

Welcome to
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

**The 14th Sunday
after Pentecost**

August 29 & 30, 2026



PRELUDE

Please stand as you are able.

THE CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives.

C: Amen.

A: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

All are invited to a time of silence and reflection.

A: Holy and gracious God,

C: We confess that we have sinned against you this day. Some of our sin we know — the thoughts and words and deeds of which we are ashamed — but some is known only to you. In the name of Jesus Christ we ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore us, that we may rest in peace. Amen.

P: As tender as parent to child, so deep is God's compassion for you.
As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God's love for you.
As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you.
Your life has been renewed through the cross of Jesus Christ.
Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

C: Blessed be God forever. Amen.

*FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH***THE 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!**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING**EXODUS 1:8-2:10**

The brave Hebrew midwives defied Pharaoh to save many infants from death. When the mother of Moses placed him in a basket in the Nile, the daughter of Pharaoh found him, adopted him, and raised him. Moses' sister and mother also played crucial roles in this drama.

⁸ Now a new king arose over Egypt who did not know Joseph. ⁹ He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. ¹⁰ Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." ¹¹ Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. ¹² But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. ¹³ The Egyptians subjected the Israelites to hard servitude ¹⁴ and made their lives bitter with hard servitude in mortar and bricks and

in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

¹⁵ The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, ¹⁶ “When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women and see them on the birthstool, if it is a son, kill him, but if it is a daughter, she shall live.” ¹⁷ But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. ¹⁸ So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this and allowed the boys to live?” ¹⁹ The midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women, for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.” ²⁰ So God dealt well with the midwives, and the people multiplied and became very strong. ²¹ And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. ²² Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, “Every son that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every daughter live.”

^{2:1} Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. ² The woman conceived and bore a son, and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. ³ When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. ⁴ His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

⁵ The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. ⁶ When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. “This must be one of the Hebrews’ children,” she said. ⁷ Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, “Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?” ⁸ Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Yes.” So the girl went and called the child’s mother. ⁹ Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.” So the woman took the child and nursed it. ¹⁰ When the child grew up, she

brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

R: The Word of God, for the People of God!

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

PSALM 124

The Cantor will sing the verses as the congregation response in singing the refrain.



We have es - caped like a bird from the snare of the fowl - er.

¹ *If the LORD had not been on our side, let Israel now say;*

² *if the LORD had not been on our side, when enemies rose up against us,*

³ *then would they have swallowed us up alive in their fierce anger toward us;*

⁴ *then would the waters have overwhelmed us and the torrent gone over us;*

⁵ *then would the raging waters have gone right over us.*

⁶ *Blessed be the LORD who has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth. Refrain*

⁷ *We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; the snare is broken, and we have escaped.*

⁸ *Our help is in the name of the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth. Refrain*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Following the Children's moment, children in pre-k through 5th grade are invited to gather for an activity by the chapel.

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

THE GOSPEL

MATTHEW 16:21-28

After Peter confesses that Jesus is “the Messiah, the Son of the living God” (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a “rock.”

P: This is the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 16th chapter.

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

²¹ From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

Please be seated.

THE REFLECTION

PR. CLAYTON J. BAILEY

Please stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW # 326

BLESS NOW, O GOD THE JOURNEY

THE CREED

A: Living together in trust and hope we confess our faith as expressed 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, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

At this time you are welcome to share the Peace of Christ with those around you. Following the Sharing of the Peace you may be seated.

OFFERING AND OFFERING MUSIC

Please stand.

