

## THE CATECHISM

As I begin another cycle of teaching the catechism to our children here at Grace, I'm once again reminded that this book isn't just for children. In fact, it can't be. If that's all the catechism is—a textbook for kids—then we've lost the whole point of Martin Luther's initial intent and, even more so, we despise the Word of God. The catechism wasn't written for children. It was written for Christians, from the cradle to the grave.

Read below these words of Martin Luther taken from his preface to the Large Catechism and examine your own life and your use of his catechism. We all must admit that we can do better. And we must do better.

*Many regard the catechism as a simple, trifle teaching, which they can absorb and master at one reading and then toss the book into a corner as if they are ashamed to read it again... What they need, however, is to become children and begin to learn the ABCs, which they think they have long since outgrown.*

*I beg such lazy bellies and presumptuous saints, for God's sake, to let themselves be convinced and believe that they are not really and truly such learned and exalted doctors as they think. I implore them not ever to imagine that they have learned these parts of the catechism perfectly, or that they know them sufficiently, even though they think they know them ever so well.*

*Nothing is so powerfully effective against the devil, the world, the flesh, and all evil thoughts as to occupy one's self with God's Word, to speak about it and meditate upon it, in the way that Psalm 1 calls those blessed who "meditate on God's law day and night." Without doubt, you will offer up no more powerful incense or savor against the devil than to occupy yourself with God's commandments and words and to speak, sing, or think about them. Indeed, this is the true holy water and sign that drives away the devil and puts him to flight.*

*Let all Christians drill themselves in the catechism daily, and constantly put it into practice, guarding themselves with the greatest care and diligence against the poisonous infection of such security or arrogance. Let them constantly read and teach, learn and meditate and ponder. Let them never stop until they have proved by experience and are certain that they have taught the devil to death and have become more learned than God himself and all the saints... Then in due time they will make the noble confession that the longer they work with the catechism, the less they know of it, and the more they have to learn.*

Turn and become a child, as Jesus commands us (Matthew 18:3), and relearn the catechism. Take it to heart. Read and meditate on it every day, as a portion is given for you to memorize every week from the Family Altar Sheet. And come to Sunday morning Bible Study, where we will take some time to study Luther's Large Catechism. Repent and once again "long for the pure, spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation" (1 Peter 2:2).

In Christ,

Pastor Haller



## Hymn of the Month

*In anticipation of our congregation's 75th anniversary in November 2024, we will have a hymn chosen for the month that will be used during the Divine Service. The hymns of the church give God's people the words to sing his praises and to confess what he has done for them in the saving death and resurrection of his Son Jesus Christ.*

### ***Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head LSB 647***

Jesus is “the head of the body, the church” (Colossians 1:18). The body is nothing without a head, so also the Church is nothing without Christ. He is our rock upon which we stand.

Johann Mentzer (1658-1734) beautifully encapsulates all that in this hymn, in which we cry out to Jesus to hear and help his Church on earth (stanza 1).

We are united in Christ, whose name we confess, as he continues to care for us through his Word and Sacraments, in which we find our only strength and comfort (stanza 2).

Having been strengthened and comforted by such gifts, we ask that Jesus would us serve him evermore “with hearts both pure and lowly,” as we live in repentance, destroying the power of sin and annoying evils (stanza 3).

And finally, we pray that we would sacrifice all else for the sake of the Gospel, bearing our blessed cross with steadfastness in both joy and distress, lest we forsake the Lord. In the end, we ask that we would partake of endless joy and gladness with Christ in heaven (stanza 4).

This hymn is meant not only for individual Christians but for the Church as a whole. We are in this together, as the one body of Christ, and together we sing and pray these words.

1 Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's head,  
You are her one foundation;  
In You she trusts, before You bows,  
And waits for Your salvation.  
Built on this rock secure,  
Your Church shall endure  
Though all the world decay  
And all things pass away.  
O hear, O hear us, Jesus!

2 O Lord, let this Your little flock,  
Your name alone confessing,  
Continue in Your loving care,  
True unity possessing.  
Your sacraments, O Lord,  
And Your saving Word  
To us, Lord, pure retain.  
Grant that they may remain  
Our only strength and comfort.

3 Help us to serve You evermore  
With hearts both pure and lowly;  
And may Your Word, that light divine,  
Shine on in splendor holy  
That we repentance show,  
In faith ever grow;  
The pow'r of sin destroy  
And evils that annoy.  
O make us faithful Christians.

