

Grace Presbyterian Church
Fort Wayne, IN – May 17, 2026
7th Sunday of Easter



All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them.

John 17: 10

Service Notes: Prayer cards are available in your pews for the sharing of Joys and Concerns. You can give them to Sandy Garcia. We invite you to join in the liturgy by speaking the parts in **BOLD**. *Indicates when to stand in body or spirit.

Worship Volunteers: Worship Leader: Pastor Sandy Garcia – Lay Leader: Todd German – Children's Message: Holly Bouthot – Ushers Nancy Current, Rachel Lilly, & Bill Werling – Tech: Stacey & Tom Monnier – Counters: Cathy German & Stacy Monnier – Pianist: Sue Creager – Choir Director: Tom Callahan.

Prelude

There's Just Something About That Name by Gaither

Welcome

***Call to Worship –**

In the waiting, God is present.

In the unknown, God is near.

When we feel uncertain or unsettled,

God gathers us together.

We come not alone, but as a community of faith.

We come to worship the One who holds us together.

Let us worship God.

***Opening Hymn – #282 “Come Down, O Love Divine”**

***Call to Confession –**

In seasons of waiting, we do not always trust God’s timing. We become impatient, distracted, or distant—from God and from one another. Yet even now, God draws near to us with mercy and grace. Trusting in that grace, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

***Prayer of Confession –**

Gracious God, we confess that we do not always wait well. In seasons of uncertainty, we become anxious, impatient, or withdrawn. We try to carry things on our own instead of remaining connected to you and to one another. Forgive us when we lose sight of your presence. Remind us that we are not alone. Draw us back into your grace and into the life of your community. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

Time for silent confession

***Assurance of Pardon —**

Hear the good news: God does not abandon us in our waiting. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, held, and made new.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Song of Assurance #583 “Glory to God”

***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

Recognition of Sunday School Teachers and Participants

Time for Music & Meditation

Prayer for Illumination

Holy God, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Spirit, that as your Word is read and proclaimed, we may hear your voice and be strengthened in faith. Amen.

Epistle Lesson: Acts 1:6-14

p.1691

6 Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7 He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” 9 After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. 10 They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going,

when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. 11 “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.” 12 Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day’s walk from the city. 13 When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. 14 They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

Choir Anthem – #826 “Lift High the Cross”

Gospel Reading – John 17:1-11

p.1679

After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: “Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. 2 For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. 3 Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. 4 I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. 5 And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began. 6 “I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. 7 Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. 8 For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. 9 I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. 10 All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. 11 I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one.”

Message

Stay Together While You Wait

***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 – #258 “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!”**

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

Even as we wait, God is at work among us—drawing us together, sustaining us, and calling us forward. In gratitude for God's presence in our lives and in this community, let us offer our gifts to God.

Offertory *Thoughts on "Simple Gifts" arr. by Livingston, Jr.*

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

***Prayer of Dedication –**

Let us pray: Gracious God, receive these gifts as signs of our gratitude. Use them to strengthen your church, to serve our neighbors, and to share your love in the world. Keep us connected to you and to one another as we live out our faith together. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Announcements

***Closing Hymn – #463 “How Firm a Foundation”**

***Charge & Benediction**

Postlude *Lift High the Cross* by Nicholson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Recognition of Sunday School Teachers and Participants This Sunday:

Session to Meet Following the Service:

Offering of Letters: We're participating in Bread for the World's annual Offering of Letters on May 17th. Following the service in the fellowship hall (during the coffee time) there will be supplies and examples for writing letters to our local representatives about food insecurities.

Grace Office Hours Monday, May 18th: The office hours for 5.18 will be 12:30 – 4:30 PM. If you have a special need outside of those hours you can reach Justin at 262.501.2095.

Pace of Grace Running & Walking Club: We are starting something new, a running and walking club. This club will meet weekly on Sundays at 1:00 PM here at Grace. This opportunity is open to the public and our first outing will be on May 17th. We will be meeting in the parking lot by door #5.

Joint Service: We will be hosting the annual Presbyterian Joint Service on May 24th. Sadly, our food truck canceled on us (no pupusa). We still might have something special for fellowship, stay tuned in for more details.

