

~~SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER~~
~~PENTECOST~~
CHRISTMAS IN JULY



July 7, 2024
10:00am

Land Acknowledgment

We recognize that we gather on the ancestral lands of the Ojibwe, Ho Chunk, and Dakota. We acknowledge their leaders, past, present, and emerging.

GATHERING

Prelude

From Heaven Above
How Brightly Shines the Morning Star

Georg Kauffmann
Otto Olsson

Opening Hymns (First verse of each)

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing	#270
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming	#272
Away in a Manger	#277
In the Bleak Midwinter	#294
Angels We Have Heard on High	#289

Apostolic Greeting

Prayer of the Day

Holy God, in your Son, Jesus, you reveal yourself as Emmanuel, God with us. As you have gifted yourself to us, may we offer our lives as a response of love to you. May we become signs of your peace in a weary world. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen

WORD

Children's Message

The First Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 9

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

Thou hast multiplied the nation, and not increased the joy: they joy before thee according to the joy in harvest, and as men rejoice when they divide the spoil.

For thou hast broken the yoke of his burden, and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, as in the day of Midian.

For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood; but this shall be with burning and fuel of fire.

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

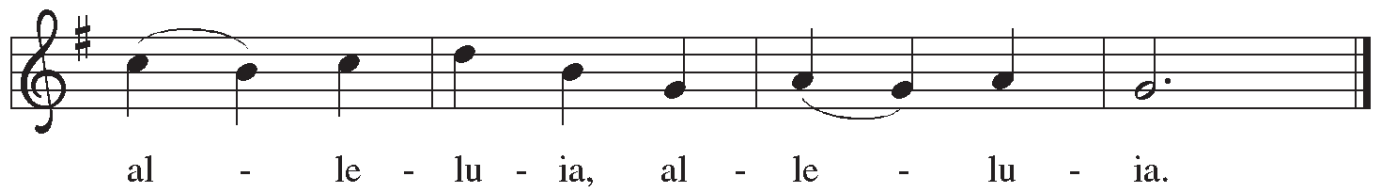
The Second Reading is from Titus, chapter 2

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation



Repeat alleluia



The Gospel for today comes from Matthew, chapter 1

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,

and they shall name him Emmanuel',

which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

“And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.”

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

Hymn of the Day What Child Is This

#296

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the Church

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

A brief silence.

