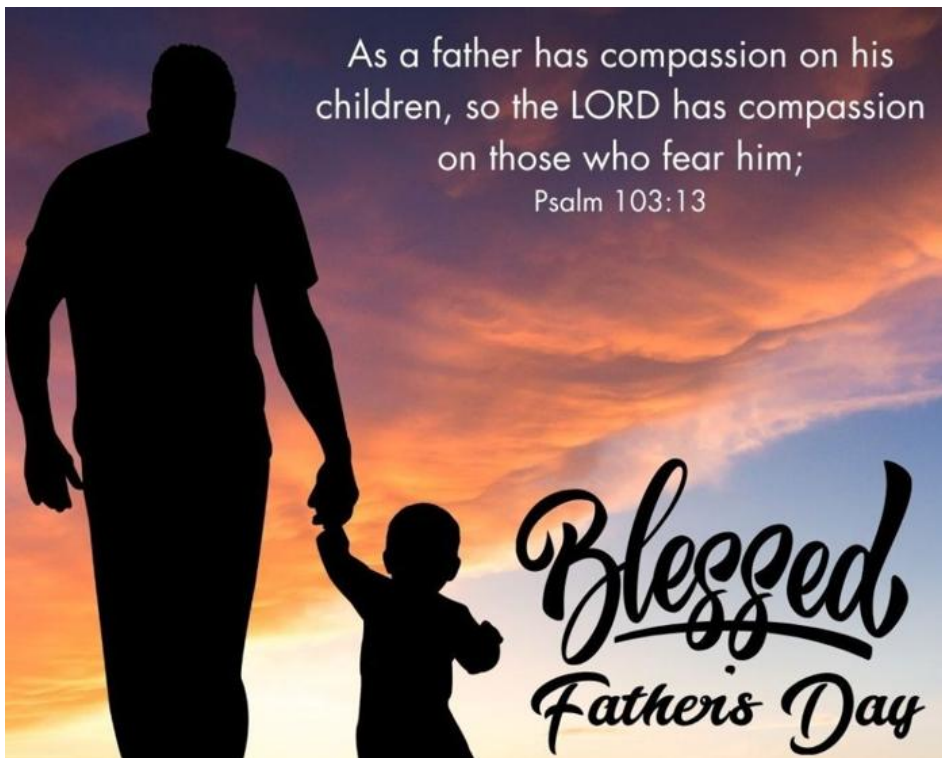


# Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

June 21, 2026 10:30 AM



## Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church



NORTH AMERICAN  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

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4536 Hickory Lincolnton Highway, Newton, North Carolina 28658

Church Office: (704) 462-1035 email: [gracenalcnorton@aol.com](mailto:gracenalcnorton@aol.com)

[www.gracelutheran-newton.org](http://www.gracelutheran-newton.org)

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.**

\* **GATHERING HYMN**

“This is My Father’s World”

LBW 554

\* **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: Let us pray. Gracious Heavenly Father, you so loved the world that you gave us your only Son, Jesus, our Lord and Savior and in Christ you have prepared for us what no eye has seen nor ear heard. Pour into our hearts a loving affection for you, that we may choose you in and above all things. For only then shall we have what you promise, which far exceeds all we can desire. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. C: **Amen.**

*The congregation may be seated.*

**FIRST READING: Readings from Proverbs**

**Proverbs 6:20:** My child, keep your father’s commandment, and do not forsake your mother’s teaching.

**Proverbs 7:1-3:** My child, keep my words and store up my commandments with you; <sup>2</sup> keep my commandments and live, keep my teachings as the apple of your eye; <sup>3</sup> bind them on your fingers, write them on the tablet of your heart.

**Proverbs 8:32-36:** <sup>32</sup> “And now, my children, listen to me: happy are those who keep my ways. <sup>33</sup> Hear instruction and be wise, and do not neglect it. <sup>34</sup> Happy is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors. <sup>35</sup> For whoever finds me finds life and obtains favor from the LORD; <sup>36</sup> but those who miss me injure themselves; all who hate me love death.”

**Proverbs 10:1:** A wise child makes a glad father, but a foolish child is a mother’s grief.

**Proverbs 10:5** A child who gathers in summer is prudent, but a child who sleeps in harvest brings shame.

**Proverbs 13:1** A wise child loves discipline, but a scoffer does not listen to rebuke.

**Proverbs 14:26-28** <sup>26</sup> In the fear of the LORD one has strong confidence, and one’s children will have a refuge. <sup>27</sup> The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, so that one may avoid the snares of death. **Proverbs 17:6** Grandchildren are the crown of the aged, and the glory of children is their parents.

