

June 2021

# Graceful Greetings



## JUNE 2021 WORSHIP SERVICES

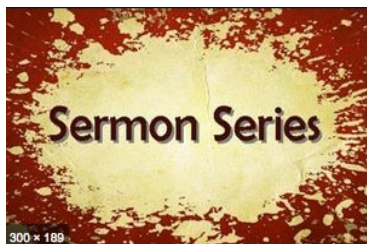
If you prefer to worship online, our services can be found on our website under the "Worship" tab & on our Facebook page or YouTube channel.



Sun., June 6—2nd Sunday of Pentecost/Church Music Sunday  
Sun., June 13—3rd Sunday of Pentecost  
Sun., June 20—4th Sunday of Pentecost/Father's Day  
Sun., June 27—5th Sunday of Pentecost

Check out the next page for a letter from Pastor Kraiss & Jack Claypotch, Council President, regarding an important worship update!!

WORSHIP  
SERVICE  
UPDATE



The Bible is complicated. And beautiful. And life-changing. **Join us in worship on Sunday mornings for a sermon series that will begin on May 30<sup>th</sup> to learn about God's amazing word!** Deacon Allison and Pastor Kraiss invite you to journey with them through the Bible for the remainder of this year for a faithful and eye-opening look at scripture. We'll explore the fullness of what it means, how to read it, and what to do with the controversial and difficult passages. Feel free to share your

questions in advance!

**Midweek Summer Worship is coming!!!** Join us for a casual, engaging worship service on Wednesdays beginning on June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm. We will worship outside on the office lawn at Grace, enjoying the evening breeze, the community of fellow believers and God's presence with us! Bring a chair, your mask and a spirit of openness to a less formal and interactive time of learning and praising God together!

MIDWEEK  
-WORSHIP SERVICE-

May 17, 2021



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

With prayerful deliberation and great joy, the council announced the resumption of in-person worship in the sanctuary on **Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 9 am**. This service will continue to be livestreamed to Grace's YouTube channel (GraceLutheranRoyersford) and saved to our website ([www.GraceLutheranRoyersford.com](http://www.GraceLutheranRoyersford.com)) each week. We will also continue to offer an outdoor service at 10:15 am, on the office lawn at 6<sup>th</sup> Ave & Church St.

**BOTH services:** Please do not attend if you do not feel well. Join us on the livestream and come when you feel healthy!!!

Masks are required. Social distancing of 6' will be observed inside and outside. Please do not congregate for close conversations. Singing will be only by Grace's musicians at this time. Communion will be distributed in "communion kits" when you arrive (small baggies with a wafer and sealed grape juice). When we celebrate communion, you may lower your mask to consume your wafers and grape juice together.

**9 am:** We will limit attendance to 50% capacity. Please register to attend worship each week by signing up on the "Sign Up Genius" website. (Link will be provided soon.) Admission to worship for those who do not register will be based upon availability. If you do not have computer access to register, please call the church office at 610-948-3684. (You may leave a message to register.)

Please enter through the 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue Welcome Center doors. They will open at 8:45 am on Sunday mornings and be closed by 9:05 am. Don't be late! Seating will be available in every other pew to space us safely in worship. An usher will help you and your household to find seats. The restroom by the Main Street entrance will be open.

This service will be livestreamed. While it is unlikely that you will be seen on the video, you may request seating near the back that will place you beyond the view of the camera. Please inform an usher as you enter the sanctuary if you prefer that seating.

**10:15 am:** Please bring your own lawn chair for the service. This service is rain or shine! Bring an umbrella, if needed! Friendly dogs are welcome!

While we are unable to create an environment that is 100% safe, Grace is trying to create the lowest risk possible at contracting COVID-19 within our capabilities. Please cooperate with our guidelines for the sake of your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. If you have questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact Pastor Kraus or Jack Claypotch, Council President.

*O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you; I will praise your name, for you have done wonderful things,  
plans formed of old, faithful and sure. Isaiah 25:1*

God has been faithful during this difficult year. Come join us to worship and to continue deepening our faith and commitment to living as God's children. We are excited to see you!!!!!!

In Christ,

Reverend Janelle Kraus & Mr. Jack Claypotch, Council President

**Pastor's Points:** In the middle of June there are 3 significant days that the ELCA has asked us to remember. June 17<sup>th</sup> is the commemoration of the Emanuel Nine – the killing of 9 Black people during a bible study. June 19<sup>th</sup>, known as “Juneteenth”, is the commemoration and celebration of the emancipation of those enslaved in this country in 1865. June 20<sup>th</sup> marks World Refugee Day – an international day to honor the courage and strength of those who have been forced to flee their homes.



