

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

Romans 8:35a



Grace Presbyterian Church

Fort Wayne, IN

June 23, 2024

The Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

Community Worship on Zoom – Live Stream/Replay on Facebook

Sunday Service – June 23, 2024

How can we pray for you? Let us know in the Zoom/Facebook Chat!

*We invite you to join in the liturgy by speaking the parts in ***BOLD*** with us from your homes!*

10:15 – Zoom Meeting Starts ~ ~ ~ 10:20 – Facebook Live Stream Starts

10:30 – Live Prelude Starts *I Want Jesus to Walk With Me* arr. by Logan

Welcome

Call to Worship –

Return to the Lord your God,

For God is gracious.

Confess to the Lord your God,

For God is merciful.

Repent to the Lord your God,

For God is slow to anger.

Praise the Lord your God,

For God abounds in steadfast love.

Worship the Lord your God.

Together, let us worship God!

Opening Hymn #402 “How Lovely Lord”

Call to Confession –

So often we rely on our own understanding, our own faithfulness, our own desire. But if we believe that to be enough, we deceive only ourselves. Before God, and with the people of God, let us confess our need for forgiveness and guidance. Let us pray.

Prayer of Confession –

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us

amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

Time for silent confession

Assurance of Pardon –

My friends, God is not done with us, not by a long shot. You are more beloved than you can ever know, and God is working in you and in the world beyond our wildest imagining. The beginning of all that is forgiveness. So know that you are indeed forgiven, and be at peace. Amen.

Thanks be to God.

Song of Assurance #581 “Gloria Patri”

Passing the Peace

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The Peace and Love of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you!

Please take a moment to greet your neighbor and others with the peace of Christ.

Time for Music & Meditation

Prayer for Illumination

Let us Pray: Living God, help us so to hear your holy Word that we may truly understand; that, understanding, we may believe, and, believing, we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience, seeking your honor and glory in all that we do; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading: Old Testament Reading – Genesis 4:1-16

p.6

Adam made love to his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. She said, “With the help of the LORD I have brought forth a man.”

² Later she gave birth to his brother Abel.

Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil. ³ In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD. ⁴ And Abel also brought an offering—fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering, ⁵ but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast.

⁶ Then the LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? ⁷ If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it.”

⁸ Now Cain said to his brother Abel, “Let’s go out to the field.” While they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

⁹ Then the LORD said to Cain, “Where is your brother Abel?”

“I don’t know,” he replied. “Am I my brother’s keeper?”

¹⁰ The LORD said, “What have you done? Listen! Your brother’s blood cries out to me from the ground. ¹¹ Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. ¹² When you work the ground, it will no longer yield its crops for you. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth.”

¹³ Cain said to the LORD, “My punishment is more than I can bear. ¹⁴ Today you are driving me from the land, and I will be hidden from your presence; I will be a restless wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me.”

¹⁵ But the LORD said to him, “Not so; anyone who kills Cain will suffer vengeance seven times over.” Then the LORD put a mark on Cain so that no one who found him would kill him. ¹⁶ So Cain went out from the LORD’s presence and lived in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

Scripture Reading: Epistle Reading — Romans 8:35-39

p.1758

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? 36 As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long;

we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Sermon

CSI: Genesis

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn of Response #711 “Lord of All Good”

Prayers of the People and The 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Call to Offering

With what shall we come before the Lord this day? We come with a love of justice and a passion for sharing Christ's love. Let us walk in humble gratitude, offering

to God a portion of the gifts that God freely shares with us, gifts for the healing of the world.

Offertory *Lead On, O King Eternal* by Smith

Doxology #606 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Prayer of Dedication –

Let us pray. Calling God, you invite us into a future filled with possibilities and promises. We give you thanks for the blessings you have given to us, so that all people might be blessed through us. Through what we offer for your service today, magnify your love and make your glory known, we pray in Jesus’ name.
Amen.

Announcements

Closing Hymn #22 “*God of the Sparrow*”

Charge and Benediction

Postlude *Salvation unto Us Has Come* arr. by Taylor

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Newsletter Submission Deadline: Please get any reports, articles, and/or photos for the newsletter to the Grace Office by Tuesday, June 25th.

Hymn Sing Sunday & Potluck: Grace will be having a special music Sunday on June 30th. You can assist by submitting one of your favorite hymns. Just fill out a Hymn-Sing form with your song. The simplified documents are a light yellow in color and found in the back of the narthex. When filled out you can return them to the wicker basket also in the back of the church. After the service everyone is invited to join us for a potluck! Chicken will be provided. Everyone is encouraged to bring

a side or a dessert to share.

Grace & the Neighborhood Garage Sale - Special Thanks for All the Help: With your donations we brought in over \$1300 and some of our leftovers went to other charitable organizations (Catholic Charities, Wellspring, and United Faith). We're still figuring out the details but thanks to everyone who assisted with this.

United Faith & North Christian Bazaar: Want even more garage sale action? Our friends are hosting their own event to benefit Welcome Table on Saturday, June 29. Visit them at 1616 W. Main St. from 10 AM - 5 PM.

