

# Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

June 23, 2024 A.D.

10:30 A.M.



# GRACE

Evangelical Lutheran Church



*Christ-Centered*

*Mission-Driven*

*Traditionally-Grounded*

*Congregationally-Focused*

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# Fifth Sunday after Pentecost



Welcome and Announcements

Prelude..... Please Observe Silence For Meditation

- \* Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness ..... page 56

## PRAISE

- \* Opening Hymn ..... **Here in this Place**..... **WOV 718**
- \* The Kyrie ..... page 57
- \* The Hymn of Praise.....*Glory to God*..... Page 58
- \* The Salutation and Prayer of the Day.....page 62

## EQUIP

The First Lesson.....Job 38 1:11

L: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm 124 ..... Bulletin pg. 3

The Second Lesson ..... 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

L: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

- \* The Holy Gospel.....Mark 4:35-41
- Children's Sermon ..... Pastor East
- The Message....."Do You Really Believe This?" ..... Pastor East
- Hymn of the Day.....**One There is, above All Others** .....**LBW 298**
- \* The Apostles' Creed.....page 65
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## GIVE

The Offering ..... The People of God

- \* The Offertory and Prayer .....pages 66, 67

## RECEIVE

- \* The Great Thanksgiving..... page 68
- \* The Eucharistic Prayer & The Lord's Prayer .....pages 69, 71
- \* **The Distribution of the Holy Sacrament**
- \* Post-Communion Canticle.....*Thank the Lord*..... page 72
- \* Post-Communion Prayer
- \* The Benediction

## SEND

- \* The Sending Hymn .....**Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word** .....**LBW 379**

- \* The Dismissal: P: Go in peace. Be the Church! **All: Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

\* = Stand Hymnals in Pew Rack: LBW = Green WOV = Blue TCH = Burgundy

**WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP** at Grace Church this morning as we gather to worship the Father, + Son and Holy Spirit in truth. As you entered the sanctuary today, you received this bulletin containing the order for worship and announcements. Please also notice the Prayer List where you will find a listing of all the known prayer concerns. You are invited to use this as a guide for your personal prayers throughout the coming week. If you need information about our congregation or if you'd like to update your information, make sure to fill out the yellow Worship Today Form and place it in the offering plate at the time of the offering. If you have a prayer concern, indicate that on your Worship Today Form at the bottom or on the reverse side. If you are seeking a Church Home or would like more information about Grace, please contact the Church Office this week.

**THIS WEEK'S THEME:** Scripture is clear that God is the Creator of the universe, but not everyone believes it yet. Jesus, who is God, and who demonstrated power over creation, invites everyone to believe. Believing in Jesus brings us to eternal life with God, but for believers there will be joys and sorrows in this earthly life. But don't let the sorrows get in the way of believing.

**FIRST LESSON: Job 38:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind and said: <sup>2</sup>“Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? <sup>3</sup>Dress for action like a man; I will question you, and you make it known to me. <sup>4</sup>Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. <sup>5</sup>Who determined its measurements — surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? <sup>6</sup>On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, <sup>7</sup>when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy? <sup>8</sup>Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, <sup>9</sup>when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, <sup>10</sup>and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors, <sup>11</sup>and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed?’”

## PSALM 124

<sup>1</sup>If the LORD had not been on our side,  
let Israel now say;

**<sup>2</sup>If the LORD had not been on our side,  
when enemies rose up against us;**

<sup>3</sup>Then would they have swallowed us up alive  
in their fierce anger toward us;

**<sup>4</sup>Then would the waters have overwhelmed us  
and the torrent gone over us;**

<sup>5</sup>Then would the raging waters  
have gone right over us.

**<sup>6</sup>Blessed be the LORD!  
he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.**

<sup>7</sup>We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler;  
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

**<sup>8</sup>Our help is in the name of the LORD,  
the maker of heaven and earth.**

## SECOND LESSON: 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

<sup>1</sup>Working together with {Christ}, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup>For he says, "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. <sup>3</sup>We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup>but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup>beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup>by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; <sup>7</sup>by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup>through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup>as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything. <sup>11</sup>We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians; our heart is wide open. <sup>12</sup>You are not restricted by us, but you are restricted in your own affections. <sup>13</sup>In return (I speak as to children) widen your hearts also.