Why should we remember these days, especially if they seem disconnected from our personal situation? Jesus tells us “What you do to the least of these, *you do to me.*” The prophet Micah reminds us that God requires us to “*do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.*” As people of God, we are called to serve and care for those who are vulnerable.

How can we do that? Commit to learning about at least one of the above commemorations – there are many books and excellent documentaries to help. Make a donation to Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services. Take the ELCA anti-racism pledge. Listen to the stories that differ from your own. Pray for the sake of those who struggle to be treated as God’s beloved children- when our vulnerable do well, the world does well.

*“Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.” 1 John 3:18*



### ***From the Deacon's Desk: WoW!***

Recently in one of the Zoom small group discussions I was part of, someone mentioned that before the decision to add a contemporary service happened years ago, there had been talk of the possibility of a Wednesday evening service. The idea never came to fruition, but that conversation got Pastor Kraiss and me thinking that maybe it is time to revisit that idea.

COVID has forced many changes upon us, including how and when we worship. When you combine that with how schedules have changed over the years with work, vacations, kids sporting events, and other responsibilities, many churches have adapted by adding a Wednesday evening service. Several of the churches I looked at called this “WoW:” Worship on Wednesday. This is especially a big hit for churches that live in areas where folks tend to go to shore houses or lake cabins on summer weekends.

Beginning this month, **on June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm**, we are going to try this out. It will be an outdoor service. Stay tuned in the Ledger for more information.

Hope to see you there!

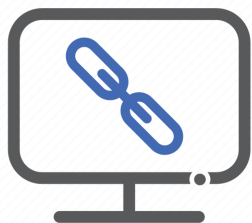
**New Prayer List Coordinator**—We are excited to announce that Becky Leonard will be stepping up, as our new Prayer List Coordinator. Becky is a wonderful addition to our volunteers, who help keep our church family connected and growing. Please send any prayer requests to Becky at [bellpn@aol.com](mailto:bellpn@aol.com) or you can call the church office at 610-948-3684 and leave a message. Thank you for sharing your joys & concerns and praying for others.





**CALLING ALL GARDENERS.....Grace's flower gardens need a little love!** If you can occasionally help pull weeds and water the flowers, please contact the Grace office. Your help is needed to keep the church beautiful! Thank you!!!

**After more than 20 years of faithful service to Grace, Flossie Schell, our sexton, has retired.** Flossie took loving care of our buildings - making sure that they were always clean and in beautiful condition! She worked behind the scenes to make sure that every wedding and funeral was conducted in a setting that honored God and the occasion. We wish Flossie good health and much joy in her retirement- we will miss her! May God bless her in this new part of her journey.



### **New Noon Coffee Hour & Get Real Link Info.!**

There is a new link we will use for Sunday Coffee Hour (Noon) and Get Real going forward. Please check your email for the details and new link or call Angela Feist or the church office at 610-948-3684 for the new link or more info.

## **YOUTH NEWS**



**Weekly Family Newsletters:** For continued Faith Formation via email.

**VBS – Who's Your Neighbor:** *Prek-6<sup>th</sup> grade*—Outdoors @ Grace, July 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>. Register as a family group on Grace's website

**Leadership Camp:** *6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade*—8-week on Sunday OR 1-week daily opportunity to learn about your leadership skills, advocacy, and how God is working amidst it all. Dates To-Be-Determined

**Camp Week:** June 13<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> Facebook & Instagram daily posts. **Drawing for Bear Creek Camp Shirt!**

**Tie-Dye Day:** August 22<sup>nd</sup>—More information to come in July.



**Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Grace Lutheran Youth Group  
"Like" us to see recent news & events**

## Check Out These Other Great Ways to Stay Connected

**Conversation & Community**—We go by either name, but the reason is the same: to build relationships and learn about each other even when we can't be together in a physical space. We will discuss current events and topics relevant to how our faith meets the world around us. As always, it is a casual atmosphere where you can join with your favorite beverage and/or snack.

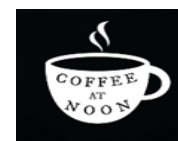


**Our next Zoom gathering will be on Thursday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.** (Note that we meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month now. Mark your calendars for our next one on July 15<sup>th</sup>). Contact Deacon Allison at [deaconallison12@gmail.com](mailto:deaconallison12@gmail.com) if you'd like a link or to be on a list of ongoing participants. And check our Facebook page for details on our next topic of conversation. (if you haven't "liked" our Facebook page, please do so. It is a great source of information).



