

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

Ephesians 6:19



Grace Presbyterian Church

Fort Wayne, IN

September 8, 2024

The Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

Community Worship on Zoom – Live Stream/Replay on Facebook

Sunday Service – September 8, 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 *Waters of New Life* by Keil

Welcome

Call to Worship – *adapted from Psalm 121*

I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?

My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

God will not let my foot be moved;

God who keeps me will not slumber.

The Lord will keep me from all evil.

The Lord will keep my life.

Opening Hymn #761 “*Called as Partners in Christ’s Service*”

Call to Confession –

Sin has the power to bring blindness to the eyes of our souls. Sin has the power to see that which is of little importance as terrible while failing to see the things that are of greatest importance for good or ill. In calling us to confess our sins, Christ invites us to receive restored sight of the soul. Thankful for Christ’s healing ministry, let us confess our sin to God, one another and ourselves.

Prayer of Confession – *from Homiletics-September 2000*

Just God, you are even handed in your justice and in the day of judgment will not play favorites. We confess that we are not so fair in our dealings. We are often unduly impressed by the powerful and the clever and excuse in them what we would condemn in the powerless and ignorant. Forgive superficiality and neglect of people needing advocacy and friendship, through the friend of sinners, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Time for silent confession

Assurance of Pardon —

Hear the good news of the Gospel. In Christ, God was reconciling the world to God's self, not counting trespasses against us, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. In all things, God works to free us from the power of sin. Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
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: God of light that heals and assures; in the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ, you offer new ways to see the moments of our lives and you call us to speak your word by our words and actions. As we hear your sacred scripture read this morning, open our eyes to see ourselves in these life-giving words and inspire us to live each moment of our lives with new vision. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading: Old Testament Reading — Psalm 146

p.980

¹ Praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord, my soul.

² I will praise the Lord all my life;

I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

³ Do not put your trust in princes,

in human beings, who cannot save.

⁴When their spirit departs, they return to the ground;
on that very day their plans come to nothing.
⁵Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord their God.
⁶He is the Maker of heaven and earth,
the sea, and everything in them—
he remains faithful forever.
⁷He upholds the cause of the oppressed
and gives food to the hungry.
The Lord sets prisoners free,
⁸ the Lord gives sight to the blind,
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down,
the Lord loves the righteous.
⁹The Lord watches over the foreigner
and sustains the fatherless and the widow,
but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.
¹⁰The Lord reigns forever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations.
Praise the Lord.

Scripture Reading: Gospel Reading — James 2:1-10, 14-17

p.1881

My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. ² Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. ³ If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, “Here’s a good seat for you,” but say to the poor man, “You stand there” or “Sit on the floor by my feet,” ⁴ have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

⁵ Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? ⁶ But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? ⁷ Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

⁸ If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, “Love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing right. ⁹ But if you show favoritism, you sin and are

convicted by the law as lawbreakers. 10 For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? ¹⁵Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. ¹⁶If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? ¹⁷In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

Sermon

Who Do You See

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 #318 “In Christ, There In No East or West”

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

It is our joyful duty to respond to Christ’s call to be partners in the work of salvation, compassion and reconciliation. Christ has given us time, talents and

treasures for this holy work. As we present what we have for the glory of Christ's kingdom, let us present ourselves also.

Offertory *Agape* by Tidwell

Doxology #606 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Prayer of Dedication —

Let us pray. Holy God, your love for all people is everlasting. Your longing for holy unity with the powerful and powerless is deeper than the seas. Sharing in your love and longing, we present our offerings for the ministry of reconciliation across the globe. Receive our offering for the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

Announcements

Closing Hymn #772 "*Live into Hope*"

Charge and Benediction

Postlude *Italian Hymn* by de Guardini

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School and Bible Studies Return in September: To celebrate the return to our educational opportunities, we are throwing a pitch-in meal after the service on September 15. Hotdogs will be provided. People are encouraged to bring a dessert or side to share. Sunday classes will begin on the following Sunday, September 22th. A full list of your options will be coming out soon.

Save the Date - Grace Fall Rummage Sale - September 20-21st: We've got a few things left to sell. Set up will begin on Thursday, September 19 @ 9:00 AM. There is a signup in the church narthex for volunteers. The sale will be set up in the

fellowship hall and will be using door #6. For more information, reach out to Tammy Menkes. **Save the Date - Eric Black's Ordination:** Friend and a pulpit supply of Grace, Eric Black, is being ordained on October 26th, at Messiah Lutheran, at 2:00 PM. Everyone is invited.

