



October 2021

Graceful Greetings



OCTOBER 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., October 3—19th Sunday after Pentecost
Sun., October 10—20th Sunday after Pentecost
Sun., October 17—Blessed to be a Blessing Sunday
Sun., October 24—22nd Sunday after Pentecost
Sun., October 31—Reformation Sunday

Worship at Grace: Here’s what Sunday mornings in the fall look like at Grace:

8:15 am: Traditional worship in the sanctuary, centered on Word & Sacrament. Inspiring music, faithful preaching, life-giving Communion. (Communion will initially be celebrated using communion kits.) The 8:15 worship service is immediately in need of volunteers who will click through a power point for the service. This is an easy job, but very important! Please contact the church office if you are willing to do this!



9:30 am: Grace Place! (Sunday School for 1st- 6th grades) Every other Sunday. Confirmation classes will run from 9:15-10:15 every Sunday. Check out the details in our youth section of the newsletter.

10:30 am: Contemporary worship in the sanctuary, centered on Word and Sacrament, in a less formal format. Spirit-filled music by Spirit of Grace praise band. Children’s sermon by Kelsey. Communion will initially be celebrated using communion kits. This service will be livestreamed to our Youtube channel at GraceLutheranRoyersford. Subscribe to receive notifications and don’t forget to talk with us in the chat!

The 10:30 am worship livestream is always recorded and saved to our website at www.GraceLutheranRoyersford.com, where you can view it at your convenience.

Grace will continue to follow local guidelines for masks and other recommendations. Currently, we are asking for all worshipers to wear a mask for their protection and the protection of children who are not eligible for vaccinations. (We’re a family church – we love our kids!) Please continue to follow social distance guidelines, *especially* when you are in the buildings.

We look forward to gathering in other exciting ways this fall too! Watch for information on food truck Sundays, family-friendly and safe service projects following worship, and a church picnic at Victory Park. Join us. Bring a friend (or 5). Give yourself the gift of weekly worship to renew and grow and experience God’s grace.

Pastor's Points: I love the theme that our Chair of Stewardship, Kathy Klug, chose for this year... *Living in God's Reality—Loving Lavishly*. This past year has tempted us, many times, to live in fear and hopelessness. Those mindsets can quickly and easily turn us inwards to focus on what we want and protecting those desires for the things that make us feel comfortable and safe – even when they come at the expense of others.



God has a different reality though. God's reality says that we are never alone. God's reality is one of blessings – big and small blessings that continue to permeate our lives. God's reality is one of love... love that is patient, and kind, and generous. Lavish, even!!!! And when we settle ourselves into God's reality of lavish love for this creation and for ourselves, that lavish love begins to pour from us...serving, helping, caring for this world.

This year as we consider the financial pledge to the 2022 budget, may our hearts remember God's extravagant, lavish love. May we be a congregation who lavishly loves our community, and may we be individuals who show lavish love for doing and supporting God's work.



From the Deacon's Desk: Floods!

As you know, after causing devastation in the Gulf Coast as a hurricane, Ida tore up north and caused substantial damage in our area. Between tornados and flooding, lives were lost and property damaged. Among those suffering from significant loss was one of our sister congregations in the Synod, Messiah in Downingtown. Messiah had 130,000 gallons of water come into the first floor and destroy most of their sanctuary and class room space. As they had no flood insurance, they have started a GoFundMe Page. If you are inclined to help them get back on their feet so they can begin the restoration process, here is a link. It includes a video and images of what Ida left behind.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/messiah-lutheran-church-flood-recovery>

If you are looking for a way to help people in need, **Lutheran Disaster Response** (ELCA) brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. Go to their website at: <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response/>. You'll find many ways that you can help including relief for those affected by wildfires, the people of Haiti and Afghan refugees.





Worship volunteers are needed immediately!!! Please help worship run smoothly by volunteering to usher, count offering, read lessons, or help at the tech desk. Most of these will not require serving more than once every 2 months, and scheduling is very flexible. We train and it's a great way to serve God and the congregation! (Our need for tech desk volunteers is especially great- if you can click through a power point, we need you!) If interested, or you have questions, please contact the church office at

gracelutr@verizon.net or 610-948-3684, or contact the following leaders: Ushers: Madison Johnson, Counters: Kurt Meyers, Readers: Joy Fraunfelter, Tech Helpers: Jim Butler. **THANK YOU!!!!**

YOUTH NEWS



G.R.A.C.E. Place is Starting October 3rd from 9:30am – 10:15am!
G.R.A.C.E. Place will be on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.

