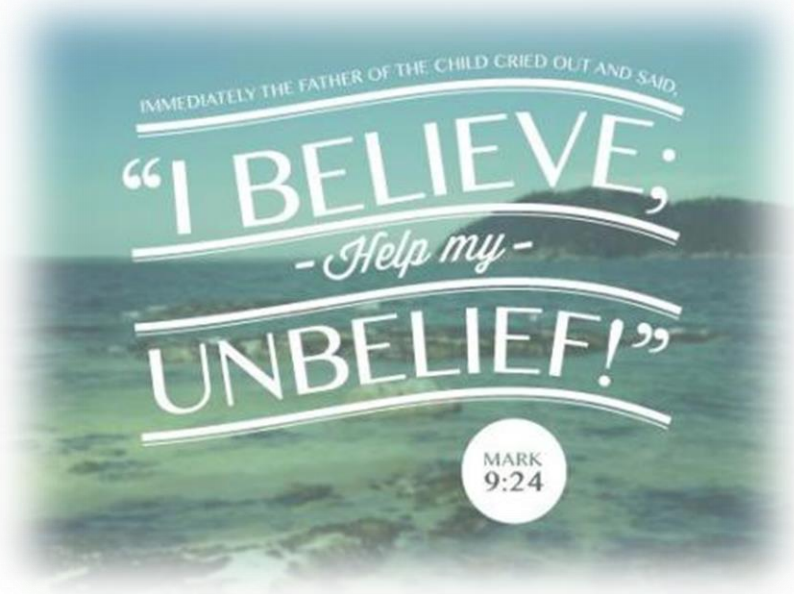


# Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 15, 2024 A.D.

10:30 AM



## GRACE

Evangelical Lutheran Church



### NALC

North American Lutheran Church

*Christ-Centered*

*Mission-Driven*

*Traditionally-Grounded*

*Congregationally-Focused*

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4536 Hickory Lincolnton Highway  
Newton, North Carolina 28658  
Church Office: 704-462-1035  
email: [gracenalcnewton@aol.com](mailto:gracenalcnewton@aol.com)  
[www.gracelutheran-newton.org](http://www.gracelutheran-newton.org)

# Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost



Welcome and Announcements

Prelude.....Please Observe Silence For Meditation

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

## PRAISE

- \* Opening Hymn ..... **Give to Our God Immortal Praise** ..... **LBW 520**
- \* 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..... Isaiah 50:4-10

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

The Psalm 116:1-8..... Bulletin pg. 4

The Second Lesson ..... James 3:1-12

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

- \* The Holy Gospel.....Mark 9:14-29
- Children's Sermon.....Pastor Coble
- The Message....."How Do You Use Your Tongue".....Pastor Coble
- Hymn of the Day.....**Leaning on the Everlasting Arms**..... **WOV 780**
- \* The Apostles' Creed.....page 65
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## GIVE

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## RECEIVE

- \* The Great Thanksgiving..... page 68
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- \* **The Distribution of the Holy Sacrament**
- Hymn During Communion.....**Be Thou My Vision**.....**WOV 776**
- \* Post-Communion Canticle.....*Thank the Lord*.....page 72
- \* Post-Communion Prayer
- \* The Benediction

## SEND

- \* The Sending Hymn .....**Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing**.....**LBW 559**

- \* 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:** Have you checked your tongue recently? My dentist checks mine every time I see him, but he's looking for cancer spots. And that is not what I'm talking about. James today will tell us that the tongue is a powerful instrument that can be used for good or used for evil. Constantly check your tongue to make sure it is used to praise God and bless others.

**FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 50:4-10**

<sup>4</sup>The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. <sup>5</sup>The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. <sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. <sup>7</sup>But the Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. <sup>8</sup>He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me. <sup>9</sup>Behold, the Lord GOD helps me; who will declare me guilty? Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up. <sup>10</sup>Who among you fears the LORD and obeys the voice of his servant? Let him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the name of the LORD and rely on his God.

## PSALM 116:1-8

<sup>1</sup>I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication,  
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

<sup>2</sup>**The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took hold of me;  
I came to grief and sorrow.**

<sup>3</sup>Then I called upon the name of the LORD:  
“O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”

<sup>4</sup>**Gracious is the LORD and righteous;  
our God is full of compassion.**

<sup>5</sup>The LORD watches over the innocent;  
I was brought very low, and he helped me.

<sup>6</sup>**Turn again to your rest, O my soul,  
for the LORD has treated you well.**

<sup>7</sup>For you have rescued my life from death,  
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling.

<sup>8</sup>**I will walk in the presence of the LORD  
in the land of the living.**

## SECOND LESSON: James 3:1-12

<sup>1</sup>Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup>For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. <sup>3</sup>If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. <sup>4</sup>Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup>So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! <sup>6</sup>And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup>For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, <sup>8</sup>but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup>With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup>From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup>Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? <sup>12</sup>Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

## **THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 9:14-29**

<sup>14</sup>When {Jesus, Peter, James and John} came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. <sup>15</sup>And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to him and greeted him. <sup>16</sup>And he asked them, “What are you arguing about with them?” <sup>17</sup>And someone from the crowd answered him, “Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. <sup>18</sup>And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able.” <sup>19</sup>And he answered them, “O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me.” <sup>20</sup>And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. <sup>21</sup>And Jesus asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. <sup>22</sup>And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.” <sup>23</sup>And Jesus said to him, “If you can! All things are possible for one who believes.” <sup>24</sup>Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, “I believe; help my unbelief!” <sup>25</sup>And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.” <sup>26</sup>And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, “He is dead.” <sup>27</sup>But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. <sup>28</sup>And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” <sup>29</sup>And he said to them, “This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer.”

