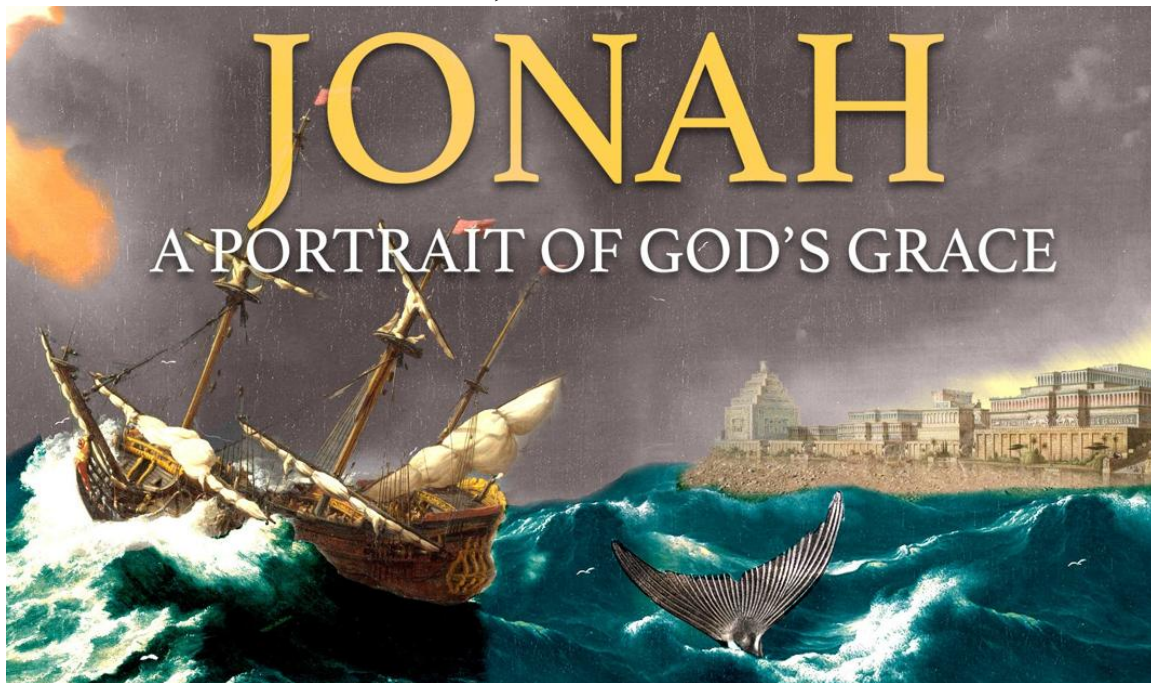


# Third Sunday After Pentecost

June 14, 2026 10:30 AM



## Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church



NORTH AMERICAN  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

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4536 Hickory Lincolnton Highway, Newton, North Carolina 28658

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Rev. Doug Hefner cell: (980) 234-8848 email: [pastorhefner@aol.com](mailto:pastorhefner@aol.com)

Sandi Tallant – Organist    Todd Childers – Administrative Assistant

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8am to 12pm

**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 Pastor Doug (980) 234-8848.

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

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*The congregation is invited to stand.*

**\* BRIEF ORDER OF CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

P: Trusting in God's steadfast love, grace and forgiveness in Christ, let us confess our sin. Silence is kept for reflection and confession of our sins before God and one another.

P: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy upon us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The minister stands and addresses the congregation.*

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all our sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

\* **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.**

\* **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Almighty and loving God, in the sacrament of baptism you have drawn us to yourself, anointed us as your own, calling us to be your pilgrim people. As Jesus sent the disciples, so may your Spirit send us to share the extravagant blessings of your grace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.** *The congregation may be seated.*

**FIRST READING: Jonah 3: 1-10**

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” <sup>3</sup>So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. <sup>4</sup>Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” <sup>5</sup>And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. <sup>6</sup>When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. <sup>7</sup>Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh: “By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water. <sup>8</sup>Humans and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God. All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. <sup>9</sup>Who knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish.”

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.

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

**PSALM 100**

<sup>1</sup>Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

<sup>2</sup>**Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!**

<sup>3</sup>Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

<sup>4</sup>**Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him;**

**bless his name!**

<sup>5</sup>For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

**SECOND READING: Acts 13: 1-12**

Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a childhood friend of Herod the ruler,<sup>[a]</sup> and Saul. <sup>2</sup> While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” <sup>3</sup> Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off. <sup>4</sup> So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus. <sup>5</sup> When they arrived at Salamis, they proclaimed the word of God in the Jewish synagogues. And they had John also to assist them. <sup>6</sup> When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they met a certain magician, a Jewish false prophet, named Bar-Jesus. <sup>7</sup> He was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, an intelligent man who summoned Barnabas and Saul and wanted to hear the word of God. <sup>8</sup> But the magician Elymas (for that is the translation of his name) opposed them and tried to turn the proconsul away from the faith. <sup>9</sup> But Saul, also known as Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him <sup>10</sup> and said, “You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord? <sup>11</sup> And now listen—the hand of the Lord is against you, and you will be blind for a while, unable to see the sun.” Immediately mist and darkness came over him, and he fumbled about for someone to lead him by the hand. <sup>12</sup> When the proconsul saw what had happened, he believed, for he was astonished at the teaching about the Lord.

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

*The congregation is invited to stand.*

**\* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”**

**WOV 612**

**\*GOSPEL: Matthew 9:35 – 10:8**

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>35</sup>Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction.

