

Grace United Church of Christ

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, October 4, 2020
World Communion Sunday



Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, October 4, 2020

We Gather

Prelude

"Prelude on 'Aurelia'",
Samuel Sebastián Wesley, arr. John S. Dixon

Jonas Dawson

Video Reflection

Call to Worship

Leader: Today we gather around God's table from near and far

People: We are the People of God!

Leader: Though we differ in language, custom, and tradition

People: We are brothers and sisters in Christ!

Leader: For there is one Lord, one faith, and one baptism

People: We are One in God's Spirit!

Leader: We are one and together we remember our Lord Jesus

People: For we are the people of Redemption!

Leader: He gave himself up for us, so we could be
reconciled to God.

People: Come, let us worship the God of our Salvation!

Opening Hymn

I Come with Joy

NCH # 349 (v 1-2) (insert)

Opening Prayer

We Listen

First Reading

Philippians 3:4b-14

Special Music

"How Great Thou Art"
Stuart K. Hine, arr. Mark Hayes

Jonas Dawson

Gospel

Matthew 21:33-46

Children's Message

Sermon

Rev. Rob Apgar-Taylor

We Respond

Pastoral Prayers

Hymn of Preparation

I Come with Joy

NCH # 349 (v 3) (insert)

The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: ...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory,

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: ...And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

ALL: Christ has died

Christ is risen

Christ will come again.

Leader: ...Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

ALL: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Communion

Prayer after Communion

God of us all, In the gift of bread and cup we celebrate your presence in our church and in our lives. As your presence unites us in the gift of this holy meal, so we know that in your love we are united wherever we are. Keep true in us that same spirit that has united the Church throughout all generations and bring us soon into physical communion, through that same spirit, which is Christ, the Lord. Amen.

We are Sent

Announcements

Closing Prayer

Blessing

Closing Hymn

I Come with Joy

NCH # 349 (v 4-5) (insert)

Dismissal

Postlude

"The Solid Rock",
William B. Bradbury, arr. Terry Kirkland

Jonas Dawson

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*Cantor - Taylor Whidden*

Brian Wren, 1968; rev. 1982, 1994

*Unison*

1 I come with joy, a child of God, for-giv-en, loved, and  
 2 I come with Chris-tians far and near to find, as all are  
 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di-vi-sion  
 4 And thus we meet, and bet-ter know the Pres-ence, ev-er  
 5 To-geth-er met, to-geth-er bound, in friend-ship we will

free, The life of Je-sus to re-call, in  
 fed, The new com-mu-ni-ty of love in  
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and  
 near, And join our hearts and sing with joy that  
 stay, And go with joy to love the world and

love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.  
 Christ's com-mu-nion bread, in Christ's com-mu-nion bread.  
 strang-ers now are friends, and strang-ers now are friends.  
 Christ is ris-en here, that Christ is ris-en here.  
 live the way we pray, and live the way we pray.

*One of Brian Wren's most widely published texts, this hymn was originally written to "sum up a series of sermons on the meaning of communion. It tries to use simple words to suggest important theological themes."*

Tune: DOVE OF PEACE 8.6.8.6.6.  
 - Southern Harmony, 1835  
 Arr. Austin Lovelace, 1977

### ***Singing in Church***

*Please Note: CDC guidelines state that congregational singing is NOT recommended at this time. We are still including hymns (2 verses) as reflection music. You may read the words, enjoy the tune, be in reflective prayer or even lip sync or hum the tune!*

### **Grace goes LIVE!**

Please know that today's service is being live-streamed for those who can not worship with us in person. If you prefer NOT to be in the live stream video, please sit in pews behind the center pillars.

The children's moment will be on camera as well.

If you would like your child NOT to be on camera, please speak to our AV team or an usher.

***(Note: Communion and the offering will NOT be live-streamed for privacy reasons.)***





## *Grace United Church of Christ*

*Good News!!! At the beginning of the month, Gov Larry Hogan announced that Maryland was moving into Phase 3 of the pandemic response. Grace Council decided to wait a few weeks and see if there was a rise in numbers after Labor Day. Well, it seems stable at the moment, so beginning September 27th, we opened for in-person worship. Covid precautions are still in place, but please do join us as you feel comfortable. Live Streaming is NOT going away. You will be able to worship via our youtube channel from now on. (But we still want to see your pretty little face - as grandma used to say!)*