4 And for Your Gospel let us dare  
To sacrifice all treasure;  
Teach us to bear Your blessed cross,  
To find in You all pleasure.  
O grant us steadfastness  
In joy and distress,  
Lest we, Lord, You forsake.  
Let us by grace partake  
Of endless joy and gladness.

# WHY?

## QUESTIONS ABOUT THE LITURGY

### Why are the bread and cup lifted up?

When the bread and wine are consecrated (set apart) by the Words of Institution, they are no longer ordinary bread and wine, but we believe that in, with, and under such food and drink is the true and physical body and blood of the God-man Jesus Christ. The body he gave and the blood he shed on the cross have been resurrected and are now given for us to eat and to drink, so that his death and resurrection might be our very own.

Therefore, the pastor doesn't only lift up bread and a cup of wine, but he is lifting up Christ himself for all to see and adore. This food is the Bread of Life who came down from heaven (John 6:35). It is the most sacred gift God has given to us, and so if anything is to be elevated among us, it is this food, our Lord Jesus.

The pastor not only lifts up the body and blood of Christ, but he also lowers himself by genuflecting (bowing with the knee) in worship, even as the congregation can bow in reverence toward our Lord on the altar. This simple gesture is a great confession of what we believe we receive in the Sacrament. This food isn't a symbol of our Lord's body and blood, and we don't merely remember his death. But by eating this bread and drinking this cup, we eat and drink the very body and blood of Jesus, proclaiming his death until he comes (1 Corinthians 11:26).



**SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

5 Don & Carolyn Carpenter

**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Amelia Bender
- 2 Christi Diener
- 3 Hannah Haller
- 4 Gordon Bigham  
Hunter Reid
- 7 Deegan Walstead
- 9 Joanne Reinbold
- 12 Markel Lokinski
- 15 Earl Voss
- 17 Jean Trisch
- 20 Brian Steinley
- 22 Henry Bender

**September Divine Services**  
*(services with Holy Communion)*

*Sunday, September 1, 2024*  
The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity  
Luke 17:11-19

*Sunday, September 8, 2024*  
The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity  
Matthew 6:24-34

*Sunday, September 15, 2024*  
The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity  
Luke 7:11-17

*Sunday, September 22, 2024*  
The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity  
Luke 14:1-11


*Sunday, September 29, 2024*  
The Feast of St. Michael & All Angels  
Matthew 18:1-11

**CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION**

Private Confession and Absolution is available on Saturday, September 21st, from 9 to 10 am in the sanctuary or anytime by appointment.

**NEXT VOTERS MEETING:  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2024 @ 11 AM**



Like us on Facebook   
Grace Lutheran Church—Fairgrove

Check out our website:  
[www.gracefairgrove.org](http://www.gracefairgrove.org)




**LUTHERAN PUBLIC RADIO**  
*Sacred Music for the World*  
[www.lutheranpublicradio.org](http://www.lutheranpublicradio.org)



**Issues, Etc.™**  
*Christ-Centered Cross-Focused Talk Radio*  
[www.issuesetc.org](http://www.issuesetc.org)



*The WORD of the LORD*  
**ENDURES FOREVER**  
[www.thewordendures.org](http://www.thewordendures.org)

**SHUT-IN ADDRESSES**

Continue to pray for those who can't be with us on Sunday mornings.

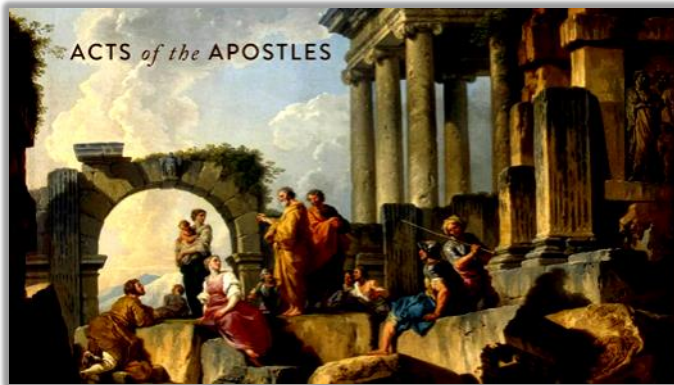
**Jean Adams**  
8678 W. Deckerville Rd.  
Reese, MI 48757

