

For there is one God; there is also one mediator
between God and humankind, Christ Jesus . . .
1 Timothy 2:5a



Grace Presbyterian Church

Fort Wayne, IN

September 21, 2025

The 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Community Worship on Zoom – Live Stream/Replay on Facebook

Sunday Service – September 21, 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 *Prayer for Unity by Curtis*

Welcome

Call to Worship –

We gather, as God's people, bringing our fears and pain, knowing that when our spirits have grown cold,

God rekindles the gift of faith in us.

We gather, as God's people, hanging our broken hearts on the branches of the tree of life. knowing that while friends may turn against us,

God transforms enemies into sisters and brothers.

We gather, as God's people, hungering for healing and hope, knowing that even when life is no picnic,

God prepares a feast for us! Let our voices bear the joy we feel because of God's love for us.

Opening Hymn #708 “We Give Thee But Thine Own”

Call to Confession –

Every week, as we worship together, we have the opportunity to admit to ourselves, to each other, and to God that we do not always live as we are called. In this time of confession, this time of opening our hearts, let us remember that God is merciful and just, eager to offer grace and love. Let us take this time to share in the Prayer of Confession.

Prayer of Confession –

Patient Lord, you know how easy it is for us to whine and complain bitterly about all those things in our lives that are difficult. We focus on them as though

they were the only things that ever happened to us, forgetting the many blessings that you have given to us and the opportunities you give us to serve you. We feel alienated-you call us beloved. We feel lost-you seek us. We feel broken and battered-your love is a healing balm. Forgive us when we forget those things. Help us to always look to you for our healing and to return thanks to you by praise and serving others in your name. Amen.

Time for silent confession

Assurance of Pardon —

God hears our prayers and responds. For we have a God who wills the best for us in all circumstances and works with us to overcome the unbearable. Therefore, let us turn away from the darkness and onto the Light – the light of Christ our Lord.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen!

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: O Lord our God, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love, that we may be obedient to your will and live always for your glory, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

- 1 Praise the Lord.
Praise the Lord, you his servants;
praise the name of the Lord.
- 2 Let the name of the Lord be praised,
both now and forevermore.
- 3 From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets,
the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- 4 The Lord is exalted over all the nations,
his glory above the heavens.
- 5 Who is like the Lord our God,
the One who sits enthroned on high,
- 6 who stoops down to look
on the heavens and the earth?
- 7 He raises the poor from the dust
and lifts the needy from the ash heap;
- 8 he seats them with princes,
with the princes of his people.
- 9 He settles the childless woman in her home
as a happy mother of children.

Praise the Lord.

Choir Anthem #340 “This is My Song”

2 I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— 2 for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. 3 This is good, and pleases God our Savior, 4 who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has

now been witnessed to at the proper time. 7 And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle—I am telling the truth, I am not lying—and a true and faithful teacher of the Gentiles.

Sermon

Can We Talk?

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 #346 "For the Healing of the Nations"

Prayers of the People & 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

As we have been fed, we are sent to feed others. Whatever their need, we know the source of food to nourish them. God supplies the resources we have to give. Therefore, let us participate in God's redeeming activity through our offerings. Let us offer up our tithes, our offerings, our very selves to God's service.

Offertory

Agape by Tidwell

Doxology #606 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Prayer of Dedication —

Let us pray. Loving God, we place our faith in you, we place our confidence in the Spirit's power, and we place our hope in the ongoing work of Christ's church. Use our gifts to expand your peace, grace & justice throughout the world. We pray in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Announcements

Closing Hymn #643 “*To God Be the Glory*”

Charge & Benediction:

Postlude

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken by Haydn

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Session Meets After the Service – 09.21.2025:

Deacons Meet Next Sunday – 09.28.2025:

Request for Favorite Bible Verse Sunday: On Sunday, September 28, 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.

[Warning, if we don’t get many cards, Justin will pick all of his favorites.]

Grace's Congregational Life's Game Day: Everyone is invited to join us in an afternoon of casual fun on September 27. People are invited to bring a favorite game and a snack to share. Festivities will run from 1:00 to 4:00 PM.

Halloween at Grace: Our annual 'treat' for our neighbors is just around the corner (October 31) and we need volunteers. We need people to hand out candy. We need people willing to decorate cars or tables. We need people to sever the hotdogs and cider. If you can help talk to Todd or sign-up in the narthex (sign-up sheet with times and volunteer options coming soon).

Birthdays

Mila Wolf – September 21

Steve Lochry – September 23

Ellen Harrison – September 25

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

We Give Thee but Thine Own 708

1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
 2 May we thy boun-ties thus as stew-ards true re - ceive,
 3 The cap-tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,
 4 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be;

all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
 and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.
 to teach the way of life and peace: it is a Christ - like thing.
 what - e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

Each successive stanza here expands the implications of the familiar affirmation of the first one. Much more than a concern with money, stewardship shapes our relationship with God and with other people. Despite this tune's name, no source has been found in Schumann's works.

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

346 For the Healing of the Nations

1 For the heal - ing of the na - tions, Lord, we pray with
 2 Lead us for - ward in - to free - dom; from de - spair your
 3 All that kills a - bun - dant liv - ing, let it from the
 4 You, Cre - a - tor God, have writ - ten your great name on

one ac - cord; for a just and e - qual shar - ing
 world re - lease, that, re - deemed from war and ha - tred,
 earth be banned; pride of sta - tus, race, or school - ing,
 hu - man - kind; for our grow - ing in your like - ness,

of the things that earth af - fords; to a life of
 all may come and go in peace. Show us how through
 dog - mas that ob - scure your plan. In our com - mon
 bring the life of Christ to mind, that by our re -

love in ac - tion help us rise and pledge our word.
 care and good - ness fear will die and hope in - crease.
 quest for jus - tice may we hal - low life's brief span.
 sponse and ser - vice earth its des - ti - ny may find.

The first line of this text quotes the declared purpose of the leaves of the tree of life growing beside the river of life in the heavenly Jerusalem (Revelation 22:2). The hymn continues by identifying some of the many ways we are called to share with God in this healing work.

TEXT: Fred Kaan, 1965
 MUSIC: John Francis Wade, c. 1750; harm. *Hymns Ancient & Modern*, 1861
 Text © 1968 Hope Publishing Company

ST. THOMAS (Wade)
 8.7, 8.7

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

643 Now Thank We All Our God

1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voice,
 2 O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,

who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;
 with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
 to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:

who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
 and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when perplexed,
 the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,

with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
 and free us from all ills, in this world and the next.
 the God who was, and is, and shall be ever more.

Although this hymn is often used on large and festive occasions, its first two stanzas had much humbler beginnings: they originated as a family table prayer during the Thirty Years' War (1618–1648). These words have been associated with this tune since the mid-17th century.

TEXT: Martin Rinkart, c. 1636; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1858, alt.
 MUSIC: Johann Crüger, 1647; harm. Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT
 6.7.6.7.6.6.6.6