OFFERING SONG

ELW # 186

CREATE IN ME

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

THE DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

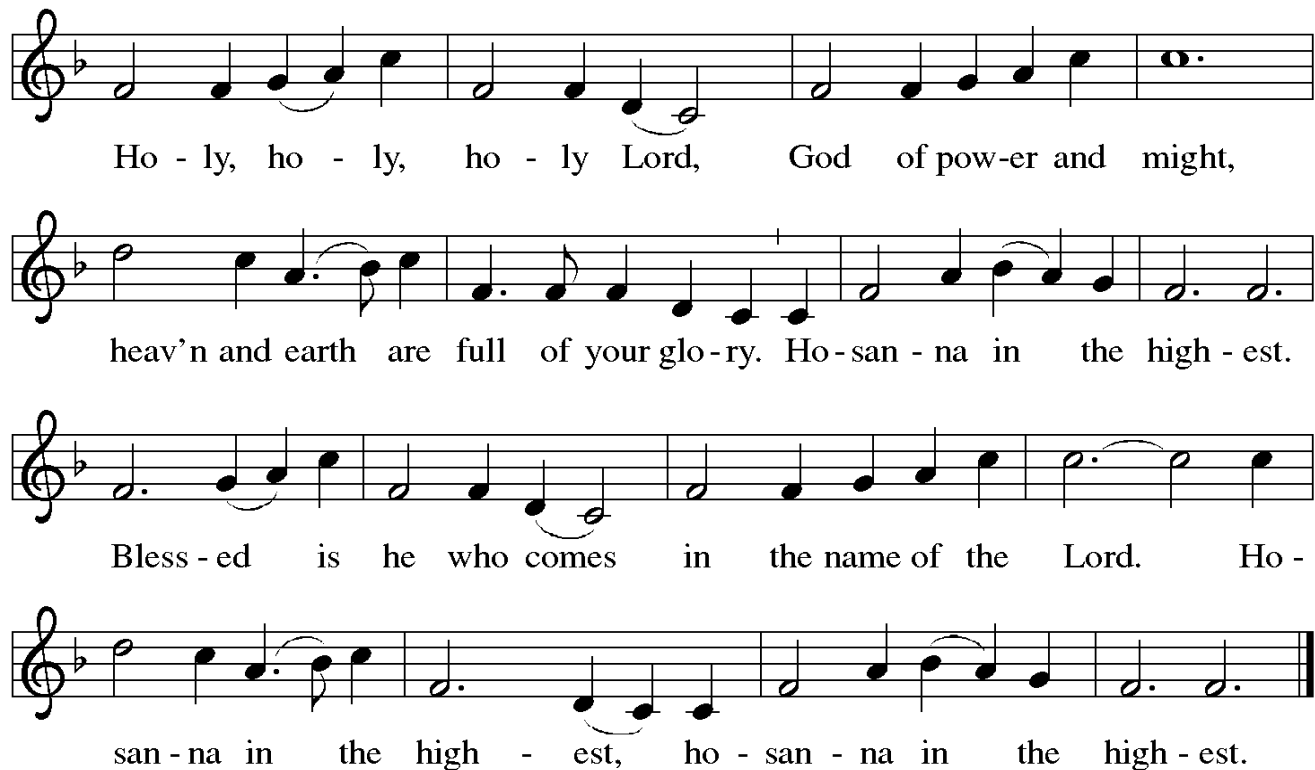
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

THE PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

THE SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In your mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, so that all who believe in him should not perish but have the gift of eternal life.

We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit into our hearts that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in this holy supper.

C: Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

P: 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

A: As our Savior Christ has taught us, together we are bold to 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Heaven has come near. Come and share the Feast!

AGNUS DEI



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

At Grace, all are welcome to the Table of the Lord. At the ushers invitation, you are invited to come forward to receive the bread and wine. Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available as an additional substitute. As you return to your seat using the side aisle, there is a basket to dispose of your individual communion cup. Those who would like a blessing are also welcome to come forward. Simply ask Pastor for a blessing instead of taking communion.

COMMUNION HYMN

ELW # 790

DAY BY DAY

After all have communed, you are invited to stand.

TABLE BLESSING

P: The Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray. Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine you have united us with Christ to our stories of old. Together, our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C: Amen.

WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME (THE SUMMONS)**THE SENDING**

P: Heaven has come near.

A: Go, share the good news!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

SERVING IN WORSHIP		
	Saturday – 4 pm	Sunday – 9 am
GREETERS: NARTHEX	Thomas O'Brien	Sandy Burmeister Kent Watkins
GREETERS: BAKER ST.		Larry & Judy Overmyer
WORSHIP ASSISTANT		Peggy Rutherford
READERS	Wendy Bailey	Janet Dorr
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Wendy Bailey	Judy Overmyer
DEACONS/CLOSER		Tanya Schardt Jerry Letzring

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Bless Now, O God the Journey Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.

Day By Day Tr. © 1992 Augsburg Fortress

Will You Come and Follow Me (The Summons) Text 1987 Iona Community, Admin. GIA Publications

Psalm Refrain from Psalter for Worship Year A, 2007 Augsburg Fortress

Evangelical Lutheran Worship Setting #10: 2026 Augsburg Fortress

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

PLEASE NOTE: Our Sunday worship is live streamed on Facebook.

DRIVE-IN CHURCH - If you are joining us on Sunday in the parking lot, please tune your radio to 90.3 FM.

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Richard Bradford, by Tanya Schardt.

WICKER BASKET FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by Dotti Borden.

THE RADIO BROADCAST is given as a gift to the congregation. (Radio Broadcasts can be heard each Sunday morning at 9:30 am on Eagle 99.1. Anyone wishing to sponsor a radio broadcast [cost is \$72.50 and please make checks payable to BAS Broadcasting.], should contact the church office.)

