

Welcome to
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

**The 21st Sunday
after Pentecost**

October 17 & 18, 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.**

GOD WHOSE GIVING KNOWS NO ENDING

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. Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

EXODUS 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

The God of the exodus graciously gave Israel the Ten Commandments. Primarily stated as negative imperatives, the Ten Commandments forbid gross sins such as murder, adultery, theft, and perjury. In most of life they grant Israel freedom to live righteously, with maximum love for God and neighbor.

¹ God spoke all these words, ² “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³ you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴ “You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath or that

is in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me ⁶ but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷ “You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸ “Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰ But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹ For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹² “Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³ “You shall not murder.

¹⁴ “You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵ “You shall not steal.

¹⁶ “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷ “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, male or female slave, ox, donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

¹⁸ When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance ¹⁹ and said to Moses, “You speak to us, and we will listen, but do not let God speak to us, lest we die.”

²⁰ Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid, for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin.”

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

C: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

PSALM 19

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



The stat-utes of the LORD are just and re-joice the heart.

1 The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

2 One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.

3 Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,

*4 their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world,
where God has pitched a tent for the sun.*

*5 It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.*

*6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again;
nothing is hidden from its burning heat. Refrain*

*7 The teaching of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.*

*8 The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.*

*9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.*

*10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey,
than honey in the comb. Refrain*

11 By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

12 Who can detect one's own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults.

*13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.*

*14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. 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 22:15-22

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵ The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said.

¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" ²¹ They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." ²² When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

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 # 512

LORD, LET MY HEART BE GOOD SOIL

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

Take My Life, That I May Be

Arr. J. Aaron McDermid

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 # 841

LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

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.**

OPEN YOUR EARS, O FAITHFUL PEOPLE**THE SENDING**

P: Go in peace.

A: Encourage one another.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

SERVING IN WORSHIP		
	Saturday – 4 pm	Sunday – 9 am
GREETERS: NARTHEX	Thomas O'Brien	Pam Pelphrey Kent Watkins
GREETERS: BAKER STREET		Sharon Watkins
WORSHIP ASSISTANT		Tanya Schardt
READER	Wendy Bailey	Peggy Rutherford
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Wendy Bailey	Becky Prasuhn
DEACONS/ CLOSERS		Tracy Michles Cecilia Boucher

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Open Your Ears, O Faithful People - Text © 1966, 1982 Willard F. Jabusch, admin. OCP Publications

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 loving memory of Betty Stotz, Jeannette Brock, and Scott Delagrange, by Jeff & Peggy Kiser and family.

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, Janet Bowles, Krista Culbert, Peggy Dorr, Angie Martin, 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.

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

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

REFORMATION SUNDAY - October 24 & 25 - We invite you to wear red this weekend as we celebrate Reformation Sunday - the anniversary of the day that Martin Luther nailed "95 Theses" to the castle church door in Wittenberg, Germany.

NEWS ALERT

EXCITING NEWS FROM OUR CHURCH COUNCIL & PR. BAILEY!

After extensive and thoughtful conversations, they are pleased to announce a change in our office schedule. Beginning next week the office will be open Monday – Thursday from 9 am – 4 pm. We are excited about this new step forward and appreciate your support as we make this transition!

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!



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

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 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.

SPOUSAL GRIEF SUPPORT will meet on October 19 at 6 pm in the lounge. 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.

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, yogurts, beef sticks, and Oatmeal Cream Pies. 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.



FALL CLEAN-UP – Help Grace get ready for winter! We are asking for help cleaning up the courtyard (trim bushes, clean out landscaping, etc..) on November 14 from 9 am – noon. A sign-up sheet will be available at the back of the sanctuary next weekend or you may call the church office to add your name to the list of helpers.

WE ARE CURRENTLY ACCEPTING CANDY DONATIONS to pass out during the Halloween Hospitality event at Birchard Park on November 1 from 4 – 6 pm during Fremont's Trick or Treat. Candy may be dropped off in the church office.

YOUTH NEWS!

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.

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

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.

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

Join us for

HALLOWEEN



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

Hospitality @ Birchard Park
November 1 | 4 - 6 pm

Coloring with Pr. Bailey



Grace Lutheran Church

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Lay Associate Minister:

Maureen Pump
maureenpump2022@gmail.com

Minister of Youth & Family:

Heather Hawn
HeatherRHawn@gmail.com

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Tricia Dabrunz
dabrunztricia@yahoo.com

Finance/HR Administrator:

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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 18 - 25, 2026

Today **FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE** – canned meats & vegetables

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

Monday **COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT TICKET SALES BEGIN**

9:00 – Project Day
11:30 – PB & J²
1:00 – Bible Study with Maureen – Lounge
6:00 – Spousal Grief Support, Lounge
6:30 – Bible Study with Pr. Bailey
7:00 – Dartball at St. John's

Tuesday

2:30 – Joy Circle

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

Friday

Saturday **REFORMATION – WEAR RED**

8:00 – 6:00 – No One Crafts Alone
9:00 – Noon – Craft Workshop
4:00 – Worship

Sunday **REFORMATION SUNDAY – WEAR RED**

8:15 – Choir Rehearsal
9:00 – Worship/Third Grade Bible Presentation
10:15 – Confirmation
12:30 – LIFT Board Meeting at St. John's
3:30 – Pack 302 Halloween Party - Sandusky County Fairgrounds

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: 121

Called to Present the Light of Christ!