

Grace Presbyterian Church
Fort Wayne, IN – Aug. 2, 2026
10th Sunday After Pentecost



The Sacred Slowdown: Summer invites us to slow down, breathe deeply, and notice God's presence in everyday life. Throughout this series we have discovered that God often works quietly—in ordinary places, through unexpected people, and with seemingly small gifts. As our journey continues, we are invited to trust that when we place what we have into Christ's hands, God provides more than enough through abundant 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: Cindy Bowers – Ushers: Jen Mahoney, Nancy Current, & Sue Creager – Tech: Bill Werling & Kevin Mahoney – Counters: Kevin Mahoney & Jill Werling – Pianist: Sue Creager – Choir Director: Tom Callahan.

Prelude —

Welcome —

***Call to Worship —**

The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

The Lord is good to all, and God's compassion is over all creation.

When we see scarcity,

God reveals abundance.

When we bring what little we have,

Christ blesses it, breaks it, and shares it.

Come, let us worship the God whose grace is always more than enough.

***Opening Hymn — #507 “Come to the Table of Grace”**

***Call to Confession —**

The psalmist reminds us to remember God's faithfulness, yet we often forget. Jesus reminds us to trust the slow work of God's kingdom, yet we become impatient. We measure success by the world's standards instead of God's. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sins together.

***Prayer of Confession —**

Generous God, too often we live as though there is never enough—not enough time, not enough resources, not enough hope, not enough grace. We cling tightly to what we have, fearing there will not be enough for tomorrow. We overlook the needs of our neighbors, forget your daily provision, and trust our own calculations more than your promises. Forgive us. Open our hands to receive your gifts, our hearts to trust your abundance, and our lives to become signs of your generosity. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Time for silent confession

***Assurance of Pardon —**

Friends, hear the Good News. The God who fed thousands with five loaves and two fish is the same God who pours out grace beyond measure. In Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven, our fears are quieted, and our lives are filled with hope.

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 of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Please take a moment to greet your neighbor and others with the peace of Christ.

Prayer for Illumination

Generous God, as your Word is read and proclaimed, open our minds to your truth, our hearts to your compassion, and our hands to your abundant grace. Teach us not to focus on what is lacking, but to trust what you can do with what we place into your hands. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Psalm Reading – Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

p.979

8 The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love.

9 The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.

14 The Lord upholds all who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down.

15 The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. 16 You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

17 The Lord is righteous in all his ways and faithful in all he does. 18 The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

19 He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them. 20 The Lord watches over all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy.

21 My mouth will speak in praise of the Lord. Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Matt. 14:13-21

p.1520

13 When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. 14 When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

15 As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a remote place, and it’s already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food.”

16 Jesus replied, “They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.” 17 “We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish,” they answered. 18 “Bring them here to me,” he said.

19 And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people.

20 They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. 21 The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

This is the word of the Lord.

Message

From Scarcity to Abundance – Rev. Sandy Garcia

***Affirmation of Faith:** *(from A Declaration of Faith)*

We hold that what God says to us and does for us centers in Jesus Christ, our living Lord as he is remembered, known, and expected. In Christ, God's Word of acceptance takes flesh: by grace through faith we are set right with God, adopted as children of God, not because of anything we have done, but because of what Christ has done. In Christ, God's Word of demand is lived out: to love God and neighbor as Jesus did is what God requires of us. The Spirit adds no different Word from God, but leads us deeper into the truth of God uttered in Jesus Christ.

***Hymn of Response – #498 “Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken”**

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Gracious and generous God, you are the giver of every good and perfect gift. When we see only scarcity, you reveal abundance. When we fear there is not enough, you remind us that your grace is always sufficient. Today we bring before you the prayers of your people. **God of abundance, open our hands to share and our hearts to trust.**

For your Church throughout the world, that we may proclaim Christ with humility, welcome all people with joy, and trust that you continue to grow your kingdom through small acts of faithfulness. **God of abundance, open our hands to share and our hearts to trust.**

For our nation, our communities, and all who serve in positions of leadership, grant wisdom, compassion, and courage. Teach us to seek the common good and to care for those who are most vulnerable.

God of abundance, open our hands to share and our hearts to trust.

For those who are hungry, for those who struggle to make ends meet, for those searching for work, for families carrying financial burdens, and for all who wonder whether there will be enough tomorrow, remind them that your love never runs out, your mercy is new every morning, and your provision is greater than our fears.