THIS WEEK, AS YOU PRAY please remember: Diane Berryman, Krista Culbert, Jackie Mowry, Rilee Overmyer, Tim Rutherford, Julie Stawowy, Connie Wasserman, and Bob Wickert.

HOSPITAL VISITS! If you, or a member of your family, are in the hospital, please call the church office and let us know.

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

PRAYER LIST REQUESTS - If you, or someone you know, is in need of prayer and would like to be added to our prayer list, please write their name on the back of our *Welcome Cards*. You are welcome to indicate what prayers are needed, i.e. "has an upcoming surgery" etc. Names submitted for our prayer list will remain on the list for four (4) weeks. Our goal is to keep the prayer list ever flowing and as up to date as possible.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Thursday from 9 am to 4 pm and closed Friday.

SUBMISSIONS FOR OUR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWSLETTER should be sent to Tricia at dabrunztricia@yahoo.com

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

THE NOISY OFFERING will be received at both services September 5 & 6. The noisy offering collected this weekend will be used for the LIFT Let's Build Beds project on September 13.

BRIDGE OF HOPE FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION will take place at both services on September 5 & 6. They need the following items: cereal, canned meat, rice, dried pinto beans, cans of tomato sauce, pasta, paper towels, cleaning supplies and diapers. These items may be placed in the shopping carts located in the Narthex and at the Baker Street entrances. You may also take your gifts directly to the Bridge of Hope Food Pantry at Hayes Memorial UMC, 1441 Fangboner Rd., Fremont. Thank you for your help.

YOUTH COMMITTEE will meet on **September 9 at 5:30 pm** in the library.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN KNOWING MORE ABOUT OUR FAITH? Then please consider registering for the Northwest Ohio Synod's Growing in Faith classes. These classes cover everything from church history to learning more about worship. Classes are taught by a team of pastors, including Pr. Bailey. For more information contact Pr. Bailey or visit growinginfaithohio.org

BIBLE STUDIES & SMALL GROUPS

PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY² WITH PR. BAILEY – Have you ever wanted to dig deeper into the weekly Bible readings? If so, come spend time with Pr. Bailey and Jesus on Mondays at 11:30 am in the lounge, eat a peanut butter & jelly sandwich and learn more about the weekly scripture readings.

MAUREEN'S MONDAY BIBLE STUDY WILL RETURN ON SEPTEMBER 14. The group will meet at 1 pm in the lounge. This fall her group will begin a study called *Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table*. The purpose of this study is to help people take control of their thoughts and fears.

WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES WILL RETURN ON SEPTEMBER 9!

- 5 pm – Mid-week Youth Huddle
- 5:30 pm – Parent's Support Group
- 6 pm – Scripture, Life And Me (S.L.A.M.) with Maureen
- 6:30 pm – Jesus, Games & Crafts for Kids with Heather
- 6:30 pm – Bible Study with Pr. Bailey (begins September 30)

BOOKWORMS will meet on **September 28 at 2 pm** in the lounge to discuss *The Five-Star Weekend* by Elin Hilderband. This bestseller follows Hollis Shaw whose life seems to be picture perfect. Shaw is the creator of a popular lifestyle blog and married to a heart surgeon. After her husband is killed in an accident she begins to find out that her life is not as perfect as she thought it was.

LIFT

IT'S ALMOST TIME TO BUILD BEDS! On September 13 we will gather for a 10 am LIFT worship at Grace before we get to work building beds in the parking lot. If you would like to volunteer to help, sign-up sheets are available at the back of the sanctuary. *Please note that is a rain or shine event. In case of inclement weather, the build will take place at Fremont Floor Covering, 218 N. Front Street, Fremont.*

OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP!

KITCHEN CLEANUP VOLUNTEER LIST – Over the past few years, certain weather events have caused our kitchen area to flood. Most of the time the flooding is mild and requires only moderate cleanup. However, on some occasions, the cleanup can involve many hours of hard work. If you are willing to help with cleanup should the need arise, please write “cleanup” on the back of your “Welcome Card” along with updated contact information so we may contact you should we need your help.

MUSIC AT GRACE

WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED JOINING A HANDBELL CHOIR? The Grace Ringers is a volunteer community bell choir that is dedicated to rehearsing and performing handbell music to commemorate special seasons during the church year. Whether you are a seasoned musician or are new to making music, all are welcome to join the ensemble! Being able to read music is not required. We plan to meet weekly for rehearsals. The bell choir will perform at select Sunday services. If you are interested contact Charlie at pianomancharlie03@gmail.com or scan the QR code.