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**Next Sunday's Readings:** Jeremiah 11:18-20, Psalm 54; James 3:13-4:10; Mark 9:30-37. 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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**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the Glory of God,  
and in honor of Emily and Logan Sipe's Marriage  
By: Gene and Frankie Crouse

## **GRACE PRAYER LIST**

**In the Grace Church Family:** Jeffry Bivens, Rick & Cindy Bivens, Glenda Childers, Pat Dietz, Sheila Drum, Allen and Kay Hatchett, Irene Heavner, Larry Heavner, Lorene Heavner, Rachel Heavner, Larry & Brenda Jarrett, Martha Johnson, Faye Lane, Phil

& Malinda Leatherman, Betty Matheson, Jane Moss, Christine Norman, Tricia and Dan Panek, Debi Pisko, Michael Pisko, Stephen Pisko, Alan Shull, 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, Terry Barnett, LeAnn Buckwell, Caleb Bumgarner & Family, Travis & Danelle Bumgardner, Jessica Cassels & Family, Dennis & Evelyn Childers, Harold Crouse, Guy Franzen, Wendy Hannah, Denver Hensly, Cole Leatherman J.C., Lily Rose, Sgt. Ryan McMullen and shift, Katie Patton, Angela Sanford, Scott Speagle, Zachary Speagle and Amber, 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.

**Prayers for the friends and family of:** Rev. Doug Howell and Michelle McCreary  
(Names are left on the prayer list for 30 days unless the office is notified otherwise.)

**PLEASE WELCOME PASTOR GARY COBLE** who is leading worship this morning.

**PLEASE WELCOME ANDREW ADKINS** who is playing the organ for us this morning.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Emily (Crouse) and Logan Sipe on their marriage yesterday! May your marriage always bring glory to God, joy to one another and blessings to your family for many generations to come.

**THE LEADERSHIP MINISTRY BOARD** will hold its regular monthly meeting tomorrow, **September 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm**. All board members are urged to attend.

**THE GRACE PRAYER LUNCHEON** Will resume this **Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> from 12-2pm** in the Grace Fellowship Hall. **ALL ARE WELCOME!** The menu for lunch is Pork Roast, Green Beans, Creamed Corn and a Surprise Dessert. Make sure to plan to play Betty's famous BINGO after enjoying your lunch!

**NEEDING A VISIT?** Our Stephen Ministers are trained and ready to make visits when requested. They can come to your home, hospital or a long-term care facility to visit. Please contact Stephen Ministry Leader, Herb Travis (704-240-7359) to request a visit. We are thankful that these servants of Grace have taken this training to help care for our church family, especially during the transitional time between pastors.

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

*“Gracious is the LORD and righteous;  
our God is full of compassion.”*  
Psalm 116:4

**HAPPY SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY TO:**

15 - Kathy Leatherman  
22 – Chris Jarrett

**THIS WEEK AT GRACE**

- Today:** **SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
9:30am - Sunday School  
10:30am – Worship Celebration
- Monday:** 6:00pm – Leadership Ministry Board Meeting
- Wednesday:** 12:00pm – Grace Prayer Luncheon
- Friday:** Church Office Closed
- Next Sunday:** **EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
9:30am – Sunday School  
10:30am – 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 ..... Stormy Shull  
Communion Assistants..... Herb & Libby Travis  
Ushers ..... Jeff Scronce & Jack Wilfong  
Altar Preparation..... Herb & Libby Travis  
Offering Tabulators ..... Todd Childers & Jason Yoder  
Custodian ..... Chris Abernethy



# Table Talk II

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

Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity | September 15, 2024



## LUKE 7:11-17

*"...a man who had died was being carried out,  
the only son of his mother, and she was a widow..."*

(Vs. 12)

In the nature of this sin-broken world, we live in it as creatures of broken hearts. All the sorrow of our broken hearts collects in these simple words from the text, "the only son of his mother, and she was a widow" (vs. 12). You might recall that widows would be given over to their son's care in lieu of their husband. Now, with her only son dead, the widow anticipated a paucity of care. She had no one dedicated to look after her. All she had to live on was being cast into the grave, irretrievably.

Jesus looks on her with compassion. Perhaps he looked upon her as he looked upon another widow who had cast all she had to live on into the Temple treasury, irretrievably (Lk. 21:1-4). In each case, his compassion motivates him to act. For the widow at Nain, he acts for her directly, speaking her son from death to life, and then he "gave him to his mother" (vs. 15). For the widow in the Temple, Jesus acts indirectly for her as he delivers all his people from religion's deadly sacrificial system into life... delivers them into life... life in his name. Jesus provides for each widow all they have to live on.

There is yet another widow alluded to in this text. Think back, if you will, to the widow at Zarephath, the widow who cared for the prophet

Elijah. In her house, the Lord provided all that she, her son, and Elijah needed to live on.... But then, the son died. Elijah beseeched the Lord on the son's behalf and the Lord retrieved him from the bonds of death. Here is the connection. The exact same words are used of Elijah as are used of Jesus: he "gave him back to his mother" (vs. 15 & 1 Kings 17:23). The people in the crowd of witnesses—both the "great crowd" and the "considerable crowd" (vs. 11 & 12)—likened Jesus to a great prophet risen among them (vs. 16), a prophet great as Elijah had been.

This crowd, in contrast to those of Jerusalem over whom Jesus lamented (Lk. 19:44), this crowd knew the time of their visitation. Their God had come to them (and you) in the person of Jesus. Jesus has come taking your weaknesses, carrying your diseases, and healing your every ill (Mt. 8:17). He is all you have to live on.

**Table Talk:** Discuss the time of your God's visitation bringing all you need to live on.

**Pray:** Father, grant me to hear your Word and receive the all-sufficiency of Jesus Christ who is my life. Amen