**John & Ruth Ann Kajjala**  
6004 Gilford Rd.  
Fairgrove, MI 48733

**Marge Montgomery**  
Holiday Winter Village  
255 Mayer Rd  
Frankenmuth, MI 48734

# CHRISTIAN TRAINING

## SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY



## SUNDAY SCHOOL

beginning September 8th



## THE MEN'S STUDY

September 21st, 7:30 to 9 am

breakfast + prayer + the Lutheran Confessions



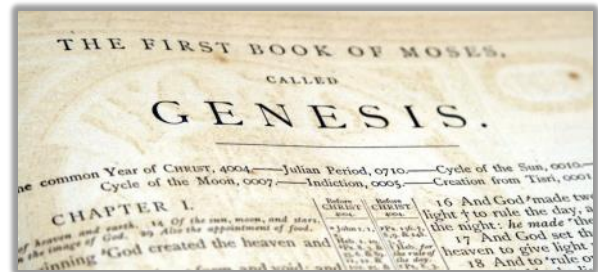
## WEDNESDAYS AT GRACE

9:30 am

Matins

10 am

Bible Study (beginning September 11th)



## JUNIOR HIGH CATECHESIS

All children of our congregation are expected to study Luther's Small Catechism from the 5th through 8th grade. However, all children of any age are invited to attend, especially if they desire to receive the Lord's Supper. Please speak with Pastor Haller if you have any questions about catechesis or First Communion.

## HIGH SCHOOL CATECHESIS

beginning Sunday, September 15th

at Pastor Haller's house

All young people of our congregation are expected to study Luther's Large Catechism from the 9th to 12th grade in preparation for the Rite of Confirmation. We meet once a month on a Sunday evening from 6 to 8 pm. Dinner is provided.

*I must still read and study daily, and yet I cannot master it as I wish, but must remain a child and pupil of the Catechism, and am glad so to remain.*

—Martin Luther

# The Riches of His Grace



Grace Lutheran Church - Fairgrove, MI  
Celebrating 75 years of God's faithfulness.

Sunday, November 10, 2024  
Divine Service at 9:15 am  
Meal at 11:30 am



## Anniversary Cookbook

To help celebrate our congregation's 75th anniversary this year, the Ladies' Aid is putting together a commemorative cookbook! Please submit your recipes to Hannah Haller by **September 29th**. If you would like to include why you love the recipe, why it is special to you, or any other information, please include that with the recipe. The recipes may be submitted in any format (i.e. handwritten or typed).

## ANNIVERSARY PREACHERS

In celebration of our 75th Anniversary, we have invited previous pastors to come and preach. After the Divine Service, we will have a potluck meal in which we can hear from the pastors, their experience here at Grace and an update on their lives since then. So far, we have welcomed back Pastors Astrowski (2004-2014) and Bickel (1982-1986). Pastor Petersen (1996-2000) will be with us on Sunday, October 20th.

# A HOLY CONVERSATION

Saturday, November 9th  
9:30 am to 1:30 pm

**THE SPEAKER:** William Weedon has served as a parish pastor for 26 years. He is currently an assistant pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Hamel IL. Weedon served as Director of Worship and Chaplain for the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod from 2012-2019. He is the author of the books *Celebrating the Saints*, *Thank, Praise, Serve and Obey* and *See My Savior's Hands*. Pastor Weedon holds a Master of Divinity and a Master of Sacred Theology degree from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. He and his wife Cindi stay busy trying to keep up with their eleven grandchildren.



## —STEWARDSHIP—

September Coffee Money  
Seminary Student

The Stewardship Board's quarterly mission for July through September will be to Luther Classical College. This future college will provide a conservative, classical Lutheran education to Lutheran students. Paramount will be the promotion of Christian culture, a stress on the priority of Christian marriage, family, and piety, and a cultivation of confessional Lutheran theology, liturgy, hymnody, and identity. With courses using the "great books" of the past for the core curriculum, the college will offer Latin, history, theology, literature, logic, rhetoric, music, geometry, biology, and mathematics, all within a purposefully Christian and Lutheran framework. This college will receive no government funding but relies on the generosity of congregations and individuals. To learn more about the school, visit their website at [lutherclassical.org](http://lutherclassical.org).