<sup>36</sup>When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup>Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; <sup>38</sup>therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

<sup>1</sup>And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction. <sup>2</sup>The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; <sup>3</sup>Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; <sup>4</sup>Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him. <sup>5</sup>These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, “Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, <sup>6</sup>but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup>And proclaim as you go, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ <sup>8</sup>Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to You O Christ!**

*The congregation may be seated.*

### **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

### **SERMON**



*“Jonah: A Portrait of God’s Amazing Grace”  
Pastor Doug*

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY** “You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore” **WOV 784**

### **\*THE APOSTLES’ CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again 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.

**\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Response at the end of each petition.* P: Lord in your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.**

**\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

*Worshippers may greet one another with "the Peace of Christ."*

*The assembly may be seated.*

**OFFERING** In response to God's blessings, we offer our tithes to the Lord

**ANTHEM**

**HOLY COMMUNION – MEAL OF GRACE**

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P: God of abundance, **C: we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them the offering of our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need and nourish us in Your with your love and presence in this meal of grace until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

**DIALOGUE**

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord our God.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is good and right to give God our thanks and praise.**

**\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION** "In the night in which our Lord..."

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

**\* INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: The Gifts of God for the People of God. **C: Thanks be to God!**

*The assembly may be seated.*

**All are invited to receive Holy Communion**

*The congregation is invited to stand.*

**\* COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER**

P: Tender and merciful God, at your feast, you fed us who brought nothing, turning our emptiness to joy. **C: Filled with your abundant grace, send us now to be ministers of**

*reconciliation, mending broken hearts, working for justice, and striving for peace among all people, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen*

**\*BLESSING** The Lord bless you..... **C: Amen.**

**\* SENDING HYMN**

**“Go My Children”**

**WOV 721**

**\* DISMISSAL**

P: The harvest is plentiful! Filled with God's grace and love in Christ, we are God's faithful laborers sent into the harvest to fulfill our Lord's calling and will to proclaim the Gospel in word and deed. Let us go in peace and joy to serve the Lord and our neighbor.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the Glory of God and in honor of the men of Grace Church by Kim Parker.

### **PRAISE & PICNIC SUNDAY**

Please join us this Sunday (6/14) at 10:30am for Praise and Picnic Sunday as we gather outdoors in the shelter for worship. After the service we will enjoy a BBQ lunch. Grace will be providing the BBQ, Slaw, Beans, Buns, Chips, Plates, Cups, and Ice. Grace members are invited to bring a side dish or a dessert and their favorite drink. We will enjoy lunch in the Shelter right after service (approx. 11:30). Pastor Doug will be preaching on what the Book of Jonah can teach us about God's grace and our mission in the world today. You are also welcome to join us for Sunday School at 9:15am where we are using the series, "That the World May Know," a series of inspiration Biblical teachings presented in the Holy Lands. Please join us for this wonderful day of worship, fellowship, and great food!



### **In the Grace Church Family:**

Jeffrey Bivens, Rick & Cindy Bivens, the family of Glenda Childers, Pat Dietz, Allen and Kay Hatchett, Lorene Heavner, Larry & Brenda Jarrett, Martha Johnson, Faye Lane, Phil & Malinda Leatherman, Betty Matheson, Joe Momier, Jane Moss, Christine Norman, Michael Norman, Tricia and Dan Panek, Mike, Debi & Stephen Pisko, Alice Parris, Helen Smith, Ethan Starnes, Sandi Tallant, Libby Travis, Shirley Warlick, Ken & Tirzah Welch, Scott & Carolyn Whisnant, and Nancy Willis.

**Nursing Home:** Juanita Haas (Trinity Village), Ted Whisnant (Trinity Village), Harvey Leatherman (Trinity Ridge, Room 100)

**Friends and Relatives in our Prayers:** Pray for Peace in Israel and the World, New Covenant Lutheran Mission Church, John Barnett, Ashlee Bumgardner, Braylon’s sister, Clinton Childers, Evelyn Childers, Gray Childers, Ann & Jim Harrelson, the family of Flossie Hatley, Luca’s Hope, Peggy Klutz, Amy Martin, family of Lynette Momier, Anne Poovey, Randy & Rita Neill, David Sigmon, the family of Donald Smith, Scott Speagle, and the family of Martha Young. Prayers for world peace and for our church, the United States of America, 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.

**HAPPY JUNE BIRTHDAY TO:**

June 2 Helen Smith                      June 11 Cindy Bivens                      June 11 Alicia Wilfong  
 June 14 Emiley Robertson              June 19 Allen Biggerstaff                  June 26 Jeff Hefner

**COMING UP AT GRACE THIS WEEK**

**Today: Third Sunday After Pentecost**

9:15am – Sunday School    10:30am - Worship Celebration

**Monday:** 6pm – Leadership Ministry Board Meeting

**Upcoming Dates:**

Sunday, June 21 - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, Father’s Day, Gifts for Fathers

**GIVING AND ATTENDANCE FOR LAST SUNDAY**

Date	Offering		Attendance	
	Total Receipts	General Fund	Worship	Sunday School
6/7/2026	\$ 3,599	\$ 3,025	60	9

*Ministers of Grace – All the People of Grace*  
*Pastor – Reverend Doug Hefner      Board President – Tim Eckard*  
*Lector – Stormy Shull                  Youth Leader – Stormy Shull*  
*Altar Preparation – Cindy Bivens & Susan Setzer*  
*Communion Assistants – Cindy Bivens & Sheila Drum*  
*Ushers – Jack Parris & David Wilfong*  
*Offering Counters – Todd Childers & Kim Parker*