

GRACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
128 East Baltimore Street
Greencastle, PA 17225
(717) 597-2983



Pastor: Rev. Mark Ruzicka
Choir Director: Patty Stepler
Organist: Susan Alsip-Lawson
Ministers: All Those Present

A Life of Service:
Service Prayers for the 21st Sunday after Pentecost
October 17, 2021

Scripture Lessons:
Mark 10:35-45 Psalm 91, 104 Isaiah 53:4-12 Hebrews 5:1-10 Mark 10:35-45

WE WELCOME GOD'S PRESENCE

WELCOME

Video
Serve: Created To Do Good Works
-by The Skit Guys

Welcome to Grace Church where we are God's people.

**United through Jesus Christ on a journey to grow, to share our faith
and serve others in the Greencastle area and the world.**

PRELUDE MUSIC

**Spiritual
-Young/Wagner**

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Mark 10:35-45)*

We may come here for a glimpse of glory,
But Jesus asks us: "Can you drink the cup that I drink?"
The cup of Jesus' own life: struggle and joy; suffering and hope.
This is fullness of life!

We may come here to get close to Jesus,
And Jesus asks us: "Can you be baptized with my baptism?"
We are baptized into the reign of God,
where the Spirit breaks down barriers among all people and creates new
relationships!

Why are we here?
To drink the cup of fullness of life;
To immerse ourselves in Jesus' struggle for justice and peace;
To learn how to serve...so that the world may be healed.
Let us worship God!

***PRAISE SONG**

You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim

299



299 You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim

1 You ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim,
 2 As - cend - ed on high, al - might - y to save,
 3 "Sal - va - tion to God, who sits on the throne!"
 4 Then let us a - dore and give him his right:

and pub - lish a - broad Christ's won - der - ful name.
 he still re - mains nigh; his pres - ence we have.
 Let all cry a - loud and hon - or the Son.
 all glo - ry and power, all wis - dom and might,

The name all vic - to - rious of Je - sus ex - tol,
 The great con - gre - ga - tion his tri - umph shall sing,
 The prais - es of Je - sus the an - gels pro - claim,
 all hon - or and bless - ing, with an - gels a - bove,

whose king - dom is glo - rious, who rules o - ver all.
 as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus our King.
 fall down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.
 and thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fi - nite love!

This hymn resembles many 18th-century drawings that show parallels between worship on earth and worship in heaven, especially as described in Revelation 7:9–11. This 18th-century tune has had many names; the one used here honors the dynasty of British monarchs, 1714–1901.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION *(based on Psalm 91 and 104)*

**O God our Holy Dwelling Place,
Your tent is wide enough to provide
shelter for all who seek You,
food for all who hunger, and
healing for all who suffer.**

**Meet us here today, and fill us with confidence in Your presence,
that we may risk sharing Jesus' cup and his baptism
so the world may become the place of love and justice You desire.**

**Shelter us with Your light,
and clothe us with Your heavenly garments.**

**Teach us how we may best serve ourselves and one another
on this daring adventure of life.
Amen.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(based on Isaiah 53:4-12)*

**Divine Shepherd, like sheep we go our own ways.
With our heads to the ground and our attention turned elsewhere,
we often fail to heed the gentle nudge of Your staff
and Your calls to lead us home.**

**We confess that with so many things to distract us—
work, school, and the general busyness of life—
we are often unresponsive to Your calls to service and security.**

(Moment of Silence and Reflection)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**Good Shepherd Jesus, You came among us
in order to shelter us from the cold of night and danger in the forests.
In Your presence, we are comforted and find ourselves in green pastures!
In You we are forgiven.
Help us continue to follow You in a life of security and service.**

WE RECEIVE GOD'S GIFTS

SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 53:4-12

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted.

But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way,
and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his
mouth.

By a perversion of justice he was taken away.

Who could have imagined his future?

For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.

They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich,
although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain.

When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and
shall prolong his days; through him the will of the Lord shall prosper.

Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his
knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.

Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;
because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the
transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Hebrews 5:1-10

Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things
pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.

He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward,
since he himself is subject to weakness;
and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for
those of the people.

And one does not presume to take this honor, but takes it only when
called by God, just as Aaron was.

So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was
appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have
begotten you";
as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to
the order of Melchizedek."

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications,
with loud cries and tears,
to the one who was able to save him from death,
and he was heard because of his reverent submission.

Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered;
and having been made perfect,
he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him,
having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of
Melchizedek.

CHOIR ANTHEM
A Place in the Valley
-Besig



WE ASK GOD TO OPEN THE BIBLE TO US

WE READ GOD'S WORD TOGETHER

Mark 10:35-45

James and John, the sons of Zebedee,
came forward to him and said to him,
"Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you."

And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?"

And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at
your left, in your glory."