**Proverbs 22:6** Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray.

**Proverbs 9:17** Discipline your children, and they will give you rest; they will give delight to your heart.

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

## **PSALM 103**

<sup>8</sup> The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

<sup>9</sup> **He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever.**

<sup>10</sup> He does not deal with us according to our sins nor repay us according to our iniquities.

<sup>11</sup> **For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;**

<sup>12</sup> as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.

<sup>13</sup> **As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.**

<sup>17</sup> But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children,

<sup>18</sup> **to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments.**

## **SECOND READING: Ephesians 6: 1-4, 10-20**

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. <sup>2</sup>“Honor your father and mother”—this is the first commandment with a promise— <sup>3</sup>“so that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.” <sup>4</sup> And, fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

<sup>10</sup> Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power; <sup>11</sup> put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, <sup>12</sup> for our struggle is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup> Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on the evil day and, having prevailed against everything, to stand firm. <sup>14</sup> Stand, therefore, and belt your waist with truth and put on the breastplate of righteousness <sup>15</sup> and lace up your sandals in preparation for the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup> Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. <sup>18</sup> Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. <sup>19</sup> Pray also for me, so that when I speak a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup> for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

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: Luke 8: 40-56**

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

<sup>40</sup> Now when Jesus returned, the crowd welcomed him, for they were all waiting for him. <sup>41</sup> Just then there came a man named Jairus, a leader of the synagogue. He fell at Jesus’s feet and began pleading with him to come to his house, <sup>42</sup> for he had an only daughter, about twelve years old, and she was dying. As he went, the crowds pressed in on him. <sup>43</sup> Now there was a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for twelve years, and though she had spent all she had on physicians, no one could cure her. <sup>44</sup> She came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, and immediately her flow of blood stopped. <sup>45</sup> Then Jesus asked, “Who touched me?” When they all denied it, Peter said, “Master, the crowds are hemming you in and pressing against you.” <sup>46</sup> But Jesus said, “Someone touched me, for I noticed that power had gone out from me.” <sup>47</sup> When the woman realized that she could not remain hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him, she declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him and how she had been immediately healed. <sup>48</sup> He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace.” <sup>49</sup> While he was still speaking, someone came from the synagogue leader’s house to say, “Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the teacher any longer.” <sup>50</sup> When Jesus heard this, he replied, “Do not be afraid. Only believe, and she will be saved.” <sup>51</sup> When he came to the house, he did not allow anyone to enter with him, except Peter, John, and James and the child’s father and mother. <sup>52</sup> Everyone was weeping and grieving for her, but he said, “Do not cry, for she is not dead but sleeping.” <sup>53</sup> And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. <sup>54</sup> But taking her by the hand, he called out, “Child, get up!” <sup>55</sup> Her spirit returned, and she stood up at once, and he directed them to give her something to eat. <sup>56</sup> Her parents were astounded, but he ordered them to tell no one what had happened.

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

*The congregation may be seated.*

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

## SERMON



*“Thank you, Jesus, for Godly Fathers and Men!”*  
*Pastor Doug*

### \*HYMN OF THE DAY

**“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”**

**LBW 370**

### \*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**

**“Children of the Heavenly Father”**

**LBW 474**

### HOLY COMMUNION – MEAL OF GRACE

### \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Holy God, you open the doors of heaven, giving us every generous and perfect gift from above.

**C: Lift our eyes from the food that perishes, and nourish us now with the food that endures for eternal life, Jesus Christ our Lord. 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**

**\* 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: Let us pray. God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen**

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

**\* SENDING HYMN** “Faith of Our Fathers”

**LBW 500**

**\* DISMISSAL**

P: As beloved children of our heavenly Father, 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 loving memory of Randall Childers by Lisa and Bruce Fox.



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

Jeffrey Bivens, Rick & Cindy Bivens, the family of Glenda Childers, Pat Dietz, Nelson & Sue Fulbright, 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 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, Clinton Childers, Evelyn Childers, Gray Childers, Ann & Jim Harrelson, the family of Flossie Hatley, Chris Keiper, Amy Martin, family of Lynette Momier, Anne Poovey, Randy & Rita Neill, 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: Fourth Sunday After Pentecost**

8:00am – Leadership Ministry Board Meeting (Rescheduled from June 15)

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

**GIVING AND ATTENDANCE FOR LAST SUNDAY**

Date	Offering		Attendance	
	Total Receipts	General Fund	Worship	Sunday School
6/14/2026	\$ 2,039	\$ 1,796	48	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*