**Deacon Allison's Zoom Bible Study**—Beginning June 7<sup>th</sup>, we will be starting a new study of the Gospel of John. If you've been thinking about trying out Bible Study, now would be a great time to dip your toe in. We have a great group of people who would love to have more people to converse with. We continue to meet at 7pm through Zoom on Monday evenings and at 10:00 am on Thursday mornings. Both groups will be studying the same material. We'd love to have you join us at one of these times! And if your schedule is fluid, you can join whichever group meets your weekly needs. Contact [deaconallison12@gmail.com](mailto:deaconallison12@gmail.com) or the church office for a link.

**Coffee Hour with Deacon Allison on Sundays at noon.** Missing seeing your Grace friends? You don't have to! Join this zoom meeting just to chat and check in with one another. You'll be glad you did! Call church office for zoom link.



**2 Facebook Live Opportunities**—Join Deacon Allison on **Thursdays at noon** for a deeper dive into one of the week's devotionals. Also, either Pastor Kraiss or Deacon Allison will return to leading Facebook Live prayer time on **Sunday mornings at 11am.**

### **Daily Devotions written by Deacon Allison.** (*Note About Morning Grace Devotional*)

Deacon Allison's devotional will be taking a short break for a couple of weeks beginning June 7th. The site she has been using, Google's Blogger, will no longer be offering email subscriptions. As many of those who use the devotional get it via email, she will be shifting to a new hosting site that will provide this feature. Please bear with her as this shift happens and she builds the new site. Information will be in the Ledger and on the Facebook page when it goes live. Stay tuned for the new website address.

**Stay "connected" wherever you go! We're all over social media!!**

**Website:** [www.gracelutheranroyersford.com](http://www.gracelutheranroyersford.com)

**Email:** [gracelutrn@verizon.net](mailto:gracelutrn@verizon.net)

**YouTube Channel:** [gracelutheranroyersford](https://www.youtube.com/gracelutheranroyersford)

**Instagram search:** [grace.lutheran.royersford](https://www.instagram.com/grace.lutheran.royersford)

**Facebook search:** Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

**Twitter search:** [@gracelutheran12](https://twitter.com/gracelutheran12)



## JUNE Prayer Focus

1. Say something nice / National Say Something Nice Day
2. Spring treats / National Rocky Road Ice Cream Day
3. Chickens/National Egg Day
4. Safe driving / Drive Safe Month
5. Sweet things/National Doughnut Day
6. WWII / D-Day Anniversary 1944
7. Headache sufferers / Headache Awareness Week
8. Enjoyment of healthy food / Fruit and Vegetable Month
9. Farm animals/Donald Duck Day
10. Enjoyment of each other /Hug Week
11. Vegetables/ National Corn on the Cob Day
12. Fresh air / 'Open Window Day'
13. Caring for our bodies /Men's Health Week
14. Our flag and what it means / Flag Day
15. Enjoying life/ Smile Power Day
16. Vegetables/ Eat your Vegetables Day
17. Fishing/Go Fishing Day
18. God's creation of beautiful flowers / Rose Month
19. Blue/Wear Blue Day
20. Our fathers at Grace/Fathers' Day
21. Relaxing in the sunshine/ Today is Summer
22. Loyalty to nation and God / Pledge of Allegiance recognized in 1942
23. Scleroderma sufferers /Scleroderma Awareness Month
24. Summer campers / National Camping Week
25. Korean war veterans / War began in 1950
26. Bicyclists / bicycle patented in 1819
27. Sufferers of HIV / National HIV Testing Day
28. Peace / WWI Versailles Treaty signed in 1919
29. Amateur photographers/Camera Day
30. The disabled / Helen Keller Deaf/Blind Awareness Week



*Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
The Reverend Janelle L. Kraus, Pastor  
Deacon Allison Wilcox  
Located at 6th Avenue & Main Street  
594 Church Street - 1st Fl. (Office & Mailing)  
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**DEADLINE FOR THE JULY 2021  
ISSUE OF GRACEFUL GREETINGS  
IS Tuesday, June 15th**

Visit us on the web at [www.gracelutheranroyersford.com](http://www.gracelutheranroyersford.com)  
 Email: GraceLutrn@verizon.net Church Office: 610.948.3684 Fax: 610.948.3304