

**“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.”**

**Matthew 13:44**



**Grace Presbyterian Church**

**Fort Wayne, IN**

**February 16, 2025**

**The Sixth Sunday After Epiphany**

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

## Sunday Service – February 16, 2025

*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**      *We Are An Offering* arr. by Bergquist

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship –**

We gather together to worship,

**Knowing that God is already here among us;**

Knowing that there is nothing that separates us

**From the presence of our Lord.**

Wherever we are, wherever we go,

**God is near.**

So let us enter into this service of worship with confidence and hope,

**Knowing that God is already with us,**

Eager to meet us

**And bless us with love.**

**Opening Hymn #401** *“Here in this Place”*

**Call to Confession –**

Jesus said: Ask and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. God knows our needs before we ask, and in our asking prepares us to receive the gift of grace. Let us open our lives to God's healing presence, forsaking all that separates us from God and neighbor. Let us pray...

**Prayer of Confession –**

Holy One, we are often tempted to keep you to ourselves, to enjoy the company of the saints instead of stepping out into the streets to continue the work of the Kingdom of God. God of glory and light, forgive us when we are

**complacent and comfortable. Keep expecting more of us as your disciples. Keep reminding us to listen to your Son, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

*Time for silent confession*

### **Assurance of Pardon —**

God, who is rich in mercy, bids you lift your hearts and realize his presence. See God's immeasurable grace in kindness toward us in Christ! In grace you have been saved through faith! It is the gift of God! Believe and accept the gift; your sins are forgiven. 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.

### **Children's Message**

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

### **Prayer for Illumination**

Let us Pray: Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Scripture Reading: Epistle Reading — Acts 7:44-50**

p.1703

"Our ancestors had the tabernacle of the covenant law with them in the wilderness. It had been made as God directed Moses, according to the pattern he had seen. 45 After receiving the tabernacle, our ancestors under Joshua brought it with them when they took the land from the nations God drove out

before them. It remained in the land until the time of David, 46 who enjoyed God's favor and asked that he might provide a dwelling place for the God of Jacob. 47 But it was Solomon who built a house for him.

48 "However, the Most High does not live in houses made by human hands. As the prophet says:

49 "Heaven is my throne,  
and the earth is my footstool.  
What kind of house will you build for me?  
says the Lord.  
Or where will my resting place be?  
50 Has not my hand made all these things?"

Choir Anthem

*Lord of All Good*

#711

Scripture Reading: Gospel Reading – Matthew 13:31-33, 44-53

p.1518

31 He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. 32 Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches."

33 He told them still another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough."

44 "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

45 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. 46 When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

47 “Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. 48 When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. 49 This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous 50 and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

51 “Have you understood all these things?” Jesus asked.

“Yes,” they replied.

52 He said to them, “Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old.”

53 When Jesus had finished these parables, he moved on from there.

Sermon

Hidden in Plain Sight

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 #175 “Seek Ye First”

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

God's blessings rain down upon us. Sometimes we recognize them, and sometimes we don't. But God's presence is with us in either case. Today we pause on this journey to remember the many times God has been with us along the way, and has provided for our needs. Then, through the ministry of this church, we join in the work of God in providing for the needs of the world. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

**Offertory**                      *God Who Made the Earth and Heaven* arr. by Harris

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

### Prayer of Dedication —

Let us pray. You, O Lord, are the source of every good and wonderful blessing in our lives. In Jesus you have given us all you could possibly give. Teach us, gracious Lord, to give in a way that will bring glory to you and joy to the world. Amen.

### Announcements

**Closing Hymn** #772 "*Live into Hope*"

**Postlude**                      *Sing Praise to God* arr. by Smith

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Souper Bowl of Giving:** Thanks to everyone who donated. Once the gifts have been counted, the totals will be shared.

**Educational Wing Refab Project Update:** The education wing has been painted! Thanks to those who have volunteered. The next stage will begin soon. Keep your eyes and ears open for more opportunities to help.