1st Sunday of each month is G.R.A.C.E. Place for individual classes: kindergarten and under, 1st – 2nd, and 3rd – 6th graders. 3rd Sunday of the month will be large group G.R.A.C.E. Place with Kelsey learning faith through life size board games!

Kindergarten & under (with parents) will meet on the lawn of the church office. 1st – 2nd grade will meet at the church doors of 6th Ave (by the welcome center); 3rd – 6th grade will meet by the welcome center on the parking lot side. All classes will meet outside for fall & will socially distance. If it rains, we will meet inside with social distancing and masking.

We're looking for volunteers to help lead these classes. Please be prayerful about this opportunity and email Kelsey if you'd like to lead a class.

1st Communion Classes: 3rd graders are invited to 1st communion classes this fall on Sundays at 4pm, starting October 3rd. We will meet in the Welcome Center. Please email Kelsey if you have any questions.

Confirmation: We invite 7th & 8th graders to participate in our confirmation 2-year program. We start classes on Sept. 26th, 9:15-10:15am. If you are interested or have any questions, please email Kelsey.



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

Check Out These Other Great Ways to Stay Connected



Sunday morning Adult Faith Formation—Some of our adult faith formation has started up in person! Richard Harshaw is leading a group for fellowship & discussion on Sunday mornings at 9:15 am. You can find Richard in either the choir room or Welcome Center. Judy Stryker's book discussion group will begin when COVID numbers begin to go down again and we can begin to meet without masks again. Stay tuned & continue to check your Ledger for a start date. (and please remember that masks are required in the building now for all gatherings).

Other Adult Faith Formation— *Conversation & Community (AKA Pub Theology)* continues to be on hiatus. If you are interested in participating & would like to have it start up again, please contact Deacon Allison at deaconallison12@gmail.com to let her know.



In addition, Deacon Allison would like to begin another in person book discussion group for when the numbers allow us to meet. Please contact her and let her know if you are interested and if so, when a good time will be for you.



Deacon Allison's Zoom Bible Study—Our study of the Gospel of John continues. We meet at 7:00 pm 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 or the church office for a link.

2 Facebook Live Opportunities —Join Deacon Allison on **Thursdays at noon** for a deeper dive into one of the week's devotionals. And join either Pastor Kraiss or Deacon Allison for prayer time on **Sundays. Times will fluctuate** based on what is happening with our in-person Sunday morning schedule. Most FB Lives will be at either 9:15 or noon.



Morning Grace Daily Devotions. Check out the new site for Morning Grace Devotions at allisonwilcox.com. You can sign up there to receive devotions in your email box Mondays - Fridays.



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



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

Website: www.gracelutheranroyersford.com

Email: gracelutrn@verizon.net

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

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

Facebook search: Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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



“Blessed to be a Blessing Sunday” (formerly Consecration Sunday) will be on **Sunday, October 17th**. On this day, we will focus our worship on 1 John 3:18-19, *“Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before God.”* We will remember our blessings (yes, even through a pandemic) and we will consider the ways in which God calls us to use our blessings to further God’s kingdom.

As you prepare for that Sunday, I invite you to make a list of the blessings that you have experienced this year. Here are just a few that Grace has received: faithful volunteers who support our staff and ministry team; generous contributions that have allowed Grace to help people affected by this pandemic or other life struggles; talented people who enriched our worship with technology that reaches far beyond our walls; hearts of hope, faith, and love in difficult times... what else?

Please reflect upon your own blessings and prayerfully consider how you feel moved to support the ministry and mission of Grace. Fill out and return the enclosed “estimate of giving” card for 2021 in the envelope before October 17th for it to be counted for our “Blessed to be a Blessing Sunday”. We are blessed!!!!



Lorraine's Hearing Fund (created to provide financial assistance to members of Grace who have a hearing impairment), will take applications for those needing equipment/devices, education, or technology. Awards up to \$2,500 each will be considered for applicants. To apply, email Roxanne Troiano (rmtroiano@verizon.net) and she will either email or mail you an application (whichever is best for the applicant). All applications are due by October 31, 2021. Applicants will be notified in November of eligibility and the amount of the award. Please direct questions to committee members: Roxanne Troiano or Pastor Kraus (jkraus.gracelutrn@verizon.net).



Important Message for all groups, troops & ministries starting up again on campus

We are still in ever evolving days when it comes to requests & recommendations relating to how best to react to Covid-19 and its variants. Currently, the CDC and local guidelines, along with the ELCA Synod are strongly recommending that all indoor meeting participants, whether vaccinated or not, wear a mask while inside. We are also suggesting that you do your best to social distance, as much as possible, in your respective indoor spaces. Let's do everything we can to care for one another; mask up and social distance while indoors. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the church office.