Joint Service Choir: If you'd like to participate in the joint choir for our special service on the 24th, practice will be at 9:30 AM, day of, before the service.

Wellspring Day Camp @ Grace: Our shared community project with Wellspring starts May 28th and will run through July 10th.

NHNA Garage Sale: The annual neighborhood garage sale is June 12th & 13th. We're opening our doors (to the fellowship hall) to anyone who'd like to take have a space in this event. If you'd like a table to sell you items from home, we're asking for a \$10 donation. If you're interested, contact the church office of Tammy.

Additionally, we will be selling baked items during the garage sale. We are looking for donations from our members. Money from the bake sale will go to Missions.

Spanish Club: Everyone is invited to join the club. Thursdays at Grace, 5:30 PM. Learn some Spanish while hanging out with Sandy Garcia, or practice what you already know.

Prayer Requests

- Prayers of peace for the family of Kale. May comfort surround them.
- Prayers of peace and comfort for Butch, Sue's nephew, as he deals with his cancer.
- Prayers for Hidi with her upcoming ordination exams.
- Prayers for You to be with us, our country, and the world during these troubling times.

Birthdays

Meghan Mahoney – May 26

Anniversaries

Douglas & Linda Haller

May 23, 1965

Todd & Cathy German

May 25, 2986

Worship Volunteers for May 24 - Joint Worship

Ushers - Nancy Current, Rachel Lilly, & Bill Werling

Technology - Stacy & Tom Monnier

Counters - Cathy German & Stacey Monnier

282 Come Down, O Love Divine

1 Come down, O Love Di - vine; seek out this soul of mine,
 2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn
 3 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,

and vis - it it with your own ar - dor glow - ing.
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing.
 shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing.

O Com - fort - er, draw near; with - in my heart ap - pear,
 And let your glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
 For none can guess God's grace, till Love cre - ates a place

and kin - dle it, your ho - ly flame be - stow - ing,
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing,
 where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes a dwell - ing.

This *lauda spirituale*, a kind of vernacular Italian sacred song from the late Middle Ages and Renaissance, was translated into English in the 19th century but received little notice until this tune (named for the composer's birthplace) was created for *The English Hymnal*.

TEXT: Bianco da Siena, c. 1367; trans. Richard Frederick Littledale, 1867, alt.
 MUSIC: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

DOWN AMPNEY
 6.6.11.D

258 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!

1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New songs through-
 2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the
 3 To all, the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and
 4 "You see him now, as - cend - ing high up to the
 5 O ris - en Christ, as - cend - ed Lord, all praise to

out the world shall ring: Christ, by a road be -
 Mount of Ol - ives stand, and with his fol - low -
 gaze up - on the sky? This is the Sav - ior!"
 por - tals of the sky. Here - af - ter you shall
 you let earth ac - cord. You are, while end - less

fore un - trod, as - cends un - to the throne of God.
 ers they see their Lord as - cend in maj - es - ty.
 thus they say; "This is his glo - rious tri - umph - day."
 Je - sus see re - turn - ing in great maj - es - ty."
 a - ges run, with Fa - ther and with Spir - it one.

These stanzas have been crafted from various English translations of a much longer Latin hymn preserved in an 11th-century manuscript in the British Museum. This text celebrating Christ's majesty is well set to a 15th-century English tune commemorating a military victory.

TEXT: The Venerable Bede, 7th–8th cent.; trans. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978, alt.
 MUSIC: "The Agincourt Song," c. 1415; harm. Alfred V. Fedak, 2012
 Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship (admin. Augsburg Fortress)
 Music Harm. © 2012 Alfred V. Fedak

DEO GRACIAS
 LM
 (alternate tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN with "Alleluia," 15)
 (alternate harmonization, 189)

THE WORD

463 How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,

is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!
 for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can be said than to you God hath said,
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

It seems odd now to think of singing this text to ADESTE FIDELES, but mainline churches did so well into the 20th century because of a cultural bias against shape note music. The vigor of the present tune seems especially right for the final line's reference to Hebrews 13:5.

TEXT: "K" in John Rippons's *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.
 MUSIC: American folk melody; Funk's *Genuine Church Music*, 1832, alt. FOUNDATION 11.11.11