

Grace Lutheran Church

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Hastings MI 49058



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Pastor Ken Scheck II
Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music
June 2, 2024

Second Sunday After Pentecost

June 2, 2024

Pentecost is a season for growing represented by the color green. We celebrate the founding of the church and the fruits of the Spirit, and the continued growth given by our gracious God.

Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.

Gathering Music – Grace Handbell Choir (10:45 Service)

Homage to Pachelbel
Tranquil Chimes
Love

arr. M.W. Joy
S. Eithun
L. Holander

Welcome

Arise in body or Spirit

Opening Sentences

- P** O Lord, open our lips,
C and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.
- A** Blessed God, satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
C that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
- P** Give praise to the Holy Trinity our true God,
C who gives us life, salvation, and resurrection.

Refrain

Ne - no, ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la - ku - i - ta we - we,
Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing, through the Word in - vit - ing,

ne - no la wo - ko - vu, te - na je - ma. ma.
of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort, and joy. joy.

Ye - su a - li - se - ma, Mka - hu - bi - ri.
1 Je - sus gave his man - date: share the good news
2 Let none be for - got - ten through - out the world.
3 Help us to be faith - ful, stand - ing stead - fast,

Ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la wo - ko - vu.
that he came to save us and set us free.
In the tri - une name of God go and bap - tize.
walk - ing in your pre - cepts, led by your Word.

Greeting

The pastor and the assembly greet each other.

- ☐ The grace of God that extends to all nations in Christ Jesus through the work of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- ☑ **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

- ☐ Let us pray... Almighty and ever-living God, throughout time you free the oppressed, heal the sick, and make whole all that you have made.
- ☑ **Look with compassion on the world wounded by sin, and by your power restore us to wholeness of life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated.

First Reading

Deuteronomy 5:12-15

This portion of the Ten Commandments instructs the Israelites to keep the sabbath. The Israelites are to rest, and they are to allow their slaves, their livestock, and the foreigners living among them to do the same. They were once slaves, and so they are to treat their own slaves justly.

📖 A reading from **Deuteronomy:**

¹²Observe the sabbath day and keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. ¹³Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁴But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, or your son or your daughter, or your male or female slave, or your ox or your donkey, or any of your livestock, or the resident alien in your towns, so that your male and female slave may rest as well as you. ¹⁵Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the sabbath day.

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 4:5-12

When we carry out God's ministry we do so not for our glory but for the sake of Jesus Christ whom we proclaim as Lord. The power for ministry comes from God, not us, so that we persevere no matter what, trusting in God's power and promises at work through us.

L A reading from **2 Corinthians**:

⁵We do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

⁷But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. ⁸We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; ⁹persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. ¹¹For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. ¹²So death is at work in us, but life in you.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please arise in body or spirit.

Gospel Acclamation

WOV page 31



Gospel Reading

Mark 2:23-3:6

Jesus challenges the prevailing interpretation of what is lawful on the sabbath and tells his critics that the sabbath was made for humankind, not the other way around. Healing the man with the withered hand is work that cannot wait until the next day.

☞ The Holy Gospel according to **Mark**.

☞ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²³One sabbath [Jesus] was going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. ²⁴The Pharisees said to him, “Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?” ²⁵And he said to them, “Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food? ²⁶He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions.” ²⁷Then he said to them, “The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; ²⁸so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath.”

^{3:1}Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. ²They watched him to see whether he would cure him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him. ³And he said to the man who had the withered hand, “Come forward.” ⁴Then he said to them, “Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to kill?” But they were silent. ⁵He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. ⁶The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

☞ The Gospel of the Lord.

☞ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Children’s Message

All children [including infants] and youth who desire to come forward for the children’s sermon are welcomed and encouraged to do so. Parents/caregivers are welcome to accompany their child during the children’s message. There may be a time of dance and celebration that is offered.

Message

Please arise in body or spirit.



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of



praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure
 need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
 flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,
 change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
 here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -
 Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants
 help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
 ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
 of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
 ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Please be seated.

Prayers

*We pray the prayer response after each petition. You will hear, **Merciful God.** The assembly prays, **Receive our prayer.***

A We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

A brief silence

A Guide your church to expressions of faith that bring rest and release. Teach your faithful people to be attentive to the spiritual, physical, and societal weariness of our neighbors, that we proclaim your grace through tangible acts of mercy and justice. Watch over and direct *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants Chrisy and David, our synod companion Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Plainwell; Saint Cyril, Nashville; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* Merciful God.

