

Grace Presbyterian Church  
Fort Wayne, IN – June 28, 2026  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost



*The Sacred Slowdown: Summer invites us to slow down, breathe deeply, and notice God's presence in ordinary life. In a season shaped by vacations, neighborhood gatherings, longer evenings, walking, rest, and reconnection, this series explores how God continues to speak—not always through noise or urgency, but through presence, attentiveness, community, and grace.*

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: Tyler Bowers – Ushers: Nancy Current, Rachel Lilly, & Bill Werling – Tech: Kevin Mahoney & Bill Werling – Counters: Tyler Bowers & Pam Callahan – Pianist: Sue Creager – Choir Director: Tom Callahan.

**Prelude** — *Be Still and Know That I Am God* by Oyer

**Welcome** — Rev. Sandy Garcia

**\*Call to Worship** —

We gather in the presence of the God who provides.

**God meets us in our need and calls us to trust.**

We gather in the name of Christ, who welcomes the stranger and blesses the humble gift.

**Even a cup of cold water offered in love becomes a sign of God's kingdom.**

Come, let us worship the God who sees, provides, and sends us forth in love.

**Let us worship God!**

**\*Opening Hymn** — #686 “**God of Our Life**”

**\*Call to Confession** —

Friends, Scripture reminds us that God often works through ordinary things—a ram caught in a thicket, a cup of cold water, a simple act of welcome. Yet we are often so busy or distracted that we miss opportunities to trust God and care for one another. The good news is that God's grace is greater than our shortcomings. Therefore, let us come before God with honesty and humility, confessing our sins and opening our hearts to God's renewing love. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

**\*Prayer of Confession** —

Gracious God, You call us to trust you, yet we often cling to our own plans and fears. You invite us to love our neighbors through simple acts of kindness, yet we overlook opportunities to serve. We become distracted by what seems impressive and forget that your kingdom often grows through small acts of faithfulness and compassion. Forgive us when we fail to trust your provision. Forgive us when we neglect the needs of those around us. Renew our hearts, that we may follow Christ with generosity, humility, and love. In your mercy, hear our prayer.

*Time for silent confession*

**\*Assurance of Pardon —**

Friends, hear the good news: The God who provided for Abraham and Isaac continues to provide for God's people today. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and set free to live as people of grace. Believe the good news of the gospel:

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

**Song of Assurance #583 "Glory to God"**

**\*Passing the Peace**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of Christ be with you.

**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

Holy God, As your Word is read and proclaimed, open our ears to hear your voice and our hearts to receive your truth. Teach us to trust your provision, to recognize your presence, and to discover the sacred power of simple acts of love. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Hebrew Bible Reading – Gen. 22:1-14

p.31

1 Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!” “Here I am,” he replied. 2 Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.”

3 Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. 4 On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. 5 He said to his servants, “Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you.”

6 Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, 7 Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, “Father?” “Yes, my son?” Abraham replied. “The fire and wood are here,” Isaac said, “but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?” 8 Abraham answered, “God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.” And the two of them went on together.

9 When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. 10 Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son.

11 But the angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven, “Abraham! Abraham!” “Here I am,” he replied. 12 “Do not lay a hand on the boy,” he said. “Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son.”

13 Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son.

14 So Abraham called that place The Lord Will Provide. And to this day it is said, “On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided.”

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Reading: Matt. 10:40-42**

p.1512

40 “Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. 41 Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person’s reward. 42 And if anyone gives even a cup of cold

water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.”

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Message**

*Small Acts, Sacred Love – Rev. Sandy Garcia*

In a world that urges us to move quickly and define ourselves by what we accomplish, the church invites us to slow down and remember who we are and whose we are. Let us join our voices with the communion of saints as we proclaim the faith of the church:

**\*Affirmation of Faith:** *The Apostle’s 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 – #203 “Jesu, Jesu, Fill us with Your Love”**

**Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer**

*(Ask for prayers to be lifted up)*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. God of provision and grace, we give you thanks for the countless ways you sustain us each day. You provide what we need and call us to participate in your work through acts of kindness, generosity, and compassion.

We pray for your church throughout the world. Strengthen us to be faithful witnesses to your love. Help us to welcome others in Christ's name and to serve faithfully in your kingdom.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

We pray for those facing uncertainty, fear, or difficult decisions. Grant them courage and trust in your presence, especially when the path ahead is unclear.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who are hungry, lonely, grieving, ill, or struggling. Surround them with your comfort and care, and remind them that they are not alone.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

We pray for our community and neighborhood. Help us to recognize opportunities to share Christ's love through simple acts of welcome, kindness, and service.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who serve others through caregiving, teaching, healthcare, public service, and ministry. Renew their strength, encourage their hearts, and bless the work of their hands.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Lord, remind us that no act of love is too small in your kingdom. Use our lives, our gifts, and our daily interactions to reflect your grace and to share your sacred love with the world.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

We lift before you now the prayers spoken aloud and those held silently in our hearts...

Into your loving hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy and grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray, saying...

**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**

Jesus reminds us that even a cup of cold water given in his name matters in the kingdom of God. Our offerings are more than financial gifts; they are expressions of gratitude and trust. Let us return to God a portion of what God has entrusted to us first.