*What to expect when you return to worship in person?*

*CDC guidelines will be followed:*

- 1. There will be a welcome table in the narthex. Your temperature will be taken, there will be hand sanitizer and masks available as well. Masks are required. If you don't have one, we will happily give you one!*
- 2. Prayers will NOT be spoken aloud during worship. We cant use a common mic and passing prayer cards is not advised. There will be a prayer list in the narthex. If you have a prayer need either text it to the prayer number on the screen or add it to the comments on YouTube. You may also write your prayers on the prayer sheet in the narthex before worship each week. There are 2 baskets of pens: please take a fresh pen from the basket and put it in the USED PENS basket when you are finished. Pens are sanitized after worship.*
- 3. Seats will be socially distanced. Families may of course sit together. )Just don't sit in the pews that are taped off and you'll be fine. It'll be obvious.)*
- 4. Passing of the peace will not be physical; Instead, give a smile, a nod, a respectful bow of the head or an exuberant wave.*
- 5. Hymns will NOT be sung by the congregation. A cantor will sing the hymns so we can enjoy the words. If you'd like to participate, please mouth the words or hum along!*
- 6. Ushers will be releasing people row by row as worship ends. Please just leave the building without congregating together. We need to minimize in person contact. Pastor Rob will NOT be at the door greeting people.*
- 7. The bathrooms and building are sanitized prior to each service. There are hand sanitizer stations outside the bathrooms. Rubber gloves are there as well if anyone prefers to use those to touch the faucets, etc...
  - a. Trashcans are outside the bathroom so people can use a paper towel to flush or close the door and then dispose of the towel in the trash can.**

*I know it sounds like a lot, but it's really fine and we will navigate these new waters with ease!  
We are Grace Church! We can do it with ease!*

*~ Pastor Rob +*



This month has an assortment of readings and its really difficult to pick one that stands out. There are, however, two books this month that don't really get that much attention, so let's talk about those for a moment. Titus is a letter written by Paul to Titus, a leader who followed Paul in his mission trip to the apostles in Jerusalem, and is a real test case for ministry to the gentiles. Himself a gentile, Titus is instructed by Paul to keep the order in the community at Crete.

Philippians another of Paul's letters to the church in Macedonia, a part of the Roman Empire. Paul writes to his beloved community of Phillipi from prison and writes to encourage them and to assure them of their comfort for him in his struggles.



**Thursday, October 1, 2020:** Psalm 19; Exodus 23:1-9; Colossians 2:16-23OR Psalm 80:7-15; Jeremiah 2:14-22; Colossians 2:16-23

**Thursday, October 8, 2020:** Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23; Exodus 24:1-8; 1 Peter 5:1-5, 12-14OR Psalm 23; Isaiah 22:1-8a; 1 Peter 5:1-5, 12-14

**Friday, October 2, 2020:** Psalm 19; Exodus 23:14-19; Philippians 2:14-18; 3:1-4aOR Psalm 80:7-15; Jeremiah 2:23-37; Philippians 2:14-18; 3:1-4a

**Friday, October 9, 2020:** Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23; Exodus 24:9-11; James 4:4-10OR Psalm 23; Isaiah 22:8b-14; James 4:4-10

**Saturday, October 3, 2020:** Psalm 19; Exodus 23:10-13; John 7:40-52OR Psalm 80:7-15; Jeremiah 6:1-10; John 7:40-52

**Saturday, October 10, 2020:** Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23; Exodus 24:12-18; Mark 2:18-22OR Psalm 23; Isaiah 24:17-23; Mark 2:18-22

**Sunday, October 4, 2020: Proper 22 (27)**  
Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 and Psalm 19 •  
Isaiah 5:1-7 and Psalm 80:7-15 •  
Philippians 3:4b-14 •  
Matthew 21:33-46

**Sunday, October 11, 2020: Proper 23 (28)**  
Exodus 32:1-14 and Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23 •  
Isaiah 25:1-9 and Psalm 23 •  
Philippians 4:1-9 •  
Matthew 22:1-14

**Monday, October 5, 2020:** Psalm 119:49-56; Deuteronomy 5:1-21; 1 Peter 2:4-10OR Psalm 144; Ezekiel 19:10-14; 1 Peter 2:4-10

**Monday, October 12, 2020:** Psalm 97; Exodus 32:15-35; Jude 17-25OR Psalm 34; Exodus 19:7-20; Jude 17-25

**Tuesday, October 6, 2020:** Psalm 119:49-56; Deuteronomy 5:22-6:3; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21OR Psalm 144; Isaiah 27:1-6; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

**Tuesday, October 13, 2020:** Psalm 97; Exodus 33:1-6; Philippians 3:13-4:1OR Psalm 34; Amos 9:5-15; Philippians 3:13-4:1

**Wednesday, October 7, 2020:** Psalm 119:49-56; Deuteronomy 6:10-25; John 11:45-57OR Psalm 144; Song of Solomon 8:5-14; John 11:45-57

**Wednesday, October 14, 2020:** Psalm 97; 2 Kings 17:7-20; John 6:25-35OR Psalm 34; Song of Solomon 7:10-8:4; John 6:25-35