## **THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 4:35-41**

<sup>35</sup>On that day, when evening had come, {Jesus} said to {the disciples}, "Let us go across to the other side." <sup>36</sup>And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him. <sup>37</sup>And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. <sup>38</sup>But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" <sup>39</sup>And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. <sup>40</sup>He said to them, "Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?" <sup>41</sup>And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

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**Next Sunday's Readings:** Lamentations 3:22-33; Psalm 30; 2 Corinthians 8:1-9, 13-15; Mark 5:21-43. Readings are based on the recommended use of the English Standard Version (ESV) by the North American Lutheran Church and Lectionary of Sola Publishing. Used by Permission.

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### **GRACE PRAYER LIST**

**In the Grace Church Family:** Jeffrey Bivens, Rick & Cindy Bivens, Glenda Childers, Pat Dietz, Sheila Drum, Allen and Kay Hatchett, Irene Heavner, Lorene Heavner, Rachel Heavner, Larry & Brenda Jarrett, Martha Johnson, Faye Lane, Phil and Malinda Leatherman, Betty Matheson, Jane Moss, Christine Norman, Tricia and Dan Panek, Debi Pisko, Michael Pisko, Stephen Pisko, Helen Smith, Ethan Starnes, Richard & Sandi Tallant, Libby Travis, Shirley Warlick, Carolyn & Scott Whisnant.

**Nursing Home:** Juanita Haas (Trinity Village), Ted Whisnant (Trinity Village),

**Friends and Relatives in our Prayers:** Pray for Peace in Israel and the World, New Covenant Lutheran Mission Church, Bobby Aderholdt, Jimmy Aderholdt, LeAnn Buckwell, Caleb Bumgarner & Family, Travis Bumgardner, Becky Cartee, Jessica Cassels & Family, Dennis & Evelyn Childers, Harold Crouse, Dennis D'Alessio, Guy Franzen, Wendy Hannah, Larry Heavner, J.C., Michele Kirkland, Peggy Klutz, Lily Rose, Sgt. Ryan McMullen and shift, Greg Masters, Chris Medlin, Paul and Genni Mulcahy, Katie Patton, friends and family of Harold Ray Scronce, Angela Sanford, Scott Speagle, Zachary Speagle and Amber, Cozel Spencer, Shanie Spencer, Steven, Sue, Monica Thomas, United States of America; Faye White, and especially the families of those who have given their lives in the service of our country and those who continue to protect our freedoms and for all members of our Armed Forces.

(Names are left on the prayer list for 30 days unless the office is notified otherwise.)

**PLEASE WELCOME PASTOR BRACK EAST** who is leading worship this morning.

**THE PEOPLE OF GOD AT GRACE** extend our Christian sympathy, love and prayers to the family of Harold Ray Scronce, who entered the Church Triumphant on June 9, 2024. Harold was the brother of Jeff Scronce. May God comfort all who mourn. Services to celebrate and remember Harold were held on June 12, 2024 at Daniels Lutheran Church in Lincolnton.

**WORSHIP ASSISTANT VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!** Please offer your services as a Lector, Usher or Communion Assistant for the upcoming months! If you would like to serve during a particular month (or two), please contact Tim Eckard.

**GRACE PRAYER LUNCHEON** Reminder that the Grace Prayer Luncheon will not be held during the summer months.

**RACHEL SIGMAN IS TURNING 100!** You are invited to join her family and friends in a celebration of Rachel's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 29<sup>th</sup> at 5pm at St. Paul's Reformed Church. Please RSVP to Sherry (828)308-0469.

**ASHURE (FORMERLY ECCCM)** food ask for the month of July is snacks. Your donations make a real difference right here in Catawba County! Thank you for helping to keep the food pantry stocked!