PNC Update:

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) started meeting in February. We meet about once every three weeks. The PNC members are Tom Monnier, Jill Werling, Kevin Mahoney, Cindy Bowers, and Grace Hochstetler. We have recently completed the Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP) and must have it approved by the Presbytery before we receive matching profiles from Pastoral Candidates. Due to our limited budget and the departure of Foundations First, Grace can only afford a part-time pastor. This person will serve Grace half-time, 20 hours per week. This means that this person cannot do all the things we've been accustomed to for so many years. Members will need to pick up some of the slack to assist the new pastor in their duties, which we already do during interim periods. It bears repeating that we cannot expect a part-time pastor to do all the same things that a full-time pastor would do, but they will do the things the congregation has stated as the most important things.

Peace,

Tom Monnier

PNC Chair

Birthdays

Tyler Bowers - June 27

ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS

To connect to our worship services on Zoom, follow these instructions to watch or listen. You can connect at 10:15 for fellowship; the service starts at 10:30.

Option 1: Automatically Join the Meeting

Follow the link in the email sent every week. This is by far the easiest way to connect to the live video.

Option 2: Manually Join the Meeting

You can download Zoom from <https://www.zoom.us>.

After you have installed the program/app, click on “Join” and enter this information:

Meeting ID: 9712063468 Password: 030414

Option 3: Call in to Listen (Audio Only)

On Sunday Morning, you can call to listen to the service. After you call, it will ask you to enter the Meeting ID and Password Below:

Phone Number: (301) 715-8592 Meeting ID: 9712063468 Password: 030414

How Lovely, Lord

(Psalm 84)



1 How love - ly, Lord, how love - ly is your a - bid - ing place;
 2 In your blest courts to wor - ship, O God, a sin - gle day
 3 A sun and shield for - ev - er are you, O Lord Most High;



my soul is long - ing, faint - ing, to feast up - on your grace.
 is bet - ter than a thou - sand if I from you should stray.
 you show - er us with bless - ings; no good will you de - ny.



The spar - row finds a shel - ter, a place to build her nest;
 I'd rath - er keep the en - trance and claim you as my Lord
 The saints, your grace re - ceiv - ing, from strength to strength shall go,



and so your tem - ple calls us with - in its walls to rest.
 than rev - el in the rich - es the ways of sin af - ford.
 and from their life shall riv - ers of bless - ing o - ver - flow.

The author of this text, a Presbyterian minister and educator, was humming this tune as he began to create a paraphrase of Psalm 84 that would emphasize the beauty and peace of God's house. The tune is named for the composer's oldest sister, who was his first piano teacher.

Glory Be to the Father

581

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be -

gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,

world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

711 Lord of All Good

1 Lord of all good, our gifts we bring to you;
 2 We give our minds to un - der - stand your ways;
 3 Fa - ther, whose boun - ty all cre - a - tion shows;

use them your ho - ly pur - pose to ful - fill,
 hands, eyes, and voice to serve your great de - sign;
 Christ, by whose will - ing sac - ri - fice we live;

to - kens of love and pledg - es brought a - new,
 heart with the flame of your own love a - blaze,
 Spir - it, from whom all life in full - ness flows:

that our whole life is of - fered to your will.
 till for your glo - ry all our powers com - bine.
 to you with grate - ful hearts our - selves we give.

A pastor wrote this text for a Christmas fair, which perhaps added echoes to the words "gifts" and "give" in the first two stanzas. But no hints are needed to grasp the full meaning of this hymn's final line. The text is set to a shortened form of a widely used Genevan tune.

SERVICE MUSIC

606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise *him, all crea-tures
here be-low; praise *him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise
Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

**Or "God"*

TEXT: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709
MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551

OLD HUNDREDTH
LM

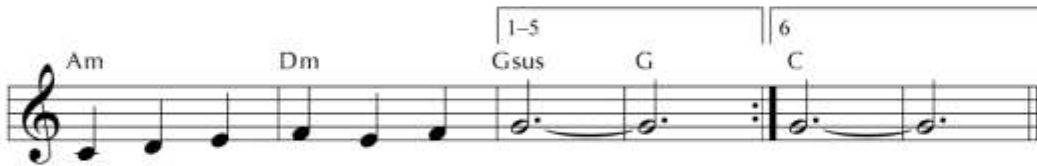
22 God of the Sparrow



1 God of the spar - row God of the whale God of the
 2 God of the earth - quake God of the storm God of the
 3 God of the rain - bow God of the cross God of the
 4 God of the hun - gry God of the sick God of the
 5 God of the neigh - bor God of the foe God of the
 6 God of the a - ges God near at hand God of the



swirl - ing stars How does the crea - ture say Awe
 trum - pet blast How does the crea - ture cry Woe
 emp - ty grave How does the crea - ture say Grace
 prod - i - gal How does the crea - ture say Care
 prun - ing hook How does the crea - ture say Love
 lov - ing heart How do your chil - dren say Joy



How does the crea - ture say Praise
 How does the crea - ture cry Save
 How does the crea - ture say Thanks
 How does the crea - ture say Life
 How does the crea - ture say Peace
 How do your chil - dren say Home

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Though a lack of punctuation makes this text appear freeform and the flowing tune enhances a sense of movement, each stanza here is firmly anchored by a final weighty word (praise, save, thanks, life, peace, home), a sign of God's eternal presence in an ever-changing world.