**Puzzle Extravaganza:** Congregational Life is hosting an afternoon of puzzles in Grace's fellowship hall on Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>. For those who would like to form a team – there will be a completion. Otherwise, the laid-back nature of puzzling and chit-chat will ensure a relaxing time of shared fellowship. Snacks will be provided. The fun starts at 2:00 PM. Everyone is invited.

**Grace's 25th Anniversary:** We will be observing Grace's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Plans are coming together for a celebratory reception to follow the service.

**2025 Lenten Bible Study - Book Order Due this Sunday:** Grace is hosting a Lenten Bible study March 12<sup>th</sup> through April 16<sup>th</sup>. There is a sign-up in the narthex. The study will focus on following Jesus in uncertain times. More information on times and food to come. If you'd like us to order you a book (\$7.43) **please indicate that on the sign-up by February 16.** Holly Bouthot is the contact for this event.

**You Can Still Join the Grace's Prayer Team:** If you missed out on the opportunity to join the prayer team in 2024, you can still be part of the gang. Reach out to Tammy if you are interested.

**Custodial Assistance for February:** Tim will be away for the month of February, and we need help keeping our church facilities clean! If you are able to assist with tasks such as dusting, vacuuming, mopping, and cleaning the bathrooms, please reach out to the office or contact Cindy Bowers to be added to the schedule. Your help will ensure our church continues to shine during this time!

### Birthdays

Barbara Springer - 2.14

### Anniversaries

Aaron & Cindy Bowers

February 16, 1985

## 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



# Here in This Place

## Gather Us In

401



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness  
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who  
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the  
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,  
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,  
 light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.  
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.  
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the  
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the  
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the  
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;  
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;  
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion  
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.  
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.  
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.  
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

The "you/your" mentioned in every stanza is never identified, but this 1979 hymn is clearly a corporate prayer to God on behalf of the diverse congregation who have assembled for worship, longing to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes.

## 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.

# 175

## Seek Ye First

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia,

1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God  
 2 Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you;  
 3 You shall not live by bread a - lone,

al - le - lu - ia,

and its righ - teous - ness,  
 seek, and you shall find;  
 but by ev - ery word

The author and composer wrote the first stanza and folk-style tune after attending a Bible study on Matthew 6:33. The later stanzas, based respectively on Matthew 7:7 and Matthew 4:4 emerged anonymously. Such meditative singing of scripture is an important form of sung prayer.

TEXT: Stanza 1, Karen Lafferty, 1971, alt.; stanzas 2-3, anon.; Spanish trans. anon.;

Korean trans. The United Methodist Korean Hymnal Committee

MUSIC: Karen Lafferty, 1971

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 (admin. Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing)

LAFFERTY  
 Irregular

JESUS CHRIST: LIFE

al - le - lu - ia,

and all these things shall be add - ed un - to you.  
knock, and the door shall be o - pened un - to you.  
that pro - ceeds from the mouth of God.

The first system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It contains the lyrics 'al - le - lu - ia,'. The middle staff is a piano accompaniment in treble clef, featuring chords and moving lines. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef, also featuring chords and moving lines. The lyrics for the piano part are: 'and all these things shall be add - ed un - to you. knock, and the door shall be o - pened un - to you. that pro - ceeds from the mouth of God.'

al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

The second system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It contains the lyrics 'al - le - lu - ia!'. The middle staff is a piano accompaniment in treble clef, featuring chords and moving lines. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef, also featuring chords and moving lines. The lyrics for the piano part are: 'Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!'

SPANISH

1 Busca primero el reino de Dios  
y su perfecta justicia,  
que lo demás lo añadirá el Señor.  
Alelu, aleluya.

KOREAN

1 너희는 먼저- 주의 나라와  
그의를 구하-면  
이모든것 네게 더하시리라  
알렐-루 알렐루야

# 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 on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. 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", in parentheses.

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 HUNDRETH  
LM

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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)