

Grace Presbyterian Church
Fort Wayne, IN – Sept. 27, 2026
18th Sunday After Pentecost



In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus. — Philippians 2:5

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 – Children's Message: Cathy German – Ushers: Stacey Monnier, Katelyn Monnier, & Grace Hochstetler – Tech: John Current & Jen Mahoney – Counters: Tyler Bowers & Jon Wolf – Pianist: Sue Creager – Choir Director: Tom Callahan.

Prelude — *For the Beauty of the Earth with This Is My Father's World* arr. by Wolaver

Welcome — Rev. Sandy Garcia

Give ear, O my people, to God's teaching;

We will remember the wonderful works of God.

We will tell the coming generations of God's power, faithfulness, and grace.

The God who led our ancestors still leads us today.

In Christ, God has shown us the way of humility, compassion, and love.

Let the same mind be in us that was in Christ Jesus.

Rooted in grace, let us grow together in Christ.

Root us in Christ. Grow us in love.

Come, let us worship God!

***Opening Hymn — #438 “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”**

***Call to Confession —**

***Prayer of Confession —**

Gracious God, you have rooted us in your love and called us to grow together. Yet we confess that we often put ourselves first. We cling to being right, compare ourselves with others, and overlook the needs of our neighbors. Forgive us when pride crowds out compassion and self-interest leaves little room for love. Give us the mind of Christ. Root us more deeply in your grace, and grow within us humility, generosity, compassion, and love, that our lives may reflect Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Time for silent confession

***Assurance of Pardon —**

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

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.

Time for Music & Meditation

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

Psalm Reading — Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16

p.914

1 My people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth.

2 I will open my mouth with a parable; I will utter hidden things, things from of old—

3 things we have heard and known, things our ancestors have told us.

4 We will not hide them from their descendants; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done.

12 He did miracles in the sight of their ancestors in the land of Egypt, in the region of Zoan.

13 He divided the sea and led them through; he made the water stand up like a wall.

14 He guided them with the cloud by day and with light from the fire all night.

15 He split the rocks in the wilderness and gave them water as abundant as the seas;

16 he brought streams out of a rocky crag and made water flow down like rivers.

Choir Anthem — #346 “For the Healing of the Nations”

Epistle Reading: Philippians 2:1-13

p.1827

1 Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion,

2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.

3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves,

4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

7 rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,

10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

12 Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling,

13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

Message

What Are We Growing?

**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 — #174 “Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom”

Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer

(Responsive Prayer)

Lord, we ask . . .

Root us in Christ. Grow us in love.

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

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: Gracious God, receive these gifts as signs of our gratitude. Use them—and use us—to serve our neighbors, strengthen your church, and share the love of Christ. Root us in grace and grow us together, for the sake of your kingdom. Amen.

Announcements

*Closing Hymn — #765 “May the God of Hope Go with Us”

*Charge & Benediction

Postlude — *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* arr. by Boertje

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Newsletter Submissions: If you have anything for the October newsletter, please send it to the office by Wednesday, September 30th.

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.

Prayer Requests

- Prayers of comfort for the Family of Laura Fuller.
- Peace and strength for Bruce Barnet during his cancer treatment.
- Your continued presence and healing for Sue.
- Healing for Jenny, JoAnn's niece, in her cancer treatment.

Birthdays

Todd German - September 27

Bob Bausser – October 3

Anniversaries

Kevin & Jennifer Mahoney

September 28, 1996

Worship Volunteers for October 4, 2026

Lay Leader – Volunteer

Children's Message – Betsy Kachmar

Communion – Tammy Menkes & Jill Werling

Ushers – Stacey Monnier, Katelyn Monnier, & Grace Hochstetler

Technology – John Current & Bob Bausser

Counters – Kevin Mahoney & Todd German

438 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.
 2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de-mands.
 3 Noth-ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling;
 4 While I draw this fleet-ing breath, when my eye - lids close in death,

Let the wa - ter and the blood from thy wound-ed side which flowed
 Could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,
 na - ked, come to thee for dress, help-less, look to thee for grace;
 when I soar to worlds un-known, see thee on thy judg-ment throne,

Though scholars discredit the story that this hymn was written when the author found shelter under a large rock during a thunderstorm, the popular appeal of that conjecture perhaps lies in the energy of this plea and the vividness of its imagery drawn from many biblical sources.

TEXT: Augustus M. Toplady, 1776, alt.
 MUSIC: Thomas Hastings, 1830, alt.

TOPLADY
 7.7.7.7.7.7

FORGIVENESS



be of sin the dou - ble cure, cleanse from guilt and make me pure.
 all for sin could not a - tone. Thou must save, and thou a - lone.
 foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom 174

1 Come and seek the ways of Wis-dom, she who danced when
 2 Lis - ten to the voice of Wis-dom, cry - ing in the
 3 Sis - ter Wis - dom, come, as - sist us; nur - ture all who

earth was new. Fol - low close - ly what she teach - es,
 mar - ket - place. Hear the Word made flesh a - mong us,
 seek re - birth. Spir - it - guide and close com - pan - ion,

for her words are right and true. Wis - dom clears the
 full of glo - ry, truth, and grace. When the word takes
 bring to light our sa - cred worth. Free us to be -

path to jus - tice, show - ing us what love must do,
 root and rip - ens, peace and righ - teous - ness em - brace.
 come your peo - ple, ho - ly friends of God and earth.

Drawing on numerous scriptural images of Wisdom (Greek: *Sophia*), especially in Proverbs, this text offers an alternative perspective on Trinitarian theology. The Wisdom tradition has played a role in Christian mysticism for centuries, as witnessed by the Hagia Sophia in Istanbul.

May the God of Hope Go with Us 765

Song of Hope / *Canto de esperanza*

May the God of hope go with us ev - ery day, fill - ing all our
¡Dios de la es - pe - ran - za, da - nos go - zo y paz! Al mun - do en

lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of jus - tice speed us
cri - sis, ha - bla tu ver - dad. Dios de la jus - ti - cia, mán - da -

on our way, bring - ing light and hope to ev - ery land and race.
nos tu luz, luz y es - pe - ran - za en la os - cu - ri - dad.

Pray - ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our joy with all;
O - re - mos por la paz, can - te - mos de tu a - mor.

work - ing for a world that's new, faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.
Lu - che - mos por la paz, fie - les a ti, Se - ñor.

This Argentine folk melody sets Spanish and English words, both created by a PC(USA) missionary with much Latin American experience. The two versions complement each other: the Spanish text offering a prayer to God, and the English one providing inspiration for the singers.

TEXT: Alvin Schutmaat, 1984
 MUSIC: Argentine folk melody

ARGENTINA
 11.11.11 with refrain

Songs reprinted with permission under CCLI 1292718 or ONE LICENSE A-731346.