

“What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves?” Jeremiah 2:5



Grace Presbyterian Church

Fort Wayne, IN

August 31, 2025

The 12th Sunday after Pentecost

Community Worship on Zoom – Live Stream/Replay on Facebook

Sunday Service – August 31, 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 *As the Deer by Nystrom*

Welcome

Call to Worship — *adapted from Psalm 67*

May God be gracious to us and bless us.

May God's ways be known upon earth.

May God's saving power be known among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Opening Hymn #307 “*God of Grace and God of Glory*”

Call to Confession —

In calling us to confess our sins, God reminds us that we are children of God who need God's mercy and forgiveness in all the moments of our lives. In calling us to confess our sin, God reminds us that we are sinners for whom Christ died. In calling us to confess our sins, God reminds us that through confession we are invited to walk with Christ in new life. Let us hear the voice of our God and with deep faith come before God to confess the brokenness of our lives.

Prayer of Confession — *adapted from the “Book of Common Worship-1993”*

Almighty God, you alone can order unruly wills and affections. We confess that we need you to bring order to who we have become. We live in the world filled with much that would offer us hopes and joys that are in conflict with the hopes and joys of communion with you. We live in the world of temporary peace which gives way to strife. We live in the world that invites us to focus on our own wants so much that we are not able to see the needs of others. God of true life; forgive our restless hearts that are quick to turn to the joys of the moment while forgetting

the things that make for peace, health and wholeness. Lead us into the way of your eternal purposes that are gracious and just. Amen

Time for silent confession

Assurance of Pardon — *adapted from “Homiletics-September 2001”*

Hear the good news of the Gospel. God delights in our penitence, forgives our waywardness, and welcomes us into divine presence. God’s promise endures: “I will never leave you or forsake you”. 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: Lord God: your word is the spring of living waters and the light in the midst of darkness. Your Spirit dwells in the hearing of your scripture. As we listen to the ancient words of the prophet, inspire us by your Spirit to know and believe that these words are your Word for us in this moment of our lives. **Amen**

Scripture Reading: Hebrew Bible Reading — Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 p.1878

1 Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. 2 Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. 3 Continue to remember those in prison as if you

were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.

4 Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. 5 Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said,

“Never will I leave you;
never will I forsake you.”

6 So we say with confidence,

“The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.
What can mere mortals do to me?”

7 Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. 8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

15 Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. 16 And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Scripture Reading: Gospel Reading — Jeremiah 2:4-13

p.1170

4 Hear the word of the Lord, you descendants of Jacob,
all you clans of Israel.

5 This is what the Lord says:

“What fault did your ancestors find in me,
that they strayed so far from me?
They followed worthless idols
and became worthless themselves.

6 They did not ask, ‘Where is the Lord,
 who brought us up out of Egypt
and led us through the barren wilderness,
 through a land of deserts and ravines,
a land of drought and utter darkness,
 a land where no one travels and no one lives?’

7 I brought you into a fertile land
 to eat its fruit and rich produce.
But you came and defiled my land
 and made my inheritance detestable.

8 The priests did not ask,
 ‘Where is the Lord?’
Those who deal with the law did not know me;
 the leaders rebelled against me.
The prophets prophesied by Baal,
 following worthless idols.

9 “Therefore I bring charges against you again,”
declares the Lord.
 “And I will bring charges against your children’s children.

10 Cross over to the coasts of Cyprus and look,
 send to Kedar and observe closely;
 see if there has ever been anything like this:

11 Has a nation ever changed its gods?
 (Yet they are not gods at all.)
But my people have exchanged their glorious God
 for worthless idols.

12 Be appalled at this, you heavens,
 and shudder with great horror,”
declares the Lord.

13 “My people have committed two sins:
They have forsaken me,
 the spring of living water,
and have dug their own cisterns,
 broken cisterns that cannot hold water.

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 #382 "O for a World"**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

We live in a world of false hopes and empty promises. God's Word urgently needs to be heard and Christ's love urgently needs to be experienced. Through our generous gifts, some will hear God's Word and experience Christ's love. In that great hope, let us present our offerings to God.

Offertory

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands arr. by Raney

Doxology #606 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**Prayer of Dedication —**

Let us pray. Lord of all hope: in the words you have spoken through the prophet Jeremiah, we have been reminded that you have chosen us through faith to be a blessing to the world through the sharing of the Gospel. In presenting our offerings to you, we unite with you and one another in this high calling. Receive and bless our offering to your glory and honor and for the work of your kingdom. In Christ's name, we pray. **Amen.**

Announcements

Closing Hymn #722 "*Live Into Hope*"

Charge & Benediction:

Postlude

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God by Luther

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Back to School Sunday: September 7th is our back to school event where we will be kicking off our Sunday School, Bible Studies, and the return of our Children's Messages. We will also be having a carry-in meal to follow the service!

Request for Favorite Bible Verse Sunday: On Sunday, September 28th, we will celebrate a special themed worship service: Favorite Bible Verse Sunday.

For this service, we invite you—members and friends of Grace—to share a passage of Scripture that is meaningful to you. Please fill out a Favorite Bible Verse form, available in the narthex, and return it by Sunday, September 21.

During worship, you will have a chance to read your verse (or have the lay reader read it) and briefly share why it's meaningful to you. Don't worry—there will be a microphone, and your explanation can be as short and simple as you like. If you're unsure how to put it into words, the form includes a few prompts to help.

Your filled out forms will also be available that Sunday if you'd like to read from them your reasons from the card.

North Highlands Block Party: Grace has been invited to the neighborhood block party! The event will be at the David Hefner Pavilion, at Franklin Park from 11:00 to 1:00 PM.

Wellspring Special Offering: Last week Grace gave \$450 to Wellspring, which was collected during the service as a special offering. Special thanks to Ermina for her presentation and everyone who donated to their cause.

Grace Office will be Closed September 1st & 2nd:

Birthdays

Meara Geist – September 1
Bruce Barnett – September 3
Maureen Rogers – September 5
Judi Eckler-Queen – September 7
Brian Geist – September 7
Douglas Haller – September 7

Anniversaries

Jeff & Betsy Kachmar
September 3, 1984

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

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

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.

8

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
MUSIC: Henry W. Creatorex, 1851

GLORIA PATRI (Creatorex)

O for a World

372

1 O for a world where ev - ery - one re-spects each oth - er's ways,
 2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re-lieved,
 3 We wel-come one world fam - i - ly and strug - gle with each choice
 4 The poor are rich; the weak are strong; the fool - ish ones are wise.
 5 O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo-rious reign of peace,

where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.
 where truth is spo - ken, chil-dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.
 that o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.
 Tell all who mourn: out-casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.
 where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

Everything longed for in this text is a reminder of how far our present world is from what God wants. Yet this is not just wishful thinking; it is a call to action, a summons to participate in the fulfillment of God's desire for all earth's people to live in radical *shalom*.

TEXT: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987
 MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839
 Text © 1990 Medical Mission Sisters

AZMON
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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

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
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