God of abundance, open our hands to share and our hearts to trust.

For those who are ill, recovering, grieving, lonely, or overwhelmed, surround them with your healing presence. May they know they are seen, loved, and held securely in your care.

God of abundance, open our hands to share and our hearts to trust.

For children preparing to begin a new school year, for teachers, school staff, college students, and parents, grant them wisdom, patience, curiosity, and joy. May they discover opportunities to learn, to grow, and to encourage one another.

God of abundance, open our hands to share and our hearts to trust.

For this congregation, teach us to measure our lives not by what we lack, but by the abundance of your grace. May we become people who gladly share what we have, who offer hospitality without hesitation, who plant seeds of kindness, and who trust you to multiply every act of love.

God of abundance, open our hands to share and our hearts to trust.

And now, in the spirit of Sacred Slowdown, let us take a few moments of holy silence, trusting that even when we cannot find the words, your Holy Spirit prays within us.

(Silence is kept.)

Faithful God, just as Jesus took five loaves and two fish, blessed them, broke them, and fed the multitude, take our ordinary lives. Bless them. Break them open with your love. And use them to bring hope, healing, and joy to your world.

We now lift before you the prayers that are on our hearts...

(Time for spoken or silent prayers.)

Faithful God, receive these prayers and those known only to you. Give us courage for the journey ahead, trusting that your grace goes before us and your Spirit walks beside us. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, 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.

COMMUNION

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O God, Creator of heaven and earth. In every season of life, you are present with your people. When we rush, you call us to be still. When we wander, you lead us home. When we grow weary, you renew our strength. You meet us not only in extraordinary moments, but also in the ordinary rhythms of life—in daily bread, in shared tables, in quiet prayers, and in the beauty of your creation. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with the saints of every time and place, and with all creation, singing:

#566 “Holy, Holy, Holy”

Holy are you, O God, and blessed is Jesus Christ our Lord. He walked the dusty roads of Galilee, not in haste, but in faithfulness. He paused for those others overlooked. He welcomed children, ate with sinners, healed the suffering, and proclaimed your kingdom of grace. When the world demanded hurry, he made time for people. When others passed by, he stopped and saw. In him we see your love made flesh, your mercy made visible, your presence dwelling among us. Therefore, we remember his life, his death, his resurrection, and his promise to be with us always. And we proclaim the mystery of faith:

#557 “Christ Has Died, Christ is Risen”

Gracious Holy Spirit, come upon us and upon these gifts of bread and cup. Slow our hurried hearts. Quiet our anxious minds. Open our eyes to Christ's presence among us. As we share this meal, make us one with Christ, one with one another, and one in ministry to all the world. Teach us to trust your pace, to receive your grace, and to walk faithfully in the way of Jesus. Until that day when all creation is gathered at your heavenly banquet, through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Amen.

#558 "Amen."

Breaking of the Bread

The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

"Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, he took the cup, saying:

"This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

For every time we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord, until he comes again.

Family in Christ, this is the Lord's Table. Our Savior invites all who trust in him, and all who seek him, to come and share in this feast of grace.

Come, not because you must, but because Christ welcomes you.

Come, for all is ready.

Prayer after Communion

Gracious God, we thank you for feeding us at this table with the bread of life and the cup of salvation. Having paused to receive your grace, send us now into the world renewed and refreshed. Help us to notice your presence in ordinary moments, to trust your faithfulness one day at a time, and to share Christ's love with all whom we meet. May this meal strengthen us for the journey, until we gather again at your heavenly feast. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Call to Offering

Every gift matters in God's kingdom. Jesus took five loaves and two fish and fed a multitude. God continues to bless ordinary gifts offered with faith and love. Let us present our offerings with grateful hearts, trusting that God can do far more than we imagine.

Offertory —

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

***Prayer of Dedication —**

Let us pray: God of abundance, you have opened your hand and filled our lives with blessings. Receive these gifts, multiply them for your purposes, and use them to feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, strengthen the weary, and proclaim your love throughout the world. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Announcements

*Closing Hymn — #525 “Let Us Break Bread Together”

*Charge & Benediction

Postlude —

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

I want to thank everyone for the prayers, visits, calls and the gorgeous flowers received because of my recent hospitalization. They meant a lot to me. Love to my Grace family.

