

Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

November 17, 2024 A.D.

10:30 AM

Give thanks to the Lord,
for He is good; His love endures forever.
- Psalm 118:1



GRACE

Evangelical Lutheran Church



NALC

North American Lutheran Church

Christ-Centered

Mission-Driven

Traditionally-Grounded

Congregationally-Focused

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Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost



Welcome and Announcements

Prelude..... Please Observe Silence For Meditation

- * Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness page 56

PRAISE

- * Gathering Hymn **Gathering Come, You Thankful People, Come** **WOV 407**
- * 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 1 Kings 17:8-16

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

The Psalm 146 Bulletin pg. 4

The Second Lesson Hebrews 9:24-28

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

- * The Holy Gospel..... Mark 12:38-44
- Children's Sermon.....Pastor Doug
- The Message....."O Give Thanks to the Lord"Pastor Doug
- Hymn of the Day.....**We Gather Together** **TCH 790**
- * The Apostles' Creed.....page 65
- * The Prayers and the Peace..... page 65

GIVE

The Offering The People of God

- * The Offertory and Prayerpages 66, 67

RECEIVE

- * The Great Thanksgiving..... page 68
- * The Eucharistic Prayer & The Lord's Prayerpages 69, 71
- * **The Distribution of the Holy Sacrament**
- Hymn During Communion.....**Let Us Break Bread Together**.....**LBW 212**
- * Post-Communion Canticle.....*Thank the Lord*.....page 72
- * Post-Communion Prayer
- * The Benediction

SEND

- * The Sending Hymn**Now Thank We All Our God****LBW 534**
- * 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: The gratefulness and display of thanksgiving shown by the one leper is humbling. We have so much—all given by the hand of God—but are probably much less grateful. We desire more and more, never quite learning that we live by more than provisions. It is the word of the Lord, not just bread, that gives life. Therefore, great faith not only makes us well, it makes us thankful. May God be so gracious to us that he blesses us with an abundance of faith. We must always be mindful of our leprous, sinful condition, and that God has healed us by his stripes (Isa 53:4-5). Return to the Lord and give him thanks and praise. Martin Luther said this about giving thanks: *"Because everything we possess, and everything in heaven and on earth besides, is daily given, sustained, and protected by God, it inevitably follows that we are in duty bound to love, praise, and thank him without ceasing, and, in short, to devote all these things to His service."* Large Catechism, First Article of the Creed

FIRST LESSON: Deuteronomy 8:1-10

¹{Moses said to the Israelites,} "The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the Lord swore to give to your fathers.²And you shall remember the whole way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not.³And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.⁴Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years.⁵Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the Lord your God disciplines you.⁶So you shall keep the commandments of the Lord your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him.⁷For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out in the valleys and hills,⁸a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey,⁹a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper.¹⁰And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the Lord your God for the good land he has given you."

PSALM 107

¹Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!

His faithful love endures forever.

²**Has the Lord redeemed you? Then speak out!**

Tell others he has redeemed you from your enemies.

³For he has gathered the exiles from many lands,
from east and west, from north and south.

⁴**Some wandered in the wilderness, lost and homeless.**

⁵Hungry and thirsty, they nearly died.

⁶**“Lord, help!” they cried in their trouble,
and he rescued them from their distress.**

⁷He led them straight to safety,
to a city where they could live.

⁸**Let them praise the Lord for his great love
and for the wonderful things he has done for them.**

SECOND LESSON: St. Paul’s Letters

Philippians 4:6-7

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-19

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit.

Colossians 3:12-17

¹²Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 17:11-19

¹¹On the way to Jerusalem {Jesus} was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance ¹³and lifted up their voices, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.” ¹⁴When he saw them he said to them, “Go and

show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went they were cleansed. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; ¹⁶and he fell on his face at Jesus’ feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus answered, “Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? ¹⁸Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹And he said to him, “Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.”

Next Sunday’s Readings: Isaiah 51:4-6; Psalm 93; Revelation 1:4b-8; Mark 13:24-37. 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.

GRACE PRAYER LIST

In the Grace Church Family: Jeffry Bivens, Rick & Cindy Bivens, Glenda Childers, Pat Dietz, Tim Eckard, Allen and Kay Hatchett, Irene Heavner, Larry Heavner, Lorene Heavner, Larry & Brenda Jarrett, Martha Johnson, Faye Lane, Phil & Malinda Leatherman, Betty Matheson, Jane Moss, Christine Norman, Tricia and Dan Panek, Michael, Debi & Stephen Pisko, Helen Smith, Ethan Starnes, Sandi Tallant, Libby Travis, Shirley Warlick, Scott & Carolyn 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, Becky Cartee, Jessica Cassels & Family, Evelyn Childers, Dennis D’Alessio, Guy Franzen, Wendy Hannah, John Harwell, J.C., Michele Kirkland, Lily Rose, Paul and Jenny Mulcahy, Sgt. Ryan McMullen and shift, 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.

Family and Friends of: Rachel Heavner, Richard Tallant and Danny Cooper

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

All that have been affected by Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton.

