION** will meet again on November 22 via Zoom from 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. If you need log-in information contact Heather Hawn by email at [HeatherRHawn@gmail.com](mailto:HeatherRHawn@gmail.com) .

**SUNDAY SCHOOL AT HOME** - Would you like to expand on the Children's Message with your family at home. Each lesson includes a Bible verse and question, snack idea, activities, and prayer. Lessons are posted weekly on the Grace Lutheran Church Youth Group Facebook page. Feel free to make adjustments too as you dig into scripture with your family!

**THIS WEEK AT GRACE****November 8 - 15, 2020**

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Today	9:00 - Worship/Communion
Monday	8:30 - Morning Devotion with Moe via Facebook 7:30 - Church Council via Zoom
Tuesday	8:30 - Morning Devotion with Moe via Facebook 1:00 - Bible Study with Maureen via Zoom
Wednesday	<b>G &amp; T DEADLINE</b> 8:30 - Morning Devotion with Moe via Facebook
Thursday	8:30 - Morning Devotion with Moe via Facebook 11:30 - Soup Kitchen
Friday	8:30 - Morning Devotion with Moe via Facebook
Saturday	5:00 - Worship/Communion
Sunday	<b>FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE</b> (oatmeal and cereal) 9:00 - Worship/Communion 12:30 - LIFT Board Meeting at the Chamber Office

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**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEKEND: 178**

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**DRIVE-IN CHURCH** - If you are joining us today from the parking lot please tune your radio to **89.7 FM** to listen to worship. *Thank you for joining us!*

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*Worship Services*

5:00 Saturday Worship; 9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship

*Church Office Hours*

Monday through Thursday - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Contact Info: 419-332-1558; gracefremont@yahoo.com; www.gracefremont.org