**STEPHEN MINISTRY SUPERVISION** is canceled until August 2024.

**FLOWERS AT GRACE** The 2024 Grace Flower Chart is posted in the Narthex. If you wish to give the flowers for a given Sunday, please list your name on the chart in the Narthex. *You are responsible for ordering the flowers from a florist of your choice; we do not have a standing order with any florist.* The liturgical color of the day is listed to assist you in selecting flowers appropriate for that Sunday. You should contact the Church Office the Tuesday prior to your selected Sunday so that the correct information is placed in the bulletin for that Sunday.

*“Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
the maker of heaven and earth.”*

Psalm 124:8

**HAPPY JUNE BIRTHDAY TO:**

28 – Rachel Heavner

**THIS WEEK AT GRACE**

**Today:**

**FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

9:30A – Sunday School

10:30A - Worship Celebration

**Next Sunday:**

**SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

9:30A – Sunday School

10:30A – Worship Celebration

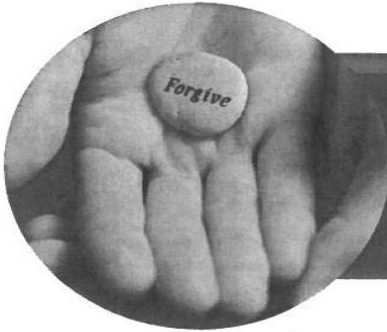
The Ministers.....The People of Grace Lutheran Church  
Pastor .....  
Organist ..... Sandi Tallant  
Administrative Assistant ..... Kristi Tucker  
Leadership Board President ..... Tim Eckard  
Youth Leader .....Stormy Shull  
Lector ..... Tim Eckard  
Communion Assistants..... Rick and Cindy Bivens  
Ushers ..... Jack Wilfong and James Hall  
Altar Preparation..... Herb and Libby Travis  
Offering Tabulators ..... Todd Childers and Libby Travis  
Custodian ..... Chris Abernethy



# TableTalk II

By Rev. Timothy J. Swenson • ILT Dean of Chapel

Fourth Sunday after Trinity | June 23, 2024



## LUKE 6:36-42

*"For with the measure you use  
it will be measured back to you." (Vs. 38)*

Jesus addresses mercy, justice, and hypocrisy. With words that mimic the Sermon on the Mount, "Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Mt. 5:48). Jesus admonishes the people to be merciful (vs. 36). To our ears, this mercy contrasts with the justice promised in verses 37-38. In contrast to mercy which gives you what you don't deserve, justice gives you what you do deserve. Justice is all about getting what you deserve and deserving what you get. Not judging earns no judgment for you. Not condemning earns you no condemnation. Forgiving deserves being forgiven. Generosity in giving deserves receiving generously. Then, in the parable (vs. 38-42), Jesus takes up hypocrisy. For Jesus, hypocrisy is calling your brother a sinner when you yourself are an even bigger sinner. Hypocrisy is as futile as the blind leading the blind.

Mercy... justice... hypocrisy... Being merciful stands over these verses, a rubric for our understanding. To be merciful like the Father hears the admonition to justice with ears that are not of this world. Rather, they are ears that belong to the New Creation... ears that are of the Kingdom of God. Such ears know that justice in this old, sin-broken creation is never

about deserving. Instead, justice is what those in power over you mete out to you and what you mete out to those over whom you have power. Ears that heed the rubric of mercy hear Jesus' admonition to justice as the delivery of mercy. In the Kingdom of God, justice is not about deserving. Those who deserve judgment are not judged. Those who deserve condemnation receive no condemnation. The unforgiveable are forgiven while the miserly receive generously.

Jesus' words regarding hypocrisy ensure that this means you! You are the one wanting to visit justice, a sinful justice, upon your brother... upon your neighbor. You are the sinner distorting what the brother or neighbor deserve so as to excuse yourself. You are the one needing ears to hear... ears to hear that rubric of mercy, "Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful!" Judgment, condemnation, the lack of forgiveness, and miserliness do not belong to the Kingdom of God, the kingdom of "a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness" (Ex. 34:6).

**Table Talk:** Discuss the interplay of mercy, justice, and hypocrisy.

**Pray:** Heavenly Father deliver me into your kingdom of mercy. Amen

