

June 1, 2025

7th Sunday of Easter



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

11 East Dawes Avenue, Somers Point, NJ 08244

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Interim Pastor ✝ Wendolyn Trozzo, Scott J. Breiner, Music Director
Corinne Rhodes, Administrative Assistant

We welcome you to worship here at Grace!

*Note that all text written in **bold** is for congregation participation.*

GATHERING

Thank you for joining us as we worship our Lord together these 50 days of Easter season! Our worship begins at 10:15.

PRELUDE *A Tribute to the Armed Forces* by Lloyd Larson

WELCOME Rev. Wendolyn Trozzo

Please stand as you are able.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Friends, we know what God desires of us:

That we do justice, and love kindness, and walk humbly with God.

We gather this morning to remind each other about that,

To remember that now is always the right time to do these things.

Children of God: welcome!

Welcome to this place of love and grace,

Welcome to this place of hope and perseverance.

God invites all of us to be a part of the beloved community,

God invites all of us to share in the good news:

We are welcome, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are.

In gratitude for all of this, let us worship God.

OPENING HYMN

Here I Am, Lord

CH #589

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE Now the Feast and Celebration *white booklet #3*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will.
Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all

the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

PEACE The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

GREET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Take a brief moment to share the peace by greeting someone sitting near you. Verbal greetings are appropriate if you are not comfortable shaking hands or touching.

Please be seated.

PSALM 97

- ¹ The LORD reigns; let the earth rejoice;
let the multitude of the isles be glad.
- ² **Clouds and darkness surround the LORD,
righteousness and justice are the foundations of God's throne.**
- ³ Fire goes before the LORD,
burning up enemies on every side.
- ⁴ **Lightnings light up the world;
the earth sees and trembles.**
- ⁵ The mountains melt like wax
before the Lord of all the earth.
- ⁶ **The heavens declare your righteousness, O LORD,
and all the peoples see your glory.**
- ⁷ Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods!
Bow down before the LORD, all you gods.
- ⁸ **Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice,
because of your judgments, O LORD.**
- ⁹ For you are the LORD, most high over all the earth;
you are exalted far above all gods.
- ¹⁰ **You who love the LORD, hate evil!**
God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them from the hand of the wicked.
- ¹¹ Light dawns for the righteous,
and joy for the honest of heart.
- ¹² **Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous,
and give thanks to God's holy name.**

A REFLECTION OF THE VALUE OF EXCELLENCE

Cadet 2nd Lt Caedmon Trozzo, CAP

FIRST READING: Acts 16:16-24 (Part I)

Those who had enslaved a girl and used her powers to tell fortunes threw Paul and Silas into jail for ordering the spirit to come out of her and consequently ruining their business. In prison, Paul and Silas bring the good news of the gospel to the jailer and his family.

¹⁶ One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. ¹⁷ While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." ¹⁸ She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

¹⁹ But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. ²⁰ When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews ²¹ and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." ²² The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. ²³ After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. ²⁴ Following these instructions, he put Paul and Silas in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

A REFLECTION OF THE VALUE OF INTEGRITY

Cadet Technical Sergeant Kingston Johnson, CAP

CONCLUDING REFLECTION

Rev. Wendolyn Trozzo

SECOND READING: Acts 16:25-34 (Part II)

²⁵ About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶ Suddenly there was an

earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened.²⁷ When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped.²⁸ But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here."²⁹ The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas.³⁰ Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"³¹ They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."³² They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house.³³ At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay.³⁴ He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

A REFLECTION OF THE VALUE OF RESPECT

Cadet Dante Trozzo, US Army

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Congregation:

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we

go? You have the words of e - ter - nal

life. Al - le - lu - ia! *Optional Repeat*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 22nd chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:36-40

[An expert in the Law asked Jesus,] ³⁶ “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

³⁷ Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

A REFLECTION OF THE VALUE OF SERVICE

1st Lt Christopher Johnson, CAP

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN

My Country, 'Tis of Thee

CH #807

Please be seated.

JOYFUL NOISE OFFERING

Our monthly special noisy offering for the month of June is Civil Air Patrol, Atlantic Composite Squadron.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

We Know That Christ Is Raised

ELW #449

The congregation is invited to join the choir in singing hymn 449.

Verse 1 ALL, Verse 2 ALL, Verse 3 CHOIR, Verse 4 ALL

Please stand as you are able.

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS *As the Grains of Wheat* white booklet #10

OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into

us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *Brief silence.*

At the end of each prayer petition when the worship assistant or pastor says, "Hear us, O God," please respond with "Your mercy is great."

P: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

HOLY

white booklet #11-12

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

white booklet #12

THROUGH CHRIST, WITH CHRIST, IN CHRIST

white booklet #13

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Together, we pray as our Lord taught us, saying:

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

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

EVERYONE IS INVITED to receive Holy Communion. The ushers will invite worshippers forward to fill the altar railings. Once you have received the wafer and the red wine/white grape juice, place your empty cup in the tray and return to your pew. As places open up, worshippers will fill them in so that communion is a continuous process. If you do not wish to receive communion, or are worshipping with children who have not had First Communion, we welcome you to come forward for a blessing; as you kneel at the railing, cross your arms over your chest to show your preference to the pastor.