... In your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

Offering

Still, Still, Still

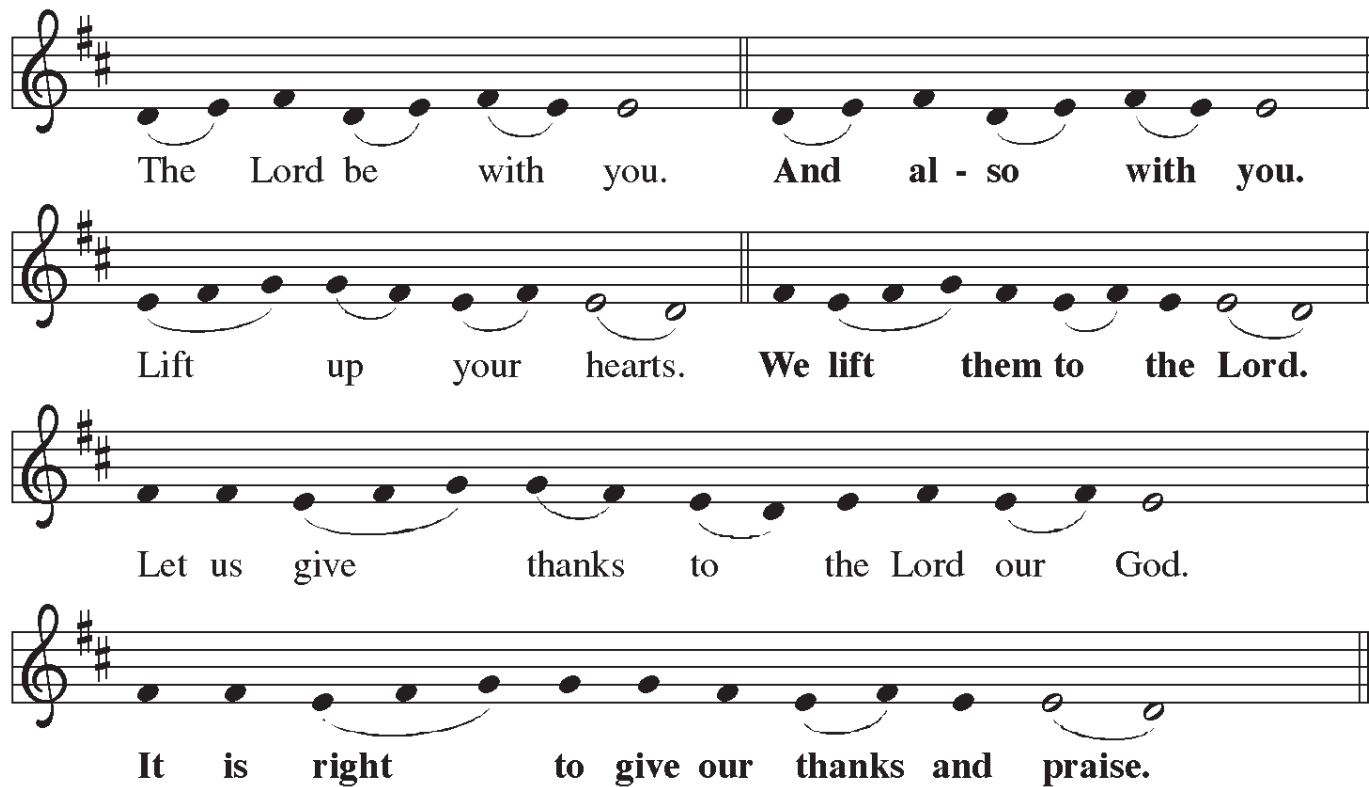
Paul Manz

Offering Prayer

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving



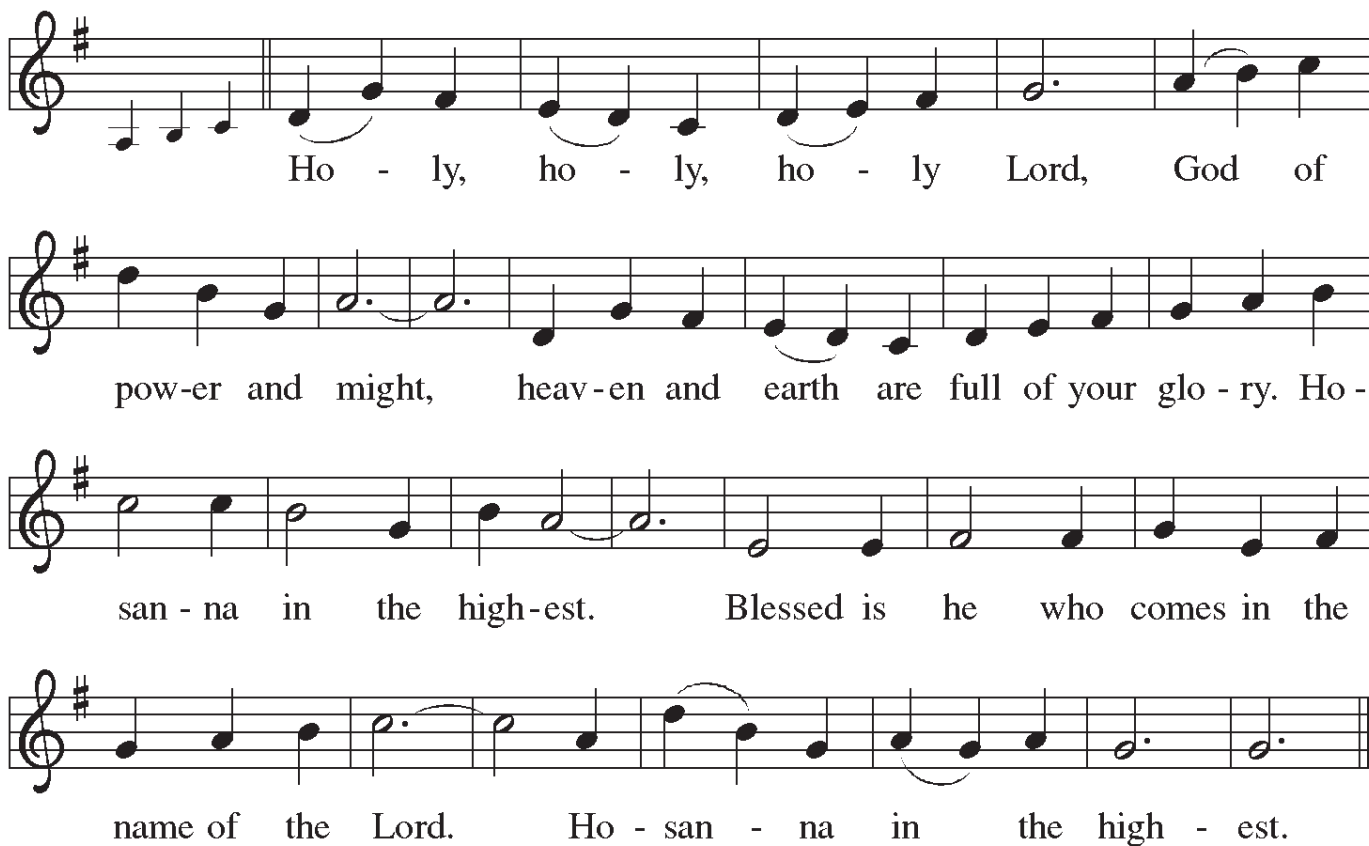
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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 indeed right, our duty, and our joy, ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