C **Receive our prayer.**

A Keep us mindful of the rhythms of nature as the days lengthen and the seasons shift toward summer. Grant relief to areas facing flooding or drought and bring favorable weather for the flourishing of crops, gardens, and orchards. Merciful God.

C **Receive our prayer.**

A Where there is affliction in our world, bring healing. Where world leaders are perplexed, bring clarity of vision. Give a spirit of discernment to political advisors, institutional researchers, economic analysts, and all vocations that inform the work of governments and policymakers. Be with those who safeguard the world, including *Parker Stancil (Freedlund), Cody and Myrina Crawford (Clements), Cynthia Rudesill (Hansen), Joel Taggart (Varkula), Julia Ehredt (Schreiner, Halstead), and Seth Domke (Domke).* Merciful God.

C **Receive our prayer.**

A Strengthen first responders and health care workers in their times of exhaustion or frustration. Provide wholeness and respite to all who are weary: those who struggle in any way and those who care for them *especially Pastor Michael Anton, Mark Arens, Veronica Baarson, Bob Bolton, Frank Bolton, Diana Brown, Walter Brown, Chris Bush, Cherie Clements, Pat DePew, Bob and Bonnie Ehredt, The family of Matt Gobel, Lisa Golnek, Caitlyn Habben (pregnancy), Lorraine Handsbarger, Virginia Henion, Ed Markwart, Bill Miller and family, Martha Misak, Virginia Moomey, James Neiderheiser, Jan Northrup, Lisa Nurenberg, Corinna Palmer, Rick Palmer, Sharon Palmer, Shirley Peterson, Annette Poholski, Patty Renne, Jennifer Rohr, Mike Shoemaker, Ron Smith, Barry Swanson, Al Throop, George Ulrich Jr., Jeanette Ulrich, and Brenda Watson.* Merciful God.

C **Receive our prayer.**

A Stir our hearts toward abundant generosity among neighbors who experience hunger and food insecurity. Bless feeding ministries and community food efforts, especially community gardens, farmers markets, food pantries and Little Free Pantries. Open both our hearts and our tables. Merciful God.

C **Receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P We remember the communion of saints whose lives made visible the saving life of Jesus Christ. Guide us by their example to embody the treasure of your love for the sake of our world, until we come to our final rest in you.

C **Amen.**

Please arise in body or spirit.

Sharing the Peace of God

P The peace of Christ be with you.

C **And also with you.**

(We share the peace of Christ with one another.)

Offering Song

Let the Vineyards

ELW page 35



C Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were



sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u-nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Offering Prayer

- Let us pray . . . Blessed are you, O God, for the greening earth given for all, for the talents we are given to share, and for this bread and wine.
- Transform us to be the body of Christ, that, feasting on this food and drink, our lives may reflect your generosity; through Christ our Lord. Amen**

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.**
- It is our duty and delight, that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, through Jesus Christ who calls us to follow the way of humble service and love, and so, with the church on earth all creation and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Table Prayer

- Ⓟ It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should always and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through Jesus Christ, who by his death on the cross and glorious resurrection broke the bonds of sin and death and gave life to all creation.
- ☑ **By dying on the cross, Jesus has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.**
- Ⓟ In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
- ☑ **Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.**
- Ⓟ Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
- ☑ **This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.**

- Ⓟ With thanksgiving we take this bread and this cup and proclaim the mystery of faith. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Congregation:



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come, come a-gain.

- Ⓟ Pour your Holy Spirit upon us as we share this meal in the body and blood of our Lord.
- Ⓢ **Make us one with Christ and with all who share this feast. Unite us in faith, encourage us with hope, inspire us to love, that we may serve as your faithful people until we feast at your table in glory.**
- Ⓟ Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life. Amen, Come Lord Jesus.

Congregation:



A - men, Come_ Lord Je - sus; A -



men, Come_ Lord Je - sus.

- Ⓟ Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains are scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son. Amen, Come Holy Spirit.