United Faith Food Bank Needs: Our friends at the United Faith food bank know their customers and their needs. Right now they are incredibly low/out of canned vegetables (especially green beans and corn) and will not be getting any large donations of them for a while. If you'd like to help, bring a donation of food to our narthex and leave it in our shopping cart. They are also in need of plastic bags.

Upcoming Welcome Table: Grace family and friends, you are invited to join for fellowship or by volunteering with United Faith and North Christian for their upcoming free community meals. The next two dates are: September 9th, and September 23rd. Tables begin seating at 5:30 PM. Located at 1616 W. Main st.

Birthdays

Rachel Lilly – September 8

Lauren Widmann – September 8

Dorothy Gilbert – September 12

Anne Courtney – September 14

Anniversaries

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

Called as Partners in Christ's Service 761

1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,
 2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
 4 So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or - der hu - man life

we re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
 let us fol - low, nev - er fal-tering, rec - on - cil - ing folk on earth.
 help us bear each oth - er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
 that sur-round each per - son's sor-row with a calm that con-quests strife.

May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
 Men and wom-en, rich - er, poor - er, all God's peo - ple, young and old,
 Words of com - fort, words of vi - sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,
 Make us part-ners in our liv - ing, our com-pas-sion to in - crease,

e - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful - fill God's cho - sen end.
 blend-ing hu - man skills to - geth - er gra - cious gifts from God un - fold.
 bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair,
 mes - sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con - fi - dence and peace.

This hymn is a celebration of mutuality and diversity as well as a challenge to the Christian community to live out a ministry of reconciliation and inclusion. This 20th-century text is set to a 19th-century tune named for the noted pastor and preacher Henry Ward Beecher.

TEXT: Jane Parker Huber, 1981
 MUSIC: John Zundel, 1870
 Text © 1981 Jane Parker Huber (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

BEECHER
 8.7.8.7.D
 (alternate tune: EBENEZER)

Glory Be to the Father

581

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

The first system of musical notation for 'Glory Be to the Father'. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The treble staff contains a vocal line with lyrics 'Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the'. The bass staff contains a piano accompaniment of chords.

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

The second system of musical notation. The treble staff continues the vocal line with lyrics 'Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be -'. The bass staff continues the piano accompaniment.

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

The third system of musical notation. The treble staff continues the vocal line with lyrics 'gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,'. The bass staff continues the piano accompaniment.

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

The fourth system of musical notation. The treble staff concludes the vocal line with lyrics 'world with - out end. A - men, a - men.' and ends with a double bar line. The bass staff concludes the piano accompaniment with a final chord and a double bar line.

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In Christ There Is No East or West 318

1 In Christ there is no east or west, in
 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their
 3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what -
 4 In Christ now meet both east and west; in

him no south or north, but one great fel - low -
 high com - mu - nion find; his ser - vice is the
 e'er your race may be. All chil - dren of the
 him meet south and north. All Christ - ly souls are

ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
 gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
 liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.
 one in him through - out the whole wide earth.

This text formed a very small part of an elaborate Christian missionary pageant in the early 20th century, yet it has endured while the grander aspects of that production have faded away. It is set to a simple 19th-century tune that does not get in the way of its message.

TEXT: John Oxenham, 1908, alt.
 MUSIC: Alexander Robert Reinagle, 1836

ST. PETER
 CM
 (alternate tune: MC KEE, 317)

SERVICE MUSIC

606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Doxology

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise *him, all creatures here below; praise *him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen." The asterisk indicates an alternative word, "God", which can be used instead of "him".

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise *him, all creatures
here below; praise *him above, ye heavenly 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

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

772 Live into Hope

1 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed, of sight re -
 2 Live in - to hope! The blind shall see with in - sight
 3 Live in - to hope of lib - er - ty, the right to
 4 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed from chains of

gained, the end of greed. The op-pressed shall be the
 and with clar - i - ty, re - mov - ing shades of
 speak, the right to be, the right to have one's
 fear or want or greed. God now pro - claims our

first to see the year of God's own ju - bi - lee!
 pride and fear, a vi - sion of our God brought near.
 dai - ly bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.
 full re - lease to faith and hope and joy and peace.

This text on Luke 4:16-20, the author's first, was written for the United Presbyterian Women's National Meeting in July 1976 because the team planning worship could not find a suitable hymn on that passage. She wrote the words with this vigorous 18th-century tune in mind.

TEXT: Jane Parker Huber, 1976
 MUSIC: *Musica Sacra*, c. 1778
 Text © 1980 Jane Parker Huber (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

TRURO
 LM