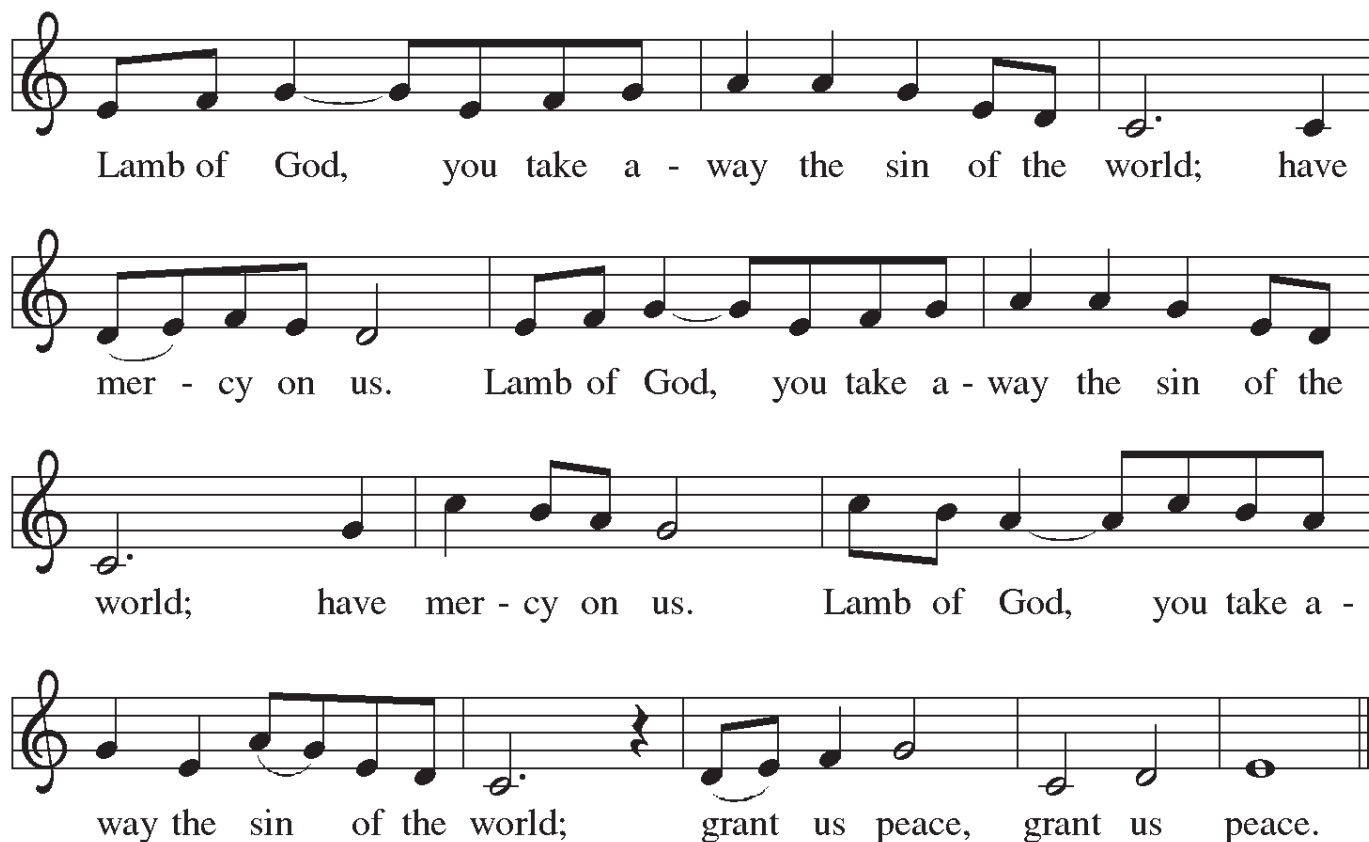
Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer

