

Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. James 5:13



Grace Presbyterian Church

Fort Wayne, IN

September 29, 2024

The Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Community Worship on Zoom – Live Stream/Replay on Facebook

Sunday Service – September 29, 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

For the Beauty of the Earth with This Is My Father's World arr. by Wolaver

Welcome

Call to Worship –

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
maker of heaven and earth.

This is the day that the Lord has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness. Come into God's presence with singing!

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us worship God.

Opening Hymn #275 “A Mighty Fortress”

Call to Confession –

The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence.

Prayer of Confession –

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Assurance of Pardon –

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of 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.

Children’s Message

Time for Music & Meditation

Prayer for Illumination

Let us Pray: Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. **Amen**

Scripture Reading: Gospel Reading – Mark 9:38-50

p.1569

38 “Teacher,” said John, “we saw someone driving out demons in your name and we told him to stop, because he was not one of us.”

39 “Do not stop him,” Jesus said. “For no one who does a miracle in my name can in the next moment say anything bad about me, 40 for whoever is not against us is for us. 41 Truly I tell you, anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to the Messiah will certainly not lose their reward.

42 “If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them if a large millstone were hung around their neck and they were thrown into the sea. 43 If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed than with two hands to go into hell, where the fire never goes out. [44] [a] 45 And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. [46] [b] 47 And if your eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell, 48 where

“the worms that eat them do not die,
and the fire is not quenched.’[c]

49 Everyone will be salted with fire.

50 “Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt among yourselves, and be at peace with each other.”

Scripture Reading: Old Testament Reading – Esther 7:1-10, 9:20-22 p.783

So the king and Haman went to Queen Esther’s banquet, 2 and as they were drinking wine on the second day, the king again asked, “Queen Esther, what is your petition? It will be given you. What is your request? Even up to half the kingdom, it will be granted.”

3 Then Queen Esther answered, “If I have found favor with you, Your Majesty, and if it pleases you, grant me my life—this is my petition. And spare my people—this is my request. 4 For I and my people have been sold to be destroyed, killed and annihilated. If we had merely been sold as male and female slaves, I would have kept quiet, because no such distress would justify disturbing the king.[a]”

5 King Xerxes asked Queen Esther, “Who is he? Where is he—the man who has dared to do such a thing?”

6 Esther said, “An adversary and enemy! This vile Haman!”

Then Haman was terrified before the king and queen. 7 The king got up in a rage, left his wine and went out into the palace garden. But Haman, realizing

that the king had already decided his fate, stayed behind to beg Queen Esther for his life.

8 Just as the king returned from the palace garden to the banquet hall, Haman was falling on the couch where Esther was reclining.

The king exclaimed, “Will he even molest the queen while she is with me in the house?”

As soon as the word left the king’s mouth, they covered Haman’s face. 9 Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs attending the king, said, “A pole reaching to a height of fifty cubits[b] stands by Haman’s house. He had it set up for Mordecai, who spoke up to help the king.”

The king said, “Impale him on it!” 10 So they impaled Haman on the pole he had set up for Mordecai. Then the king’s fury subsided.

20 Mordecai recorded these events, and he sent letters to all the Jews throughout the provinces of King Xerxes, near and far, 21 to have them celebrate annually the fourteenth and fifteenth days of the month of Adar 22 as the time when the Jews got relief from their enemies, and as the month when their sorrow was turned into joy and their mourning into a day of celebration. He wrote them to observe the days as days of feasting and joy and giving presents of food to one another and gifts to the poor.

Sermon

Trust Falls

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 #357 “The Days Are Surely Coming”

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 *Here I Am to Worship* by Hughes

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 #307 “God of Grace God of Glory”

Charge and Benediction

Postlude *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* arr. by Ritter

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joint Service with United Faith: Grace will be worshipping with United Faith on October 6th. 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 6th, we will be collecting ours on October 13th.

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.

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.

Stewardship Sunday - October 20: A generous giver contributes for the joy of helping others, without expectation of reward. If we are blessed with more than enough, we are called to be a blessing to others. On **Sunday, October 20th** Grace members will be asked to make a generous pledge of financial support to our church for calendar year 2025. We will celebrate our mutual commitment with a **pitch-in lunch** following worship on the 20th (chicken provided). You will soon receive a pledge card in the mail, please prayerfully consider your promise to support the mission of Grace Presbyterian church and the blessings it provides to our members and our community.

