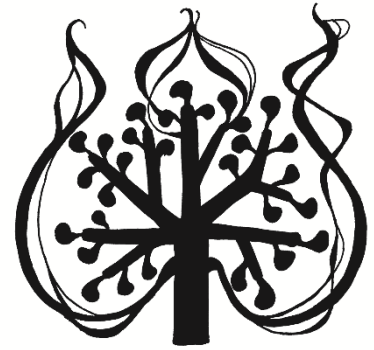


Welcome to
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

**The 16th Sunday
after Pentecost**

September 6, 2026



PRELUDE

Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING LITANY

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

C: **Amen.**

P: On this Labor Day weekend we reflect upon the work of our hands, our vocations, and how our lives and vocations are called to serve you always. For all of this we pray for workers who face dangerous conditions or hazards in their work without sufficient warning or protection,

A: Jesus, worker and carpenter from Nazareth,

C: **hear our prayer.**

A: For all those who face the conflicts of working and caring for children without adequate support,

P: Jesus, worker and carpenter from Nazareth,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

P: For all workers who cannot find work and for whom unemployment assistance is not available,

A: Jesus, worker and carpenter from Nazareth,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: For workers who are displaced by technical changes or global pressures to relocate jobs,

P: Jesus, worker and carpenter from Nazareth,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: For children whose childhood has been cut short because they are forced to work,

A: Jesus, worker and carpenter from Nazareth,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: For all who face difficulties or are discriminated against in getting work or at the workplace because of race, gender, ethnic group, physical disabilities, political or religious beliefs, or sexual orientation,

P: Jesus, worker and carpenter from Nazareth,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: For all workers who have been affected by labor disputes or who have been discriminated against as a result of their union activity or because they sought justice in their place of employment,

A: Jesus, worker and carpenter from Nazareth,

C: hear our prayer.

A: For all workers whose work is taken for granted, is unappreciated or lacks meaning,

P: Jesus, worker and carpenter from Nazareth,

C: Hear our prayer.

- P:** O Jesus, worker and carpenter from Nazareth, on this Labor Day, we thank you for your care and loving concern poured out for workers throughout the world. We remember all workers: men and women; young and old of all races; ethnic and language groups. Help all working persons to realize a deeper understanding of your presence and call them to do justice and build human community where they are employed, now and always.
- C: Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

ELW # 580

HOW CLEAR IS OUR VOCATION, LORD

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 Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C: Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

EXODUS 3:1-15

Moses experienced the call of God when God appeared to him in a bush that burned but was not consumed. When Moses expressed his unworthiness, God promised to be with him. When Moses objected that people would demand to know God's name, God revealed his personal name, Yahweh (I am who I am), or the Lord. Israel discovered God's true identity when God took them out of Egypt.

¹ Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness and came to Mount Horeb, the mountain of God. ² There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. ³ Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight and see why the bush is not burned up."

⁴ When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." ⁵ Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." ⁶ He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

⁷ Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, ⁸ and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ⁹ The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰ Now go, I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

¹¹ But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" ¹² He said, "I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

¹³ But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them,

‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ and they ask me,
 ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” ¹⁴ God said to Moses, “I
 AM WHO I AM.” He said further, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘I AM
 has sent me to you.’ ” ¹⁵ God also said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to
 the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of
 Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you’:
 This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations.”

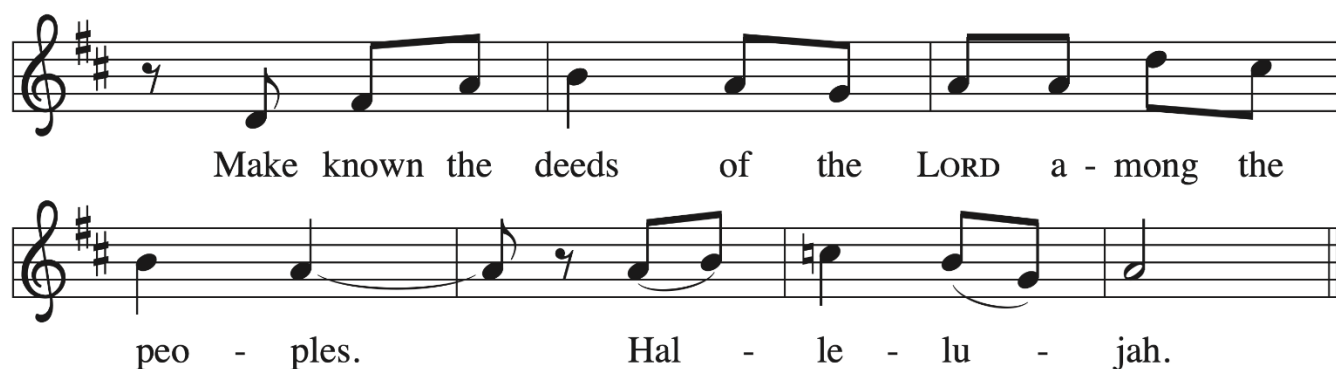
R: The Word of God, for the People of God!