A LETTER FROM THE GLCW PRESIDENT

Over the years you may have heard the LWR and GLCW, but do you know what these stand for? LWR stands for Lutheran World Relief and GLCW represents the Grace Lutheran Church Women.

The GLCW is asking for your help assembling two kits for LWR. This year, we are putting together School Kits and Sewing Kits for distribution.

We need the following items to complete our School Kits: 41 – Spiral notebooks with 70 – 80 sheets of lined paper and 13 – Rulers with centimeter markings on one side.

For the Sewing Kits we need: 10 – Spools of neutral colored general-purpose thread.

We are always in need of gently used or new flat bed sheets which we use as the back of our quilts.

Thank you for your continued support of the LWR projects.

Jan Harris,
GLCW President

Youth News

Spirit Families

Join us for an evening of creativity and good company

Wednesday Nights

5:00-6:30	Midweek Huddle Drop in & stay a while Build, Create, Play
5:30-6:15	Parent's Support Group
6:30-7:45	Jesus, games & crafts Structured Programming

For more info contact Heather Hawn
419-307-1808 or HeatherRHawn@gmail.com
*All activities will meet in the Sunday School Hallway

Join us for HALLOWEEN

Hospitality @ Birchard Park
October 31 | 5:30-7:30pm

This year we will again be a face in the park during Fremont's Trick or Treat. Contact Pastor if you'd like to help pass out treats to our neighbors

NURSERY AVAILABLE DURING WORSHIP

Worship is for the whole family—including the grown-ups!

REGISTER NOW



STARTING SEPT 20TH

We're excited to bring back our Nursery during worship. This ministry is designed to give parents of young children an opportunity to be present, engaged, and renewed during worship while their little ones are cared for by trusted caregivers. Your child is welcome in worship. Your child is also welcome in the nursery. And parents are welcome to take a moment to simply worship

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH

WELCOME BACK Students!

KIDS ZONE	AFTERWORD	CONFIRMATION
Pre-K - 5 th Grade Mid Worship Lg. Classroom	Middle & High School Mid Worship Library	7 th & 8 th Grade Following Worship Youth Room

SUPPORT OUR YOUTH CAMPS & TRIPS

National Ice Cream Cone Day Celebration

Menu

Shredded Chicken
Hot Dogs
Sides

Ice Cream Cone
Dessert Bar



\$10

*Children 10 & under free

SEPTEMBER 23, 2026 | 5:00 PM | BY DONATION

NWOS Eastern Conference

The Way of Love

CONFIRMATION Retreat

- ✓ Bible Study with Bishop Daniel
- ✓ Poverty Experience
- ✓ Host & Serve a Community Meal
- ✓ \$5 per person for pizza & snacks
- ✓ Putting our faith into action

NOVEMBER 15, 2026
12:30 - 6:30 PM
DOORS OPEN AT NOON

GRACE LUTHERAN, FREMONT
705 W. State St.
Fremont, OH 43420

SCAN TO RSVP/ATTEND



Questions? Contact Pastor Stacy, St. John's Sandusky- Stacylauer@gmail.com or Pastor Matt Wheeler, St. John's Fremont- matthew.wheeler612@yahoo.com



Grace Lutheran Church

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561-670-3684

Lay Associate Minister:

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Minister of Youth & Family:

Heather Hawn
HeatherRHawn@gmail.com

Director of Music:

Charlie Ligus
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Office Administrator:

Tricia Dabrunz
dabrunztricia@yahoo.com

Finance/HR Administrator:

Denise Biddle
gracefremont@yahoo.com

Noah's Ark PreSchool:

Andrea Hirt - Director
Susan Sawda - Teacher
noahsark.fremont@gmail.com

Our Custodial Team:

Jim Post
Michaelle Goodman
Andrew Bailey

THIS WEEK AT GRACE AUGUST 30 – SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

Today

9:00 – Worship
10:15 – Special Church Council Meeting

Monday

11:30 – PB & J² with Pr. Bailey

Tuesday

Wednesday

2:30 – Worship Committee Meeting
6:30 – 7:45 - Choir

Thursday

11:30 – Soup Kitchen
5 - 7:00 – Noah's Ark Open House

Friday

Saturday

4:00 – Worship/Noisy Offering/Bridge of Hope Collection

Sunday NOISY OFFERING/BRIDGE OF HOPE FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

8:15 - Choir
9:00 – Worship
10:30 - Choir

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: 136

Called to Present the Light of Christ!