Birthdays

Bob Bausser - October 3

Quinn Fahrenbach - October 5

Colbie Geist - October 6

Anniversaries

Bill & Jill Werling

October 11, 1975

Tom & Stacey Monnier

October 11, 1997

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

275 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

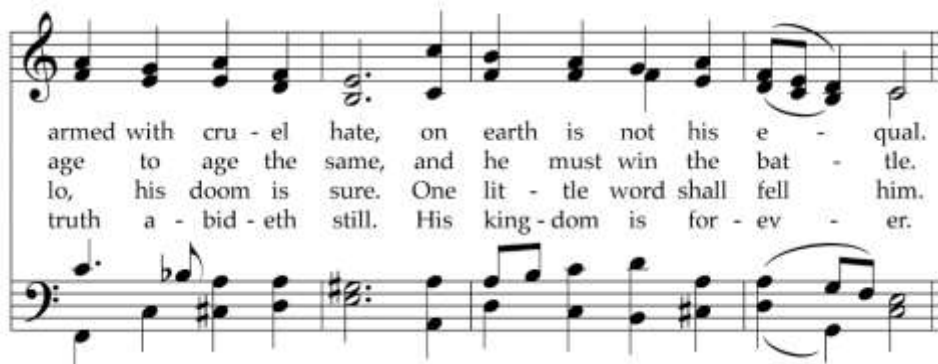
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul-wark nev - er
 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
 3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
 4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -

fail - ing. Our help - er he, a - mid the flood of
 los - ing, were not the right man on our side, the
 do us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his
 bid - eth. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours through

mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe doth
 man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ
 truth to tri - umph through us. The Prince of Dark - ness grim, we
 him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, this

seek to work us woe. His craft and power are great, and
 Je - sus, it is he. Lord Sab - a - oth his name, from
 trem - ble not for him. His rage we can en - dure, for
 mor - tal life al - so. The bod - y they may kill; God's

Long before Isaac Watts began to Christianize the Psalms, Martin Luther had already done so when he created the text and tune for this, his most famous hymn, which is based on Psalm 46. Luther encouraged metrical versions of psalms as well as chanted psalms and new hymns.



armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
 age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
 lo, his doom is sure. One lit - tle word shall fell him.
 truth a - bid - eth still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.

SERVICE MUSIC

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.

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The Days Are Surely Coming 357

1 The days are sure - ly com - ing, says God to all the earth,
 2 The days are sure - ly com - ing, says Christ, the prom - ised one,
 3 The days are sure - ly com - ing when we will know at last

when you will see my prom - ise: sal - va - tion come to birth.
 when you will read my warn - ing in moon and stars and sun.
 the full - ness of God's pres - ence, God's prom - ise, come to pass.

My righ - teous - ness and jus - tice will spread through - out the land
 Though earth and heav - en trem - ble, stand up and do not fear,
 Then righ - teous - ness and jus - tice will spread through - out the land

and you will be de - liv - ered by my al - might - y hand.
 for I am your re - deem - er, and I am draw - ing near.
 and we will be de - liv - ered by God's al - might - y hand.

This text uses imagery from Jeremiah 33:14–16 and Matthew 24:29–36/Mark 13:24–32/Luke 21:25–36. These passages are especially associated with the beginning of Advent, a season that looks forward to Christ's second coming while also preparing us to remember his first coming.

TEXT: David Gambrell, 2009
 MUSIC: Welsh folk melody; (*Awyrau Mofiant*, 1872); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906.
 Text © 2011 David Gambrell (admin. Presbyterian Publishing Corp.)

LLANGLOFFAN
 7.6.7.6.D

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

THE CHURCH

307 God of Grace and God of Glory



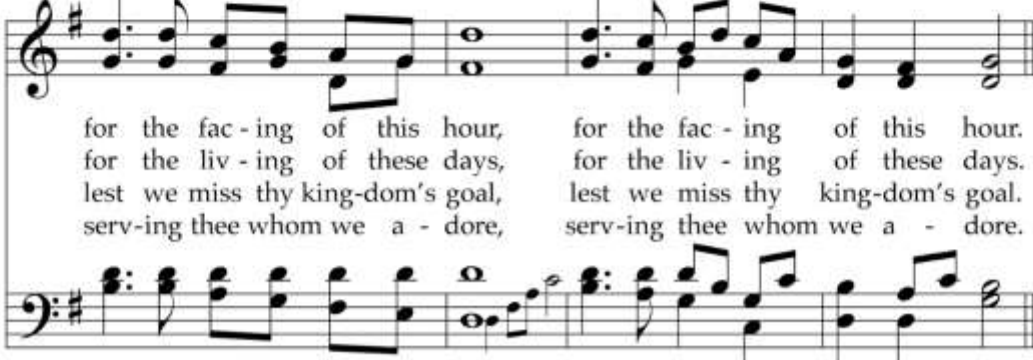
1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in
 we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our



bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

This stirring hymn used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930 was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English-language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.

TEXT: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930, alt.
 MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

CWM RHONDDA
 8.7.8.7.8.7.7