Congregation:



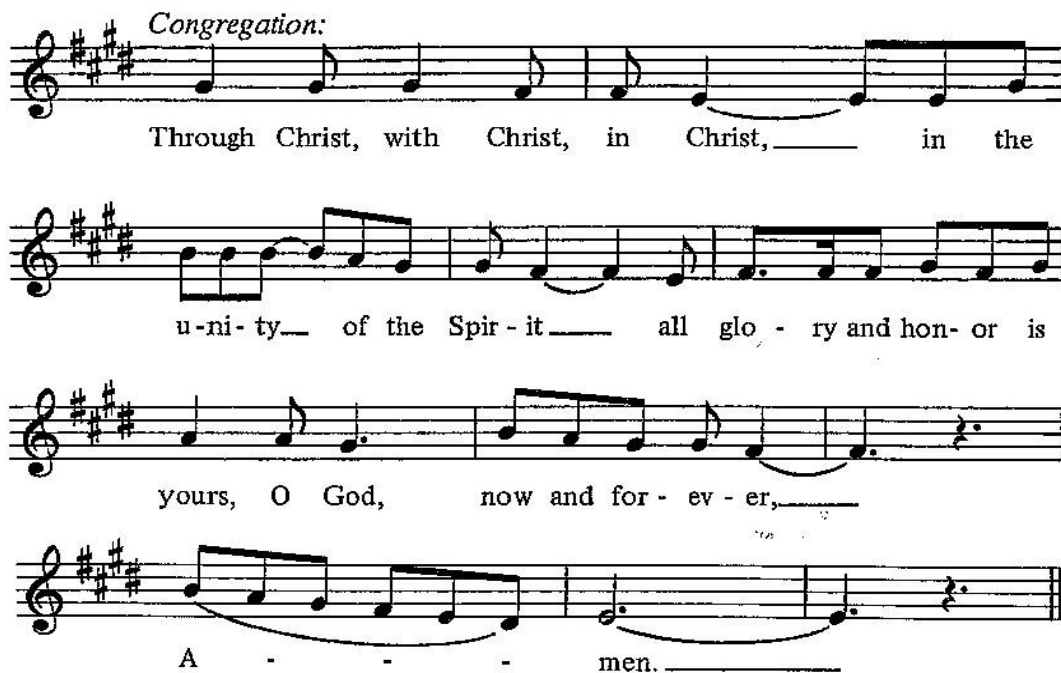
A - men, Come Ho - ly Spir - it. A -



men, Come Ho - ly Spir - it.

☐ All glory and honor is yours, O God, now and forever.

Congregation:



Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, _____ in the
u-ni-ty of the Spir-it _____ all glo-ry and hon-or is
yours, O God, now and for-ev-er, _____
A - - - men. _____

Lord's Prayer

☐ Gathered by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught:

☑ **Our Father in heaven, holy be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

☐ Taste and see that the Lord is good.

☑ **Thanks be to God!**



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
 4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
 fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
 near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
 done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
 Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
 strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
 live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
 love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Prayer after Communion

- Ⓐ Let us pray . . . Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love.
- Ⓑ **Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore. Amen.**

Mission Minutes

Arise in body or spirit

Blessing

- Ⓐ God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
- Ⓑ **Amen.**



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
 2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
 3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
 Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"

Refrain



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Sending

A Go in peace. Christ is sending you.

G Thanks be to God.

What's the Point?

Here's what the point of this gospel reading is *not*: it's not about grain, and it's not about bread, and it's not about Pharisees, and it's not about David, the temple, or the priests; it's not about the synagogue, a withered hand, or lawfulness, and it's not even, finally, about the sabbath—as important as all these details are to the story.

The point of this gospel is to set eyes on and crack open hearts to what is most holy. Jesus would, over and over again, insist in word and deed that compassion and mercy trump tradition and supersede ritual when it comes to the sacred. As scandalous as that may look in action, and as unsettling as it felt to cautious stewards of the religious order, it is precisely what Jesus meant when he argued that “the sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath.” Elsewhere, he similarly challenged the religious elite, “For the sake of your tradition, you make void the word of God” (Matthew 15:6), and preached audaciously in his Sermon on the Mount that he had not come to abolish the law but to fulfill it (Matthew 5:17).

Elie Wiesel, a Jewish survivor of the Nazi Holocaust who became a writer, activist, and teacher, taught that “if even the most authoritative teaching, the most sacred text, leads to dehumanization, to humiliation, to harm, then we must reject it.” So, too, did Jesus reject the misuse of the law, demonstrating instead how God intended it as gift, as grace. He exposed the broken-open heart of God's love for humanity in all the places where people react to mercy with hostility. Not only grieved but angry at the hardness of heart of those around him, at their silence and resistance to doing mercy and choosing compassion, in a mere four words—“Stretch out your hand”—Jesus defied tradition and chose the holy, the sacred—making his point. That's gospel.