For those willing to support, specific envelopes can be found on the back table of the narthex.



Proposed budgets for 2025 are due by the next Parish Planning Meeting on Tuesday, September 17th.

## —Evangelism & Mercy—

### BEAN FESTIVAL PARADE FLOAT

**Monday, September 2nd, 11 am**

in need of volunteers to help decorate the float  
in need of volunteers to walk in the parade

\*speak to Leslie Reinbold, director of Evangelism & Mercy\*



## —FELLOWSHIP—

### CHURCH BARBECUE

at the Haller's  
4818 Slack Rd. in Fairgrove  
Sunday, September 22nd, at 1 pm



**\*Sign up and reserve your spot on the fellowship hall bulletin board.\***

**GLAD  
HYMNS  
FOREVER:  
ALLELUIA!**

Celebrating 500 Years of Lutheran Hymns  
with guest speakers  
Rev. Stephen P. Starke  
and  
Deaconess Sandra Rhein

October 5, 2024  
Immanuel Lutheran Church  
800 E Bay St, Sebawaing, MI  
12:30-3:30pm - Presentations | 3:30-4:30pm - Hymn Festival  
If you would like to sing in the choir, please contact Nathan Beethe at  
[kantor.graceauburn@gmail.com](mailto:kantor.graceauburn@gmail.com)

## THE DAILY READINGS FOR September

“God’s Word is the treasure that makes everything holy. By it all the saints have themselves been made holy. At whatever time God’s Word is taught, preached, heard, read, or pondered, there the person, the day, and the work is hallowed, not on account of the external work but on account of the Word that makes us all saints.”

—Martin Luther, The Large Catechism, 91-92

<b>September 1st</b>	Psalm 47	1 Kings 18:1-19	Eph. 1:1-23
<b>September 2nd</b>	Psalm 138	1 Kings 18:20-40	Eph. 2:1-22
<b>September 3rd</b>	Psalm 119:57-64	1 Kings 19:1-21	Eph. 3:1-21
<b>September 4th</b>	Psalm 90:13-17	2 Kings 2:1-18	Eph. 4:1-24
<b>September 5th</b>	Psalm 56:8-13	2 Kings 2:19-25; 4:1-7	Eph. 4:25-5:14
<b>September 6th</b>	Psalm 127	2 Kings 4:8-22, 32-37	Eph. 5:15-33
<b>September 7th</b>	Psalm 131	2 Kings 4:38-5:8	Eph. 6:1-24
<b>September 8th</b>	Psalm 71:12-16	2 Kings 5:9-27	Philipp. 1:1-20
<b>September 9th</b>	Psalm 61	2 Kings 6:1-23	Phil. 1:21-2:11
<b>September 10th</b>	Psalm 58:1-8	2 Kings 9:1-13; 10:18-29	Phil. 2:12-30
<b>September 11th</b>	Psalm 44:1-8	2 Chronicles 29:1-24	Phil. 3:1-21
<b>September 12th</b>	Psalm 94:12-15	2 Chronicles 31:1-21	Phil. 4:1-23
<b>September 13th</b>	Psalm 27:7-13	2 Chronicles 32:1-22	Col. 1:1-23
<b>September 14th</b>	Psalm 38:6-16	2 Chronicles 33:1-25	Col. 1:24-2:7
<b>September 15th</b>	Psalm 1	2 Chron. 34:1-4, 8-11, 14-33	Col. 2:8-23
<b>September 16th</b>	Psalm 108:1-6	2 Chron. 35:1-7, 16-25	Col. 3:1-25
<b>September 17th</b>	Psalm 130	2 Chron. 36:1-23	Col. 4:1-18
<b>September 18th</b>	Psalm 118:5-14	Nehemiah 1:1-2:10	1 Tim. 1:1-20
<b>September 19th</b>	Psalm 136:1-9	Neh. 2:11-20; 4:1-6	1 Tim. 2:1-15
<b>September 20th</b>	Psalm 46	Nehemiah 4:7-23	1 Tim. 3:1-16
<b>September 21st</b>	Psalm 55:12-19	Neh. 5:1-16; 6:1-16	1 Tim. 4:1-16
<b>September 22nd</b>	Psalm 119:97-104	Neh. 7:1-4; 8:1-18	1 Tim. 5:1-16
<b>September 23rd</b>	Psalm 51:5-13	Neh. 9:1-21	1 Tim. 5:17-6:2
<b>September 24th</b>	Psalm 123	Neh. 9:22-38	1 Tim. 6:3-21
<b>September 25th</b>	Psalm 12	Malachi 1:1-14	Matthew 3:1-17
<b>September 26th</b>	Psalm 16	Malachi 2:1-3:5	Matthew 4:1-11
<b>September 27th</b>	Psalm 91:9-16	Malachi 3:6-4:6	Matt. 4:12-25
<b>September 28th</b>	Psalm 145:17-21	Deuteronomy: 1:1-18	Matt. 5:1-20
<b>September 29th</b>	Psalm 19:7-14	Deut. 1:19-36	Matt. 5:21-48
<b>September 30th</b>	Psalm 63	Deut. 1:37-2:15	Matt. 6:1-15





