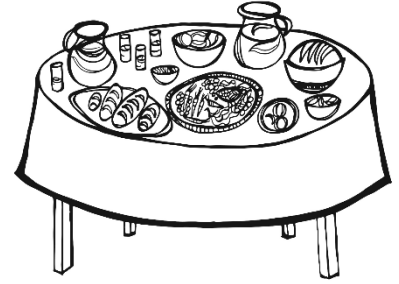


Welcome to
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

**The 20th Sunday
after Pentecost**

October 11, 2026



PRELUDE

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C: **Amen.**

A: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

A: Compassionate God,

C: **We confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

P: Hear this good news: We have peace with God through Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C: **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

ELW # 331

AS THE DEER

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. Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

EXODUS 17:1-17

Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put God to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to God. God commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question—"Is the Lord among us or not?"—received a very positive answer.

¹ From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³ But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴ So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me."

⁵ The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. ⁶ I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

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

C: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

PSALM 78:1-4, 12-16

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



We will re-count to gen-er - a - tions to come the pow-er of the LORD.

¹ Hear my teaching, O my people; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

² I will open my mouth in a parable; I will declare the mysteries of ancient times—

³ that which we have heard and known, and what our forebears have told us,
we will not hide from their children.

⁴ We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord,
and the wonderful works God has done. *Refrain*

¹² God worked marvels in the sight of their ancestors, in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan,

¹³ splitting open the sea and letting them pass through; making the waters stand up like walls;

¹⁴ leading them with a cloud by day, and all the night with a glow of fire;

¹⁵ splitting the rocks in the wilderness and giving them drink as from the deep;

¹⁶ bringing streams out of a rock, making them flow down like a river. *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 22:1-14

Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.

P: This is the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 22nd chapter.

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

¹ Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his

son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen."

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 # 333

JESUS IS A ROCK IN A WEARY WORLD

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

CHOIR

The congregation is invited to sing the third verse with the choir.

Now We Join in Celebration

- Choir* 1 Now we join in celebration at our Savior's invitation,
dressed no more in spirit somber, clothed instead in joy and wonder;
for the Lord of all existence, putting off divine transcendence,
stoops again in love to meet us, with his very life to feed us.
- 2 Lord, as round this feast we gather, fill our hearts with holy rapture!
For this bread and cup of blessing are for us the sure possessing
of your loving deed on Calvary, of your living self, our victory,
pledge of your unfailing presence, foretaste here of heavenly gladness.

Assembly



3 Lord, we share in this com - mu - ion
as one fam - 'ly of God's chil - dren, rec - on -
ciled through you, our bro - ther, one in
you with God our Fa - ther. Give us grace to
live for oth - ers, serv - ing all, both
friends and strang - ers, seek - ing jus - tice, love, and
mer - cy till you come in fi - nal glo - ry.

Please stand.

OFFERING SONG

We Plow the Fields and Scatter



1 We plow the fields and scat - ter the good seed on the land,
3 We thank you, our cre - a - tor, for all things bright and good,



but it is fed and wa - tered by God's al - might - y hand,
the seed-time and the har - vest, our life, our health, our food.



who sends the snow in win - ter, the warmth to swell the grain,
No gifts have we to of - fer for what your love im - parts



the breez - es and the sun - shine, and soft re - fresh - ing rain.
but what you most would trea - sure— our hum - ble, thank - ful hearts.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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: Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

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 # 491

COME LET US EAT

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. Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love. May we follow in the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C: **Amen.**

BLESSING

P: The God of love draw you into full accord to be of one mind, living as the body of Christ.

C: **Amen.**

P: The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances.

C: **Amen.**

P: The God of grace bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

LET Us Go Now**THE SENDING**

P: Go in peace.

A: Encourage one another.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

SERVING IN WORSHIP	
Sunday – 9 am	
GREETERS: NARTHEX	Larry & Becky McElfresh
GREETERS: BAKER STREET	Dick Zilles
WORSHIP ASSISTANT	Peggy Rutherford
READER	Janet Dorr
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Kent Watkins
DEACONS	Peggy Kiser Tanya Schardt

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Jesus is a Rock in a Weary World arr. Wyatt Tee Walker

Now We Join in Celebration text Joel W. Lundeen, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Come, Let Us Eat text sts 1-3 and tune Lutheran World Federation,

text sts 4 and adapt 1972 Contemporary Worship #4, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Let Us Go Now Text & Music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc.

We Plow the Fields and Scatter Music © 1989 Abingdon Press, admin. Music Services, Brentwood, TN

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 memory of Sharon Zilles, Luther & Leona Zilles and Chester & Ruth Gilmore, by Dick Zilles, Steve & Peg Zilles and Matthew & Jacob.

THE RADIO BROADCAST is given in honor of Ken Klohn's birthday, by Barb Klohn 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: Diane Berryman, Janet Bowles, Krista Culbert, Peggy Dorr, Jackie Mowry, Mary Nossaman, Rilee Overmyer, Tim Rutherford, 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

STANDING AT THE OPEN DOOR 2026 STEWARDSHIP GATHERINGS – Much like our campaign last year, we will once again gather around the table to share a meal and conversation. Please scan the QR code for a full list of dates, times and menus. We look forward to sharing a meal with you!



PACK 302 HAS A QUESTION FOR YOU ... Do you have a child interested in Scouting? You are invited to come to learn more about what scouts have to offer this afternoon (10/11) the pack will meet at 3:30 pm at Walsh Park.

ALTAR FLOWERS ARE NEEDED for the weekend of October 24 & 25. If you are interested, please call the church office.

FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE for the Sandusky County Food Pantry is October 17 & 18. This month we are challenging you to fill the carts with canned meats and vegetables. Your gifts should be placed in the our shopping carts.

CRAFTING SPACE AVAILABLE October 24 from 8 am – 6 pm for those who don't want to craft alone. To reserve your space contact Heather Hawn at HeatherRHawn@gmail.com or by calling 419-307-1808. Cost is \$20 and payable at the door.

FALL YOUTH FUNDRAISER – On October 24 from 9 am – noon, come learn how to make mosaic coasters or a mosaic sign with your house number. Immerse yourself in the calm of arranging pieces of glass to make a beautiful pattern. The cost is \$20 for two coasters or \$50 to make your house number. Payment is due a week prior to the workshop. Proceeds will benefit youth attending the ELCA Youth Gathering or attending summer camp in 2027. For more information contact Heather Hawn at HeatherRHawn@gmail.com or by calling 419-307-1808.

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.

FALL BIBLE STUDY WITH PR. BAILEY will meet on Monday evenings at 6:30 pm starting in the large classroom in the Sunday school hallway. This group will use the five week "Way of Love" study from the Synod. During our time together we will explore John's first letter to the church and ponder what it means to be in community with one another while we are surrounded by and united in the love of God that was revealed to us through Jesus Christ.

MAUREEN'S MONDAY BIBLE STUDY will meet at 1 pm on Tuesdays 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.

MONDAY BIBLE STUDY WITH PR. BAILEY will meet at 6:30 pm in the large Sunday school room. The focus of this study will be the fall study from the Northwest Ohio Synod office called *The Way of Love*. During our time together we will explore John's first letter to the church and ponder what it means to be in community with one another while we are surrounded by and united in the love of God that was revealed to us through Jesus Christ.

GRACE GATHERS will meet on October 15 at The Chateau Vineyard and Winery in Helena at 6 pm for fellowship. If you plan to attend, please call the church office.

SPOUSAL GRIEF SUPPORT will meet on October 19 at 6 pm. If you are grieving the loss of your spouse and could use the support of others experiencing the same loss, then please consider joining this group.

YOUTH NEWS!

THE WAY OF LOVE CONFIRMATION RETREAT on November 15 from 12:30 – 6:30 pm (doors will open at noon) at Grace Lutheran. Cost for the retreat is \$5 for pizza and snacks. The event will include a Bible Study with Bishop Daniel, poverty experience, putting our faith into action and we will serve a community meal. Questions contact Pr. Stacy from St. John's Sandusky at Stacylauer@gmail.com or Pr. Matt Wheeler from St. John's in Fremont at matthew.wheeler612@yahoo.com. Registration is also available by scanning the QR code.



YOUTH COMMITTEE will meet on November 4 at 5:30 pm in the library. All parents and youth are welcome to attend.

KIDS ZONE - Toddlers - 5th graders are invited to Sunday School Hallway following the Children's Message for a short lesson and activity. They will return to worship before communion. If your child does not wish to participate, they return to their seat following the Children's Message.

AFTERWORD for our Middle & High School youth it's not the last word, just the next step. Students are invited after the sermon to connect with message of the day and pray. They will return to worship during the offering hymn.



24 OCT 2026

**MOSAIC COASTERS OR
HOUSE NUMBER**

Immerse yourself in the calm of
arranging pieces of glass in a
mosaic. Class is from 9-Noon.

2 Coasters- \$20

House number- \$50



CRAFTING SPACE

NO ONE CRAFTS ALONE!

Calling all paper crafters, knitters
and those who just want to
socialize while they create.

Reserve your table space for the
day 8a-6p. \$20 Available on all
workshop dates.



Grace Lutheran Church
705 W. State St.
Fremont, OH 43420

All proceeds go towards the
ELCA Yotuh Gathering and
sending our youth to summer camp

Contact Info: Heather Hawn
419-307-1808
HeatherRHawn@gmail.com

OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP!

NOW THAT SCHOOL IS BACK IN SESSION BACKPACK BUDDIES HAS RETURNED AND 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.



Grace Lutheran Church

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561-670-3684

Lay Associate Minister:

Maureen Pump
maureenpump2022@gmail.com

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

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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

OCTOBER 11 - 18, 2026

Today NOISY OFFERING/BRIDGE OF HOPE FOOD PANTRY

COLLECTION

8:15 – Choir Rehearsal
9:00 – Worship
10:30 – Stewardship Brunch
3:30 – Pack 302 Den Meeting/Learn About Scouting at Walsh Park

Monday

11:30 – PB & J²
1:00 – Bible Study with Maureen – Lounge
6:00 – Executive Committee Meeting
7:00 – Church Council

Tuesday

11:30 – 1:00 – Office Closed – Staff Lunch
5:30 – Endowment Meeting

Wednesday

5:00 – Mid-Week Youth Huddle
5:15 – Handbells
5:30 – Parent's Support Group
6:00 – S.L.A.M.
6:30 – Jesus, Games & Crafts (Youth)
6:30 – Choir

Thursday

11:30 – Soup Kitchen
4:30 – Endowment Meeting
6:30 – Grace Gathers at The Chateau Vineyard & Winery

Friday

Saturday

4:00 – Worship
5:15 – Stewardship Dinner

Sunday FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE – canned meats & vegetables

8:15 – Choir Rehearsal
9:00 – Worship
10:30 – Stewardship Bruch
3:30 – Pack 302 Parent Meeting

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: 133

Called to Present the Light of Christ!