

**“Whoever embraces one of these children as I do embraces me, and far more than me—  
God who sent me.”**

**Mark 9:37 – The Message**



**Grace Presbyterian Church**

**Fort Wayne, IN**

**September 22, 2024**

**The Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

**Community Worship on Zoom – Live Stream/Replay on Facebook**

## Sunday Service – September 22, 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**      *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* by Runyan

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship –**

Let us come together today here to worship and praise God.

**Sing to God a brand new song, praise God in the company of all who love God**

God heals the broken hearted and bandages their wounds.

**God counts the stars and assigns each a name.**

Yet God knows you and loves you more because you are God's child

**We are thankful to be loved so by God. Amen!**

**Opening Hymn #12 “*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*”**

**Call to Confession –**

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins.

**Prayer of Confession –**

Almighty God, you poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples, creating bold tongues, open ears, and a new community of faith. We confess that we hold back the force of your Spirit among us. We do not listen for your word of grace, speak the good news of your love, or live as a people made one in Christ. Have mercy on us O God. Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit, and fill us with a flaming desire to be your faithful people, doing your will for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Time for silent confession*

## **Assurance of Pardon –**

Through Christ, God has poured out the Holy Spirit upon us for the forgiveness of sins. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**Amen. Thanks be to God.**

## **Song of Assurance #583 “Gloria, Gloria”**

### **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.

### **Children’s Message**

### **Time for Music & Meditation**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

Let us Pray: God, graciously pour out Your Holy Spirit here today illuminate our minds and heart with Your wisdom and understanding as we study and meditate on Your Word. We pray that you give us discernment to comprehend the depths of Your truth and insights to apply it these scriptures to our lives. May Your Spirit guide us as we listen to the Scriptures, that we may grow in knowledge with You. Open our eyes to see the wonders of Your law and reveal the hidden treasures within Your Word. We long to be transformed by the power of Your Spirit and to have our thoughts shaped by Your divine wisdom. In Your infinite mercy, grant us a deep hunger and thirst for Your Word, that we may continually seek after You and find satisfaction in You alone. **Amen.**

### **Old Testament Reading: Psalm 1 – *The Message***

*see insert*

How well God must like you—  
you don’t walk in the ruts of those blind-as-bats,  
you don’t stand with the good-for-nothings,

you don't take your seat among the know-it-alls.  
Instead you thrill to GOD's Word,  
you chew on Scripture day and night.  
You're a tree replanted in Eden,  
bearing fresh fruit every month,  
Never dropping a leaf,  
always in blossom.  
You're not at all like the wicked,  
who are mere windblown dust—  
Without defense in court,  
unfit company for innocent people.  
GOD charts the road you take.  
The road they take leads to nowhere.

**Choir Anthem** #459 *O Word of God Incarnate*

**Gospel Reading:** **Mark 9:30-37** – *The Message*

*see insert*

Leaving there, they went through Galilee. He didn't want anyone to know their whereabouts, for he wanted to teach his disciples. He told them, "The Son of Man is about to be betrayed to some people who want nothing to do with God. They will murder him. Three days after his murder, he will rise, alive." They didn't know what he was talking about, but were afraid to ask him about it.

They came to Capernaum. When he was safe at home, he asked them, "What were you discussing on the road?"

The silence was deafening—they had been arguing with one another over who among them was greatest.

He sat down and summoned the Twelve. "So you want first place? Then take the last place. Be the servant of all."

He put a child in the middle of the room. Then, cradling the little one in his arms, he said, "Whoever embraces one of these children as I do embraces me, and far more than me—God who sent me."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

*How Can I Help?*

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 #840 *"When Peace Like a River"*

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

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions.

Offertory

*Fantasia in B Minor* by Telemann

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

Prayer of Dedication —

Let us pray. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love; through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

## Announcements

Closing Hymn #320 *“The Church of Christ in Every Age”*

Charge and Benediction

Postlude *Come, Thou Almighty King* by Giardini

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Grace Choir Practices Return:** Everyone is invited. Choir practice is every Thursday at 6:30 PM.

**A Special Thank You to Our Volunteers:** A special thank you for all who volunteered to help with our Fall Rummage Sale. A report of the event will be coming.

**Joint Service with United Faith:** Grace will be worshiping with United Faith on October 6<sup>th</sup>. The service will be held at their campus, 1616 W. Main St, at 10:30 AM. In celebration for World Communion Sunday, everyone is encouraged to bring one or more canned goods for the United Faith food bank.

**Peace and Global Witness Offering:** The upcoming Peace and Global Witness Offering is upon us. There will be more information coming soon. Due to the joint service on October 6<sup>th</sup>, we will be collecting ours on October 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Save the Date - Eric Black's Ordination:** Friend and a pulpit supply of Grace, Eric Black, is being ordained on October 26<sup>th</sup>, at Messiah Lutheran, at 2:00 PM. Everyone is invited.

**Halloween at Grace - Candy Donations:** We're collecting candy for our annual Halloween at Grace neighborhood event. There is an orange bin in the narthex. Thanks in advance. We'll have a sign up for volunteers as we get closer to the event.

**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.

### Birthdays

Steve Lochry - September 23  
Tom Callahan - September 25  
Todd German - September 27

### Anniversaries

Kevin & Jennifer Mahoney  
September 28, 1996

### 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

## Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.  
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
 In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.  
 Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;  
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,  
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.  
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.  
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.



## Glory to God

583

*Gloria, gloria*

Capo 3: ( Bm ) (Em) (A) (D)  
 Dm Gm C F (chords continue)

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!  
 Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

\*May be sung as a canon.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text  
 MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1979  
 Music © 1979, 1981 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

GLORIA (Taizé)

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## 840 When Peace like a River

It Is Well with My Soul

1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when  
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let  
 3 He - lives: O the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought. My  
 4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast  
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my  
 sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross and I  
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the

taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.  
 help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.  
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!  
 Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

## Refrain

It is well It is well with my soul;  
 with my soul;

This text is a remarkable expression of faith born of grief. The author, an active Presbyterian layman who had just lost four daughters in a tragic shipwreck, wrote it while sailing to Paris to meet his wife, who had survived. The tune was named for the ship that sank.

TEXT: Horatio G. Spafford, 1876, alt.  
 MUSIC: Philip P. Bliss, 1876.

VILLE DU HAVER  
 11.8.11.9 with refrain

it is well; it is well with my soul.

# 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".

*\*Or "God"*

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

OLD HUNDREDTH  
LM

THE CHURCH

# 320 The Church of Christ in Every Age

1 The church of Christ in ev - ery age, be - set by  
 2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims  
 3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing  
 4 For Christ a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the  
 5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -

change but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its  
 of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for  
 church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's  
 fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to  
 be - dience to our Lord: to care for all, with -

her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.  
 bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.  
 sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.  
 share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.  
 out re - serve, and spread Christ's lib - er - at - ing word.

In this challenging text by a British Methodist minister, the odd-numbered stanzas develop the image of "the servant church," while the second surveys the many needs and the fourth describes the true source of strength for the task.

TEXT: Fred Pratt Green, 1969  
 MUSIC: William Knapp, 1738  
 Text © 1971 Hope Publishing Company

WAREHAM  
 LM