# SEPTEMBER 2024

Church Office: (989) 693-6322 Pastor Haller's cell phone: (248) 794-3703

Executive Director: Aaron Reinbold (989) 233-5105

Elders of the Month: Steven Reinbold (989) 233-5097 & Aaron Reinbold (989) 233-5105

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity</i> 9:15 am Divine Service 11 am Bible Study	2 11 am Bean Festival Parade	3 7 pm Elders	4 9:30 am Matins	5 10 am Ladies Aid	6 Pastor's Day Off	7
Bean Festival Fireworks	9	10 9 am Quilters	11 7 pm Catechesis	12 9:30 am Matins 10 am Bible Study	13 Pastor's Day Off	14
8 <i>The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity</i> 9:15 am Divine Service 11 am Sunday School Bible Study	16	17 7 pm Properties	18 7 pm Catechesis	19	20 Pastor's Day Off	21 7:30 am Men's Study 9 to 10 am Private Confession
15 <i>The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity</i> 9:15 am Divine Service 11 am Sunday School Bible Study 6 to 8 pm H.S. Catechesis	23	24 7 pm Parish Planning	25 9:30 am Matins 10 am Bible Study	26	27	28
22 <i>The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity</i> 9:15 am Divine Service 11 am Sunday School Bible Study 1 pm Church BBQ	30	24 9 am Quilters	25 9:30 am Matins 10 am Bible Study	PASTOR ON VACATION		
29 <i>The Feast of St. Michael and All Angels</i> 9:15 am Divine Service 11 am Sunday School Bible Study			7 pm Catechesis			31

# **Serving Our Lord in the Month of September**

## **Elders for September**

Steven Reinbold & Aaron Reinbold

## **Ladies Aid for September**

Joanne Reinbold & Joanne Hills

## **Sunday, September 1, 2024**

*Refreshments:* Ann Emery, Sarah Hall, Hannah Haller

*Propers Choir:* Joanne Hills, Mary Masker, Susan Pfund

*Acolyte:* Wayne Seeley

*Bible Study Babysitter:* Julia Hargash & Isabella Reinbold

## **Sunday, September 8, 2024**

*Refreshments:* Renee Hecht, Joanne Hills, Beth Hoppe

*Propers Choir:* Hannah Haller, Hunter Reid, Sarah Reid

*Acolyte:* Noah Reinbold

*Bible Study Babysitter:* Ashley Bublitz

## **Sunday, September 15, 2024**

*Refreshments:* Pamela Ill, Susan Pfund, Sarah Reid

*Propers Choir:* Aaron Reinbold, Amelia Reinbold, Leslie Reinbold

*Acolyte:* Winston Reinbold

*Bible Study Babysitter:* Jennifer Bender

## **Sunday, September 22, 2024**

*Refreshments:* Joanne Reinbold, Leslie Reinbold, Tracey Reinbold

*Propers Choir:* Daniel Reinbold, Winston Reinbold

*Acolyte:* Erwin Reinbold

*Bible Study Babysitter:* Pamela Ill

## **Sunday, September 29, 2024**

*Refreshments:* Diane Spencer, Laura Starkey, Bev Voss

*Propers Choir:* Joanne Hills, Mary Masker, Susan Pfund

*Acolyte:* Brandt LaPouttre

*Bible Study Babysitter:* Julia Hargash & Isabella Reinbold

\*\*If your name is not on the refreshment list and you would like to serve, please contact the church office.

\*\*If you're not able to serve on a particular Sunday, please call someone to replace you.