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8:00 am

Assisting Minister – Mark Anton
Lector – Tim Schoessel
Cantor – Cindy Olson
Musician – Cindy Olson
Pastor – Ken Scheck

10:45 am

Assisting Minister – Paul Kuhlman
Lector – Linda Melcher 5/28
Cantor – Mary Kuhlman
Musician – Cindy Olson
Pastor – Ken Scheck
Fellowship – The Kuhlman's

Welcome to worship today! We are thrilled that you are here. We hope you find what we have found - a loving Jesus who welcomes all. No matter your background or faith tradition, you will find that Grace Lutheran Church is a place that is full of love, care, and support. We are pleased that you are here among us to worship the risen Christ who breathes new life into us.

Stewardship Information

Please use this QR Code to access online giving.



Attendance: 67 Views: 336
Weekly Giving: \$1495.00 Budget Amount: \$4,366.17

Grace Projects Goal	\$25,252.00
Received To Date	<u>-\$ 2,355.00</u>
Total Needed	\$22,897.00

Given this week toward Grace Projects: \$100.00

Noisy Offering will be taken next week. Noisy offerings support Barry County Cares.

Staff Computer Offering the two church laptops have outgrown their capabilities to support the work of both Pastor Ken and Cindy. We are collecting a special offering to cover this expense. When donating, please indicate “computer fund” on your envelope. Thank you so much for support for this important purchase.

The nursery is available weekly during the 10:45 worship service. Aurora Collins is the Nursery Attendant. She would love to have some little ones visit her. Please spread the word that Grace provides childcare during this worship service. **A reminder that the nursery will not be available today.**

Adult Forum please join us at 9:30 with Pastor Ken leading the study.

Vehicle Needed Aurora, our nursery attendant, needs to borrow a car so she can take her driving test. If you can help, please call her at 269.953.5200.

Annual Grace Church Picnic You are cordially invited to the annual Grace picnic at the home of Phil and Amy Poholski (6810 Highland Drive, Middleville) on **Sunday, June 9th** (Next Sunday). Hotdogs, condiments, chips, lemonade, and iced tea are provided. Please bring a lawn chair if you are able, and walking shoes if you would like to walk through the woods. If you are planning on bringing a dish to pass (which is optional) please use the sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area. The picnic is held regardless of rain or shine. We hope to see you there.

Women of Faith meet **Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m.** Our final meeting for the year will be **Tuesday, June 11** and we will resume in the fall.

Car, Truck, and Motorcycle Show Please join us on **Sunday, July 28** for the 9th Annual Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show from 9:00 until 3:00. There will be a combined worship service beginning at 10:00. Registration for participants begins at 9:00 with dash plaques being given to the first 40 entrants. Food and beverages are being provided by Thrivent beginning at 11:30.

Blood Drive Grace will be hosting a blood drive on **Monday, June 10**. This blood drive will have a 1980s theme so please be sure to sign up and join in the fun. The sign-up for helping and for donating cookies/juice is on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area. If you would like to donate blood you can use the Red Cross Donor App from the Apple or Google Play Stores or you can call 1-800-733-2767 to make an appointment. Thank you for supporting this event.

The Brothers of Grace will not be meeting in June, July, or August. They will resume again in the fall so keep an eye out for more info in upcoming bulletins and GraceGrams.

The 2024 Grace Annual Meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, JULY 14th at 9:30 am**. Please plan to attend. Please submit all reports for the Annual Meeting by Sunday, June 2nd.

Time and Talent Surveys are now available in the Gathering Area. **Please return completed forms into the collection folder (also located in the Gathering Area by July 1)**. Thank you.

Commitment Sunday Forms If you would still like to fill out a pledge form, they are available on the table in the Gathering Area.

Bell Choir Outing Wednesday, June 12th the bell choir will be visiting Woodlawn Meadows memory care building for a 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. concert. (Please note, this is a date change from Thursday, June 6.) All are welcome to participate in singing along with familiar hymns and to experience other fun musical pieces performed by the youth handbell choir and a few friends from the adult choir. The concert will last approximately 40 minutes. For more information contact Kim Domke at 269.908.0024.

Fifth Sunday Fellowship There will be a combined service at **10:00 a.m. on Sunday, June 30th** the Social Activities Committee is sponsoring a fifth Sunday fellowship time. Special treats will be available after the worship service. We look forward to seeing you!

Help Wanted Grace is seeking a treasurer for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Please contact Tim Schoessel if you are interested. We thank Linda Maupin for her service.