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN/POSTLUDE *Star Spangled Banner* **CH #802**

DISMISSAL Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

*We are glad for your presence today.
We hope you come again soon!*

**We thank all those serving in worship today:
Worship Assistant: Edna Cordery**



**The flowers sponsor this week is: Carolynne Rusek, in
memory of Joseph, Irene & Joseph, III**

Home Reading: Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

*The ascended Christ, hidden from our sight, promises to come again.
We eagerly pray, “Come, Lord Jesus,” with all who respond to this
invitation.*

¹² “See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according
to everyone’s work. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last,
the beginning and the end.”

¹⁴ Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the
right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

¹⁶ “It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the
churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning
star.”

¹⁷ The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.”

And let everyone who hears say, “Come.”

And let everyone who is thirsty come.

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

²⁰ The one who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming
soon.”

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

²¹ The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

Save the date!

The Call Committee would like you to join them **Sunday June 22nd during the Adult Forum at 8:45am** for a light breakfast. This will provide an opportunity to discuss the Pastoral Call Process and the committee's responsibilities as faithful representatives of the congregation.

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your daily prayers:

Members of Grace: Debbie K., Renee P., Bettie C., Diana M., Bruce H., Bonnie C., Ruth K., Lois R., Barry L., Don B., John S., Brenda T., Family of Chris D., Bob K., Ruth B., Scott B, John N., Linda S., Donna M.

Our family and friends: Alex, Jeff, Skip, Family & Friends of Tad, Donna, Tom (Ruth T.), Ric, Jeanne, Cody, Logan (Ruth B.), Marilyn, Houston (June J.), Ronna, Nadine, Todd, Drew, Regina (Corinne R.), Carrie (Ray H.), Sue (Carol L.), Linda, Dana (Edna C. & Patty D.), Bruce (Brenda T.), Jody M., Audrey M. (Mary Ann G.), Karen H. (Mary G.), Tyler, Megan (Carol G.), Family & Friends of Francis M. (Jane T.), Terrol J. (Linda S.), Barbara B., Hank (Vickie C.), Bridget K. & Patrick, George M., Ronald G., Rossanne and Ronald (Renee P.), Family & Friends of Sandy C. (Carol D.)

Those serving our country: Matthew Bilello, ANG, Cainan Johnson, USAF, & Daniel Casner, 3rd USN, Liam Johnson, USN

The Shores at Wesley Manor: Eleanore Guire

Please notify the church office of any changes or additions to our prayer list.

CAPE SHORE CHORALE PRESENTS: "AMERICANA"

Featuring American Composers

Sunday, June 8, 2025 @ 3 PM

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

30th & Bay Avenue, Ocean City

Directed by Scott J. Breiner

**Social Event: Tasting Tour of
Hammonton with Pastor Wendolyn
Sunday, June 22, noon-4pm**

Come see some of Pastor's favorite places! We'll have a sandwich lunch at Church after worship at 11:30 and leave Grace at noon. First stop is "**Tales of the Olive**" where you can taste 20 different kinds of olive oil. Next we will rest our palates and drop by an **antique** flea market (you can go for ice cream instead if you want!). Then we will enjoy **Bagliani's Italian market**, and perhaps you can pick out cheese or olives for charcuterie to enjoy at our final stop, **Plagido's Winery**. The Winery has tastings and flights, but if you don't drink you're in luck because they have hot pretzels, a chocolate flight, or a charcuterie tray. If you do imbibe, we can sit and chat until you're 100% clear to drive – Plagido's is gorgeous inside and out and Pastor will love having time with you!

There is no cost to this event but you may find yourself supporting local businesses along the way! **RSVPs are required** but easily changed – please email Pastor at wendofish@gmail.com or text her (cell number is in the directory or call the Church office).

What are your core values?

Accountability	Empathy	Patience	Vulnerability
Adaptability	Equality	Peace	Well-being
Adventure	Excitement	Personal growth	Wisdom
Caution	Faith	Power	
Challenge	Family	Prosperity	
Change	Freedom	Resourcefulness	
Cleanliness	Generosity	Safety	
Comfort	Global view	Security	
Commitment	Goodwill	Service	
Communication	Gratitude	Strength	
Courage	Harmony	Success	
Determination	Health	Tradition	
Devotion	Justice	Trust	
Discipline	Kindness	Truth	
Discovery	Numerical growth	Variety	
	Organization		

HAPPENINGS AROUND GRACE THIS WEEK

June 1, 2025—June 8, 2025

7th Sunday of Easter 6/1/25

8:00AM Spoken Worship
8:45AM Adult Forum
10:15AM Traditional Worship with
Sunday School

Civil Air Patrol Guests
Coffee Hour-Sponsored by Trozzo
Family

MONDAY 6/2/25

7:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

TUESDAY 6/3/25

6:30PM Narcotics Anonymous
7:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

WEDNESDAY 6/4/25

11:30AM Bayside Duplicate Bridge
6:00PM AA Book Study
7:00PM Narcotics Anonymous

THURSDAY 6/5/25

12:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous
5:00PM Choir Rehearsal
6:00 AA 12-Step
7:00PM Al-Anon

FRIDAY 6/6/25

10:30AM Grace Stitchers
7:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous

SATURDAY 6/7/25

7:30AM & 8:30AM Weight Watchers

Day of Pentecost 6/8/25

8:00AM Spoken Worship
8:45AM Adult Forum
10:15AM Traditional Worship

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Tues 10:00AM-3:00PM

Thurs-Fri 10:00AM-3:00PM

SHORE DINER

Present this bulletin on a Sunday
and Shore Diner will donate 20% to Grace
Lutheran Church. Present this on
any other day, and we will donate 10%.

Shore Diner
6710 Tilton Road
Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234
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