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.

Communion

Our communion bread is gluten free and the communion cups with clear liquid have grape juice instead of wine.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Prayer After Communion

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

Sending Hymn Joy to the World

#267

Dismissal

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

A La Venue de Noel

Claude Balbastre

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Minister: Rev. Phil Ruge-Jones

Assisting Minister: Pete Lokken

Reader: Randy Adams

Organist: Elaine Mann

Soloist: Diana Cataldi

Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday : 10AM — 2PM

Phone: 715-832-9713

Email: info@grace-church.org

Rev. Dr. Phil Ruge-Jones: pastorphil@grace-church.org

Services are live streamed Sundays at 10am on:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gracelutheraneauclaire/>
- Youtube embedded in our website: <https://grace-church.org/our-ministry> *Bulletins may also be found on the same page.*

Recordings of worship services are broadcast Sundays 10:30am on WQQW Channel 18, Cable 9, 618HD (every other week)

Past services are posted at “Grace Lutheran Church ELCA Eau Claire Wisconsin” YouTube page — <https://bit.ly/49WLWPj>



Do you have information for the bulletin and Grace at a Glance? Deadline is Wednesday by 2:00 p.m. by emailing Andrew at info@grace-church.org or by calling the office at 715-832-9713

Weekly Calendar



2024-7-7

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY (7th)
Coffee Hour – 9:30am
Worship – 10am

MONDAY
Summer Camp – 6am

TUESDAY
Summer Camp – 6am
Prayer Group – 11am

WEDNESDAY
Summer Camp – 6am
Crafters – 10am
Clearwater Ringers
Rehearsal – 5pm

THURSDAY
Summer Camp – 6am

FRIDAY
Summer Camp – 6am

SUNDAY (14th)
Coffee Hour – 9:30am
Worship – 10am

Other groups using the building this week: Sunsational Summer Camp, Jonah, Scouts, ECWiT

Sojourner House Hot Breakfast

The Mission Outreach Ministry is coordinating a hot breakfast to be served on Monday, July 8th for our brothers and sisters staying at Sojourner House. We are looking for volunteers to make egg bake casseroles and to provide juice, bread, peanut butter and jelly. Here are the items that we need:

6 Egg Bake Casseroles: Recipes may be picked up at the Lighthouse in the Narthex. These are very simple recipes requiring few ingredients. Please make in a 9x13 disposable pan. Bake the casserole and cover with aluminum foil. The casseroles will be reheated by the staff.