Tammy

Prayer Requests

- Prayers of peace and comfort for the family of Tom, Tim’s brother.
- Prayers of peace and comfort for the family of Butch.
- Prayers for guidance for Tammy and her doctors.
- Prayers for Bruce’s recovery and spirits.
- Prayers of healing as Anita, Sandy’s friend, is going through her chemo treatments.
- Prayers for Jenny, JoAnn’s niece, with her cancer treatments.
- Prayers of safety and joy as the children begin their new school year.

Birthdays

Daniel White – July 5

Anniversaries

Worship Volunteers for August 9, 2026

Lay Leader – Tyler Bowers

Ushers – Jen Mahoney, Nancy Current, & Bill Werling

Technology – Bill Werling & Kevin Mahoney

Counters –

Kevin Mahoney & Jill Werling

Come to the Table of Grace 507

Capo 3: (D) (A) (Bm) (D7/A) (G)

F C Dm F7/C B^b

1 Come to the ta - ble of grace. Come to the

(A) (D) (A) (D) (Em)

C F C F Gm

ta - ble of grace. This is God's ta - ble; it's

(D/A) (G) (D/A) (A7) (D) (G) (D)

F/A B^b F/C C7 F B^b F

not yours or mine. Come to the ta - ble of grace.

- 2 Come to the table of peace...
- 3 Come to the table of love...
- 4 Come to the table of hope...
- 5 Come to the table of joy...

The simple, formulaic nature of this song makes it especially suitable for use during the communion portion of the Lord's Supper. Because it can be learned readily and does not require reference to a printed source, it frees people to sing before and after receiving the elements.

TEXT and MUSIC: Barbara Hamn, 2008
Text and Music © 2008 Hope Publishing Company

TABLE OF GRACE
7.7.10.7

Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken

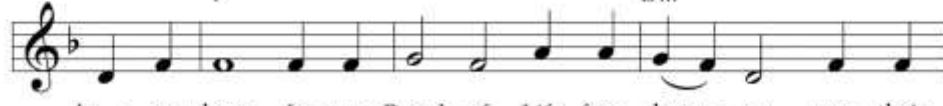
498

Capo 3: (D) F (Bm) Dm (G) B $\flat$



1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the Gal - i -
 2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a qui - et
 3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in faith we
 4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us in your

(D) F (Bm) Dm



le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of Life from heav - en, was their
 room one night. In the bread and wine you gave them, Christ, you
 gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the a - ges: "I am
 name to share bread for which the mil - lions hun - ger, words that

(G) B $\flat$ (D) F (A) C



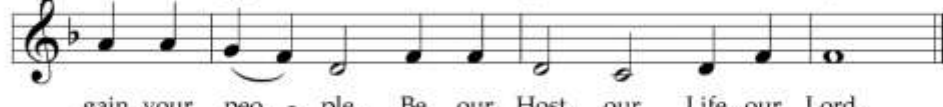
food for - ev - er - more.
 came as Light from Light. By your bod - y bro - ken
 with you; do not fear!"
 tell your love and care.

(Bm) Dm (F $\sharp$ m) Am (Bm) Dm (G) B $\flat$ (A) C (D) F



for us, by your wine of life out-poured, Je - sus, feed a -

(Bm) Dm (G) B $\flat$ (D) F



gain your peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

The first two stanzas of this text deal with events in the past (the feeding of the multitude and the Last Supper) and the final two with events in the present. The recurring last four lines of each stanza serve as an affirmation of Christ's continuing presence at all times.

TEXT: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 2005

MUSIC: The Sacred Harp, 1844; harm. James H. Wood, 1958

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Music Harm. © 1958, ren. 1986 Broadman Press/Van Ness Press, Inc. (admin. Music Services)

BEACH SPRING

B.7, B.7.D

Let Us Break Bread Together 525

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees; (on our knees)
 2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees; (on our knees)
 3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees; (on our knees)

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees. (on our knees)
 let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees. (on our knees)
 let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees. (on our knees)

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,

O Lord, have mer - cy on me. (on me)

This African American spiritual quite possibly reflects the circumstances of slaves attending early morning communion services in colonial Anglican churches, but its combination of hope ("rising sun") and supplication ("Lord, have mercy") speaks to many worshippers' experience.

TEXT: African American spiritual
 MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. Melva Wilson Costen, 1988
 Music Arr. © 1990 Melva Wilson Costen

LET US BREAK BREAD
 10.10 with refrain