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

PSALM 105:1-6, 23-26, 45B

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



¹ Give thanks to the LORD and call upon God’s name;
 make known the deeds of the LORD among the peoples.

² Sing to the LORD, sing praises, and speak of all God’s marvelous works.

³ Glory in God’s holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

⁴ Search for the strength of the LORD; continually seek God’s face.

⁵ Remember the marvels God has done, the wonders and the judgments of God’s mouth,

⁶ O offspring of Abraham, God’s servant, O children of Jacob, God’s chosen ones. *Refrain*

²³ Israel came into Egypt, and Jacob became a sojourner in the land of Ham.

²⁴ The LORD made the people of Israel very fruitful, more numerous than their enemies,

²⁵ whose hearts God turned, so that they hated God’s people, and dealt unjustly with the servants of God.

²⁶ O LORD, you sent Moses your servant, and Aaron, your chosen one.

^{45b} Hallelujah! *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 18:15-20

Jesus offers practical advice to his disciples on how individuals—and the church as a whole—should go about restoring relationships when one member has sinned against another.

P: This is the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 18th chapter.

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵ “If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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 # 574

HERE I AM, LORD

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.**

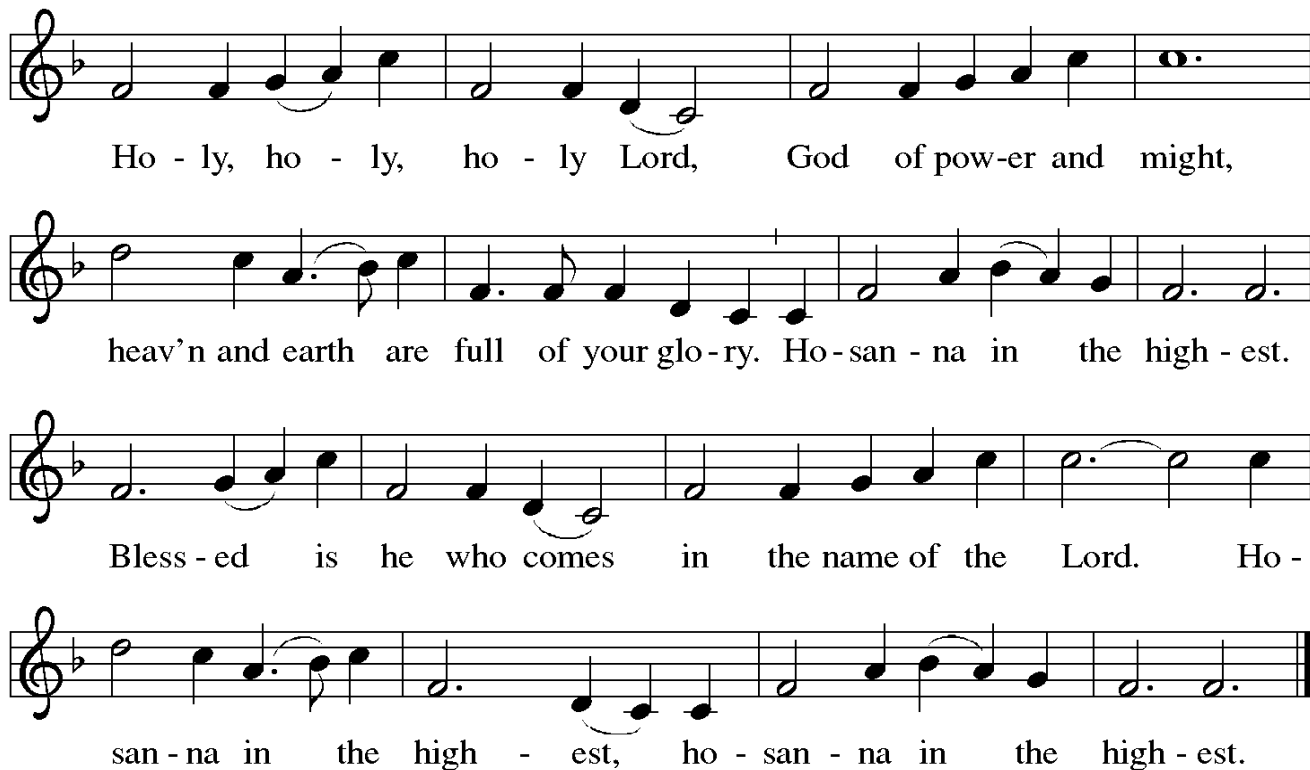
THE DIALOGUE

- 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 # 359

WHERE CHARITY AND LOVE PREVAIL

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.