*Offertory – Is Your All on the Altar* by Hoffman

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

**\*Prayer of Dedication –**

Let us pray: **Generous God, Receive these gifts and use them for your purposes. Take our offerings, our talents, our time, and our daily acts of kindness, and bless them for the work of your kingdom. May all that we offer become signs of your sacred love in the world. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Announcements

\*Closing Hymn — #343 “Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life”

\*Charge & Benediction

Postlude — *Forever Will I Sing* by Smith

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Last Chance to Submit Items for July Newsletter:** If you have anything for the July Newsletter, please get them to Justin in the office not later than Wednesday, July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Pace of Grace Running & Walking Club:** Sundays, 4:00 PM (new start time), here at Grace. The club is open to the community. The run/walk starts at door #5.

**Fiber Arts Fridays:** Do you knit? Crochet? Have another craft you’d like to work on while having some fellowship? Then join us on Fridays, at 11:00 AM, in the conference room.

**The Office Will Be Closed July 6<sup>th</sup>:**

## Prayer Requests

- Prayers for Tom, Tim Bauman’s brother, and his medical needs.
- Prayers for Jenny, JoAnn’s niece, with her cancer treatments.
- Prayers of peace and comfort for Butch, as he deals with his cancer.
- Prayers for those affected by the recent earthquakes.
- Prayers for our country and the world during these troubling times.

Birthdays

Evelyn Brunnegraff – July 1

Dennis Allen – July 6

Anniversaries

Tamara & Richard Searer-Jenkins

July 2008

Worship Volunteers for July 5, 2026

Lay Leader – Cathy German

Ushers – Nancy Current, Rachel Lilly, & Bill Werling

Technology – John Current & Jen Mahoney

Counters – Kevin Mahoney & Jon Wolf

## God of Our Life

686

1 God of our life, through all the cir-cling years, we trust in thee.  
 2 God of the past, our times are in thy hand. With us a - bide.  
 3 God of the com - ing years, through paths un-known we fol-low thee.

In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, thy hand we see.  
 Lead us by faith to hope's true prom-ised land. Be thou our guide.  
 When we are strong, Lord, leave us not a - lone. Our ref-uge be.

With each new day, when morn - ing lifts the veil,  
 With thee to bless, the dark - ness shines as light,  
 Be thou for us in life our dai - ly bread,

we own thy mer - cies, Lord, which nev - er fail.  
 and faith's fair vi - sion chang - es in - to sight.  
 our heart's true home when all our years have sped.

This text was created for the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, by its pastor. He wrote these words especially for this tune, originally composed for John Henry Newman's text "Lead, Kindly Light."

TEXT: Hugh Thomson Kerr, 1914, alt.

MUSIC: Charles Henry Purday, 1860; harm. John Weaver, 1986

Text © 1928 F. M. Braselton, rev. 1956 Presbyterian Board of Christian Education  
 (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

Music Harm. © 1990 Hope Publishing Company

SANDON

10.4.10.4.10.10

JESUS CHRIST: PASSION AND DEATH

# 203 Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

Capo 3: (D) (A7)  
 Refrain F C7

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love; show

(D) (D/F#) (Em7) (A7) (D)  
 F F/A Gm7 C7 F *Fine*

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

(D) (Bm) (Em) (A)  
 F Dm Gm C

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their  
 2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and  
 3 These are the ones we should serve; these are the ones we should  
 4 Lov - ing puts us on our knees, will - ing to wash oth - ers'

(D) (Bm) (Em7) (A7) (D)  
 F Dm Gm7 C7 F *to Refrain*

feet, Mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.  
 race; neigh-bors are near us and far a - way.  
 love; all these are neigh-bors to us and you.  
 feet; this is the way we should live like you.

Considering that this text comes from a part of the world where Christianity is not the primary religion gives these simple but powerful words even more depth and meaning. The tune name recalls the district in the Northern Region of Ghana where this tune was collected.

TEXT: Tom Colvin, 1969, rev. 1997, alt.  
 MUSIC: Ghanaian folk melody; adapt. Tom Colvin, 1963; arr. Jane Marshall, 1982  
 Text and Music © 1969 Hope Publishing Company  
 Music Arr. © 1982 Hope Publishing Company

CHEREPONI  
 7.7.9 with refrain

# Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life 343

1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the  
 2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on shad - owed  
 3 From ten - der child - hood's help - less - ness, from hu - man  
 4 The cup of wa - ter given for you still holds the

cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of  
 thresh - olds fraught with fears, from paths where hide the  
 grief and bur - dened toil, from fam - ished souls, from  
 fresh - ness of your grace; yet long these mul - ti -

self - ish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of Man.  
 lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of your tears.  
 sor - row's stress, your heart has nev - er known re - coil.  
 tudes to view the sweet com - pas - sion of your face.

5 O Master, from the mountainside,  
 make haste to heal these hearts of pain;  
 among these restless throngs abide;  
 O tread the city's streets again;

6 Till all the world shall learn your love,  
 and follow where your feet have trod;  
 till glorious from your heaven above  
 shall come the city of our God.

Because dense populations always result in concentrated hardships, this vivid yet timeless evocation of urban need connects to our own day as well as to Jesus' lament over Jerusalem (Matthew 23:37/Luke 13:34). This tune was the first used with this text and is now customary.

TEXT: Frank Mason North, 1903, alt.  
 MUSIC: Gardiner's Sacred Melodies, 1815

GERMANY  
 LM

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