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

PLEASE WELCOME PASTOR DOUG HEFNER! We are thrilled that Pastor Doug has been called to serve as our pastor at Grace. He is excited to be with us and is looking forward to getting to know everyone soon. It is his goal to visit everyone within the first couple months of being at Grace. If there is a need that arises and you need to reach him, you may call his cell phone (980)234-8848.

THANK YOU from the family of Rachel Heavner. To our Grace Church Family, our family was overwhelmed with gratitude for the kindness and love shown to us during the loss of our mom. Your prayers were felt and brought us comfort during our loss. Thank you for the delicious spread of food that was provided after the service, giving the family time to share Rachel's life stories and leaving us with much joy during such a tough time.

THE PEOPLE OF GOD AT GRACE extend our Christian sympathy, love and prayers to the family and friends of Richard Tallant, husband of Sandi Tallant, who entered the Church Triumphant on Friday, November 1, 2024. Services to celebrate and remember Richard were held on Sunday, November 4th at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Claremont. May God comfort all who mourn.

THE GRACE PRAYER LUNCHEON will be held this **Wednesday, November 20th from 12-2pm** in the Grace Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend! The menu for November is Chicken n' Dumplings, Creamed Potatoes, Sugar Peas and a Surprise Dessert! Please plan to play Betty's famous BINGO after lunch.

PLEASE ADORN THE CHANCEL ON CHRISTMAS by giving the gift of a poinsettia. This is a great way to honor or make a memorial to someone or some event. The order form and special envelope for poinsettia orders are in your bulletin each week. The cost is \$10.00 per plant. **Please have all forms in by Sunday, November 24th!**

ASHURE ask for the month of November is flour, cornmeal and sugar. Your donations make a real difference right here in Catawba County! Thank you for helping to keep the food pantry stocked! Servants of Grace have donated **1301 lbs.** of food during 2024 to ASHURE! **Let's see if we can get that donation up to 1500 lbs. by the end of the year, only 199 pounds to go!**

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE - Grace is invited to the Community Thanksgiving Service on Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, November 27th at 7pm at Ebenezer UMC, 8840 Cooksville Road, Vale, NC. Pastor Doug will be providing the welcome and opening prayer for the service. The service will be led by 5 pastors from the area. Grace is now is the rotation to host this service - We will host it in 2029!!

*“Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, O my soul!
I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing
praises to my God while I have my being.”*

Psalm 146:1

HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY TO:

23 – Wanda Hall

23 – Alan Shull

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Today: **TWENTY-SIXTH 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: **CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY**
9:30am – Sunday School
10:30am - Worship Celebration

The Ministers.....The People of Grace Lutheran Church
Pastor Doug Hefner
Organist Sandi Tallant
Administrative Assistant Kristi Tucker
Leadership Board President Tim Eckard
Youth LeaderStormy Shull
LectorHerb Travis
Communion Assistants.....Sheila Drum & Cindy Bivens
UshersDavid Wilfong & Jack Wilfong
Altar Preparation.....Herb & Libby Travis
Offering Tabulators Todd Childers & Libby Travis
Custodian Chris Abernethy

Listening for the Promise

Weekly Devotional

Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 28) – November 17, 2024

“For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.”

-Hebrews 10:14-

One of the great mysteries of God’s work upon sinners in Christ crucified is that not only are the sins that we have committed in the past crucified and dead in Christ’s body (tell me the one who can understand this?), but that even those sins which are presently, plainly obvious to myself and to others, with all their consequences being meted out, are no longer mine. The Holy Spirit imputes my sins from the past, present, and future, to Jesus Christ through the preaching of the absolution. When God the Holy Spirit is proclaiming Christ and him crucified to us, the Holy Spirit is doing his primary job of making sinners holy. The writer of Hebrews makes this remarkable claim in verse 14, “For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.” In Christ, who was offered as a single sacrifice for all sin, once for all, you have been perfected! No doubt this perfection is very deeply hidden from our view, but that is, of course, what Paul promises, “Your life is hid in God with Christ” (Col. 3:3). But if we have been perfected in Christ Jesus, how can it be that we are still being sanctified? Was there something left to be done that Christ did not complete, this sanctifying business? There is nothing lacking in the work of Christ crucified and raised. Luther observes in his explanation to the third article of the Creed of the Large Catechism, that we would never hear of Christ nor believe in him if the Holy Spirit did not proclaim the gospel to us. The faith in Christ created in us is the perfected creature of which verse 14 speaks. Our holiness is in heaven where Christ is (Phil. 3:20). At the same time, we are sinners in ourselves, under the burden of the law and its ceaseless demands. This old sinner is the one whom God is sanctifying, not by cajoling the old Adam or Eve in the law all the more, but by the daily repentance and forgiveness that shapes our everyday life through our vocations. Those who are being sanctified are so by being justified, daily, through the forgiveness of sins, not by the sacrifice of piety and love, but by the announcement, “You sin is forgiven.” And when God forgives your sins, he has Divine Amnesia: “I will remember their sins and lawless deeds no more.” You may have a hard time forgetting your sins. Others may remind you of your many offenses. The devil loves to torment us with our trespasses. But for you, the comfort is that for God, whatever was put to death and buried with Christ remains locked up in the grave forever. And more than that, he has clothed you with the righteousness of his Son and given you all that belongs to him. For where there is the forgiveness of sins there is life and salvation.