**Thursday, October 15, 2020:** Psalm 99; Exodus 33:7-11; 3 John 9-12OR Psalm 96:1-9; Judges 17:1-6; 3 John 9-12

**Friday, October 16, 2020:** Psalm 99; Exodus 31:1-11; 1 Peter 5:1-5OR Psalm 96:1-9; Deuteronomy 17:14-20; 1 Peter 5:1-5

**Saturday, October 17, 2020:** Psalm 99; Exodus 39:32-43; Matthew 14:1-12OR Psalm 96:1-9; Isaiah 14:3-11; Matthew 14:1-12

**Sunday, October 18, 2020: Proper 24 (29)**  
**Exodus 33:12-23 and Psalm 99 •**  
**Isaiah 45:1-7 and Psalm 96:1-9, (10-13) •**  
**1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 •**  
**Matthew 22:15-22**

**Monday, October 19, 2020:** Psalm 63:1-8; Exodus 40:34-38; Revelation 18:1-10, 19-20OR Psalm 98; Daniel 3:1-18; Revelation 18:1-10, 19-20

**Tuesday, October 20, 2020:** Psalm 63:1-8; Numbers 12:1-9; Revelation 18:21-24OR Psalm 98; Daniel 3:19-30; Revelation 18:21-24

**Wednesday, October 21, 2020:** Psalm 63:1-8; Numbers 13:1-2, 17-14:9; Matthew 17:22-27OR Psalm 98; Daniel 6:1-28; Matthew 17:22-27

**Thursday, October 22, 2020:** Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17; Deuteronomy 31:14-22; Titus 1:5-16OR Psalm 1; Numbers 5:5-10; Titus 1:5-16

**Friday, October 23, 2020:** Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17; Deuteronomy 32:1-14, 18; Titus 2:7-8, 11-15OR Psalm 1; Deuteronomy 9:25-10:5; Titus 2:7-8, 11-15

**Saturday, October 24, 2020:** Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17; Deuteronomy 32:44-47; John 5:39-47OR Psalm 1; Proverbs 24:23-34; John 5:39-47

**Sunday, October 25, 2020: Proper 25 (30)**  
Deuteronomy 34:1-12 and Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17 •  
Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 and Psalm 1 •  
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 •  
Matthew 22:34-46

**Monday, October 26, 2020:** Psalm 119:41-48 ; Numbers 33:38-39; James 2:8-13OR Psalm 119:41-48; Deuteronomy 6:1-9, 20-25; James 2:8-13

**Tuesday, October 27, 2020:** Psalm 119:41-48; Exodus 34:29-35; James 2:14-26OR Psalm 119:41-48; Deuteronomy 10:10-22; James 2:14-26

**Wednesday, October 28, 2020:** Psalm 119:41-48; Deuteronomy 26:16-27:7 ; Matthew 19:16-22OR Psalm 119:41-48; Proverbs 16:1-20; Matthew 19:16-22

**Thursday, October 29, 2020:** Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; Joshua 1:1-11; Romans 2:17-29OR Psalm 43; 1 Samuel 2:27-36; Romans 2:17-29

**Friday, October 30, 2020:** Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; Joshua 2:1-14; 2 Peter 2:1-3OR Psalm 43; Ezekiel 13:1-16; 2 Peter 2:1-3

**Saturday, October 31, 2020:** Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; Joshua 2:15-24; Matthew 23:13-28OR Psalm 43; Malachi 1:6-2:9; Matthew 23:13-28





## *Grace United Church of Christ*

*An Open and Affirming Congregation*  
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|                                                           |                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Rev. Dr. Rob Apgar-Taylor, Pastor                         | <a href="mailto:pastorrob@grucc.com">pastorrob@grucc.com</a>         |
| Jessica Townsley, Youth Minister                          |                                                                      |
| Jonas Dawson, Director of Music                           | <a href="mailto:music@grucc.com">music@grucc.com</a>                 |
| James Taylor, Bell Choir Director                         | <a href="mailto:bells@grucc.com">bells@grucc.com</a>                 |
| Taylor Whidden, Jennie Huntoon, Donald Toms, James Taylor |                                                                      |
| Choir Section Leaders                                     |                                                                      |
| Joan Princler, Nursery Attendant                          | <a href="mailto:joan.dancer@comcast.net">joan.dancer@comcast.net</a> |
| Mat Lutman, Caretaker                                     | <a href="mailto:trainhouse13@gmail.com">trainhouse13@gmail.com</a>   |
| Sarah Petermann, Church Admin                             | <a href="mailto:admin@grucc.com">admin@grucc.com</a>                 |

### SUNDAY WORSHIP – 11:00 AM — Virtual

Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of every month.

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Scripture Reader: ONLINE  
Children's Message: N/A  
Children's Church: N/A  
Altar Guild: N/A

*If you would like to serve as a greeter, or host fellowship time after worship, please add your name to the sign up sheet in the Good Shepherd Room.*

**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**