- 6 Cartons of Orange Juice
- 8 Loaves of White Bread (Aldi's has great deals on bread)
- 3 Jars Peanut Butter (creamy only)
- 3 Jars Jelly

Please bring these items to the Church parlors before Sunday service July 7th.
Let's help our friends at Sojourner House start their day with a hot breakfast!



Summer Concerts in the Park

The summer concert series of the Eau Claire Municipal Band has begun. They will perform free concerts every Monday evening at 7:30pm. Concerts are held at

the Sarge Boyd Bandshell in Owen Park on the bank of the Chippewa River. Every concert features a wide selection of music from marches, classic pop and jazz standards and Broadway musical medleys. Our office manager Andrew Reid plays percussion in the band.

The concert series runs through the end of July. See you in the park!

Good Experiences

We will have three opportunities for you to explore meaningful things that have happened in your life and the God-given gifts that made them possible.

On July 21 and August 18 th we will meet after worship to 2:30pm with a lunch included. We will also have a Zoom option on Monday August 26 th from 6 to 9pm. Choose one and sign up in the entrance of the church. During these sessions you will share four Good

Experiences that show your “Dependable Strengths.” Dependable Strengths are skills you have used often, well, and throughout your life.

ADRC Health Promotion Workshops

Registration is open for these upcoming Summer 2024 Health Promotion workshops offered by the Aging & Disability Resource Center of Eau Claire County. Please share with those who can benefit from these small group interactive well-being classes.

Walk With Ease (in person)

Six-week walking program developed by the Arthritis Foundation. While walking is the central activity, it also includes education to ease arthritis symptoms, stretching and strengthening exercises, and motivational strategies. Classes meet three times weekly for one hour. Must have ability to be on your feet for at least 10 minutes without increased pain. Participants receive the Arthritis Foundation Walk With Ease guidebook. \$10 suggested contribution.

Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, 9:30 — 10:30 am / July 15 — August 22, 2024
Carson Park, Eau Claire

Mind Over Matter: Healthy Bowels, Healthy Bladder (in person)

Three-session workshop designed to give women the tools they need to take control of symptoms. It provides information and group activities along with simple exercises and dietary changes to practice at home. Even if you do not have leakage symptoms now, it is never too early or too late to think about bladder and bowel health. \$10 suggested contribution.

Tuesdays, 9:30 — 11:30 am / July 16, 30 & August 13, 2024
Agriculture & Resource Center, 227 1st Street West, Altoona

Stepping On fall prevention program (in person)

Are you feeling unsteady on your feet? Stepping On can help you avoid a dangerous and costly fall so you can keep doing the things you love to do. In just 7 weeks, you will learn: Strength and balance exercises you can adapt to your individual level. To identify and remove or avoid fall hazards both inside and outside your home. How vision, hearing, medication, and footwear affect your risk of falling. To get back on your feet the right way if you do fall.

Tuesdays, 10:00 am — 12:00 pm / September 10 — October 22, 2024
Grace Lutheran Church, 202 W Grand Avenue, Eau Claire

Healthy Living with Diabetes (in person)

Designed for adults of all ages who have type 2 diabetes, pre-diabetes, or who live with someone who does. Learn how to manage the condition through 14 self-management tools. Topics include healthy eating: food label reading, meal planning, relaxation techniques, fitness for exercise and fun, problem-solving, stress and depression management, short-term goal setting, communicating with friends, family, and your medical team. Meets weekly for 6 weeks, plus optional class with a Certified Diabetes Specialist.

Tuesdays, 1:00 — 3:30 pm / September 17 — October 29, 2024
Grace Lutheran Church, 202 W Grand Avenue, Eau Claire

REGISTER at least one week prior: Call the ADRC at 715-839-4735 or go to www.adrcevents.org.