

Grace Presbyterian Church

November 21, 2021

9:30am

*Welcome! If you're visiting with us,
take a look at the short User's Guide in the back of the bulletin.*



Prelude preparing us to Worship: Vince di Mura

WE GATHER IN HAPPINESS and GRATITUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 1

We come together to celebrate the joy-filled blessedness of living within God's rule.

We come, blessed by the fruits of God's Spirit that as we worship bring joy and peace.

We come together to delight in the rule and laws of God as they influence our living.

We come, blessed by the fruits of God's Spirit that gives us patience and self-control.

We come together to worship and praise the God who blesses, renews and refreshes

us so that we are like fruit-bearing trees that are watered by God's gracious guidance.

**We come, blessed by the fruits of God's Spirit that enables us to worship God faithfully;
and to accept others in loving gentleness and kindly goodness - to God's greater glory. Amen.**

Oh, the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers.

But they delight in the law of the LORD, meditating on it day and night.

They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season.
Their leaves never wither, and they prosper in all they do.

But not the wicked!

They are like worthless chaff, scattered by the wind.

They will be condemned at the time of judgment.

Sinners will have no place among the godly.

**For the LORD watches over the path of the godly,
but the path of the wicked leads to destruction.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD WITH US

Jesus is our brother, and He calls us sisters and brothers.

We are all beloved children of God.

We call Jesus Lord and pledge our faithfulness

We are disciples now following his teachings

As loving parents gather their children close to their heart,
God gathers us ever closer in Grace, Peace and Love.

God is with us; we are not alone.

HYMN OF CELEBRATION # 664 Morning has Broken

A Time for Children and the Young at Heart

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Source of life and blessing,
of garden, orchard, field,
root us in obedience to you
and nourish us by your ever-flowing Spirit,
that, perceiving only the good we might do,
our lives may be fruitful,
our labor productive,
and our service useful,
in communion with Jesus, our brother. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING #1 Luke 12 : 22-34 **Hymn of Praise:** # 643 Now
Thank we all our God

Sermon in three parts *Rev. Donald M. Pitches*

Scripture Reading #2 1Kings 10: 1-10 **Show me the Money**

Scripture Reading #3 Genesis 17: 1-9

Hymn of Covenant: # 51 To Abraham & Sarah

Working Together

Scripture Reading #4 John 13: 12-17, 34-35 **Hymn of
Commitment** #300 We are One in the Spirit

The Lesson of Love

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

A Time of Personal Commitment

Stewardship Moment: Laura Taff

OUR GIFTS OF SACRIFICE and THANKSGIVING

Invitation

God has blessed us.

God has nourished us.

God continues to sustain us.

Let us then give of the fruit of our lives so that God might bless, nourish and sustain others through them.

(Thank you to all who have sustained the Church's ministry and mission throughout the pandemic with offerings and gifts.)

**Musical Interlude: Vince di Mura*

During this interlude of contemplation and Prayer, while the music is played, please come forward to pin your personal commitment onto the branches of the tree, or place it in the offering plate in front of the communion table. If you wish, an elder can bring the plate to your seat, or as you leave place your response in the plate at the door

Prayer of Dedication

Bless these gifts to your service God, to nourish the Body of Christ.

May they act as a reflection of your glory,

a glimmer of your generosity,

and a step along the way of discipleship. Amen.

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Watching God, we come together to celebrate the joy-filled blessedness of living our daily and nightly pilgrimage within Christ's rules, laws and precepts, so that as we try to follow them, we are blessed to receive the gifts of God's Spirit that enriches our lives with true happiness and peace. Gathered in worship of God we sing with all the saints past, present and future of the joys of our God's presence with us to bless and guide us:

“Joyfully shout all you on earth, give praise to the glory of God; and with a hymn sing out his glorious praise; alleluia! All you nations sing out your joy to the Lord: Alleluia, alleluia!”¹

To you, our creator, who crafts the heavens,
The earth and everything in them.

You have been with us always.

You hovered at the moment of our birth
and have lingered during our re-birth.

We give you thanks and praise.

To you, our redeemer, who reconciles and provides a vision for
a world of love beyond our imagination.

You have called us to courageous and prophetic action.

We give you thanks and praise.

**To you, our sustainer, who supplies nourishment and sustenance
on the journey.**

You whisper words of encouragement and guidance,

You challenge us and empower us to carry on in mission and ministry to
others.

We give you thanks and praise.

Sharing our Personal Joys and Concerns

Lord in Your Mercy, or in Thanksgiving

Hear our Prayer

A Moment of Silent Prayer:

We join with your people around the world in the prayer that Jesus
taught us, 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.

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

With gladness, we continue to build God's house.

We do not go alone on this journey.

No, instead we are built up along with a great cloud of witnesses, our sisters and brothers, the prophets and saints.

Having been nourished by God, let us take the peace of Christ, found within our hearts, and offer that peace to one another.

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

(Please, lift your hand as a sign of peace and blessing one to another.)

WE ARE SENT TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

*CLOSING Hymn: #730 I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Indicates please stand in body and/or in spirit. All songs not from Glory to God are used by permission of CCLI #1124594*