PRAISE, MY SOUL, THE GOD OF HEAVEN**THE SENDING**

P: Heaven has come near.

A: Go, share the good news!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

SERVING IN WORSHIP	
	Sunday – 9 am
GREETERS: NARTHEX	Dave & RaeAnn Cooper
GREETERS: BAKER ST.	Judy Gangwer
WORSHIP ASSISTANT	Tanya Schardt
READERS	Helen Biddinger
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Cecilia Boucher
DEACONS/CLOSER	Tracy Michles Annette Fisher

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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 parents, Al & Aggie Stokes and Harry & Martha Prasuhn, by Dave & Becky Prasuhn.

THE RADIO BROADCAST is given in loving memory of David Gangwer, by Judy Gangwer and family. (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: Lyn, Diane Berryman, Krista Culbert, Jackie Mowry, Mary Nossaman, Rilee Overmyer, Tim Rutherford, Ginger Starrett, 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 Friday from 9 am – 1 pm.

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

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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

PLEASE NOTE – We will not worship together at Grace on September 12. Please plan to attend the LIFT worship here at Grace on September 13 at 10 am.

LET'S BUILD BED'S IS NEXT WEEKEND! On September 13 we will build 50 beds that will be given to children who do not have one. This will be an all-day event. Here is a little information for everyone that joins us for worship on Sunday.

WORSHIP: The LIFT Parish will gather at 10 am at Grace.

LUNCH will be served at 11 am in the dining room.

SET-UP & BUILDING at noon we will move to the parking lot to begin building beds.

PARKING: West side parking lot, closest to the building, will be blocked off that day. We apologize for the inconvenience, but this is the side of the building that is needed. The side of the parking lot closest to Wood Street will still be available for parking. You may also park in the State Street lot opposite the church or at St. John's Lutheran. If you do not have mobility issues, we ask that you leave the spots closest to the church open for those that do have issues.

LAWN CHAIRS: Last year many people enjoyed watching this event. If you plan to stay and watch the work, please bring your own lawn chair.

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 16!

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 story 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.

OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP!

CAN YOU LEND A RIDE? We have someone who would like to regularly attend Saturday worship but needs some help getting here. Questions? Contact Pr. Bailey. Thank you in advance for your willingness to help a friend in need.

THE SOUP KITCHEN NEEDS SOME EXTRA HANDS TO HELP ON SEPTEMBER 24.

Our normal volunteers have told us that they will not be able to help that day because they are running their own fundraiser. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Tracy Michles.

WITH MANY OF OUR FALL ACTIVITIES ARE STARTING SOON and we are excited to show off our new spaces in our Sunday School hallway. With all the work that we've done, we could use your help giving a "deep clean" to the classrooms. If you can land on Tuesdays at 9:30 am we would appreciate your help. Bring your favorite cleaning supplies, and let's create a welcoming space where our youth can learn and grow in their faith.

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.

BACKPACK BUDDIES NEEDS OUR HELP! We are currently in need of the following items: oatmeal packets, Nutri-Grain bars, cold cereal, breakfast bars, Pop Tarts, individual mac-n-cheese cups, pasta cups, cans of soup, individual heat and eat soups, individual serving cups of peanut butter, cups of applesauce, fruit cups, sandwich crackers, pudding cups, cookies, Goldfish crackers, fruit snacks, chips, pretzels, granola bars, Teddy Grahams, microwave popcorn, Ritz crackers, Rice Krispie Treats, milk, yogurt, beef sticks, Oatmeal Cream Pies and peanuts. We are also accepting monetary donations. These gifts help us to fill in any gaps in donations. Your check should be made payable to LIFT and please write Backpack Buddies on the memo line.

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.





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Noah's Ark PreSchool:

Andrea Hort - Director
Susan Sauda - Teacher
noahsark.fremont@gmail.com

Our Custodial Team:

Jim Post
Michaelle Goodman
Andrew Bailey

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

SEPTEMBER 6 - 13, 2026

**Today NOISY OFFERING/BRIDGE OF HOPE FOOD PANTRY
COLLECTION**
9:00 – Worship

Monday – LABOR DAY - OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday

Wednesday
6:00 – S.L.A.M.

Thursday
11:30 – Soup Kitchen

Friday

Saturday No Worship
Please join us on Sunday for LIFT worship at 10 am.

Sunday LIFT LET'S BUILD BED'S WORSHIP

8:15 - Choir
10:00 – LIFT Worship
10:30 – Choir
11:00 – Brunch
12:00 – Set-Up
1:00 - Build

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: 125

Called to Present the Light of Christ!