But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking.
Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism
that I am baptized with?"
They replied, "We are able."

Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with
the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized;
but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant,
but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John.

So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them.

But it is not so among you;
but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant,
and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all.

For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve,
and to give his life a ransom for many."

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

This is the Word of God for the People of God!

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

SHARING OF PRAYERS, CONCERNS, JOYS AND CELEBRATIONS

MOMENT OF SILENCE AND REFLECTION

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

WE GIVE BACK TO GOD

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Jesus came not to be served...but to serve.
Let us follow this example and share our gifts
so that we may also experience the joys and challenges of serving.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

**I Stand Amazed in the Presence
-Gabriel/Jordan**

***WE SING A SONG OF THANKSGIVING TO GOD**

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, above ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.
Amen**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING**

**Heavenly Father, may this offering assist us
in continuing Christ's work in the world:
to heal the grief, the transgressions, and the illnesses
that oppress and harm others and Your creation.
Amen.**

WE GO OUT CARRYING GOD'S LOVE

***BENEDICTION**

(Isaiah 53:4-12)

Our lives are filled with struggles and suffering—none of us are immune.
The key to full life in Christ is not to rise above it,
but to struggle together and help one another along the way,
knowing that God is with us in every moment.
This is security and service.

If we seek to serve and lift one another up,
committing to struggle together,
together we will witness Christ's glory.
So be it! May God be with us all till we meet again.

***PRAISE SONG**

O Lord My God
How Great Thou Art

625



O Lord My God

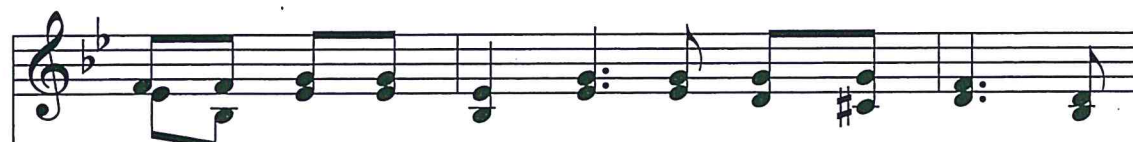
How Great Thou Art



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er
 2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der and hear the
 3 And when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to
 4 When Christ shall come with shout of ac-cla-ma-tion and take me



all the *worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I
 birds sing sweet-ly in the trees, when I look down from
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross, my
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then *I shall bow in



hear the *roll-ing thun-der, thy power through-out the
 loft-y moun-tain gran-deur and hear the brook and
 bur-den glad-ly bear-ing, he bled and died to
 hum-ble ad-o-ra-tion, and there pro-claim, "My



**Author's original words are "works," "mighty," and "shall I bow."*

This tuneful retelling of the salvation story began in Swedish and was translated into German and then into Russian before reaching its English form. Despite such linguistic and musical revisions, it continues to be a meaningful source of comfort to many people.

TEXT: Stuart K. Hine, 1953; Spanish trans. Arturo W. Hotton Rives, alt.; Korean trans. anon.

MUSIC: Swedish folk melody; adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1949

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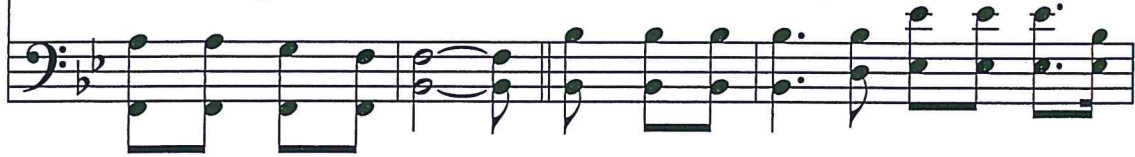
HOW GREAT THOU ART

11.10.11.10 with refrain

Refrain



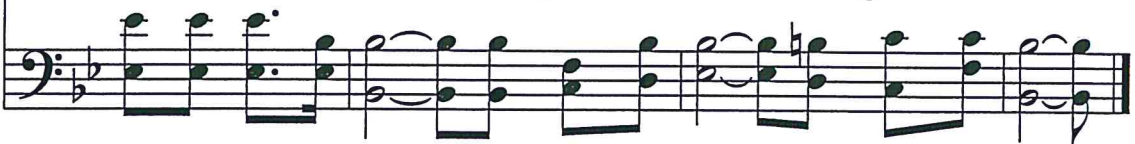
u - ni - verse dis - played:
feel the gen - tle breeze: Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to
take a - way my sin:
God, how great thou art!"



thee: How great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my



Sav - ior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!



POSTLUDE MUSIC

Let Me Be Thine Forever -J.C. Bach/Smith



A Life of Service: Service Prayers for the 21st Sunday after Pentecost was written by the Rev. Dr. Kristina Lizardy-Hajbi, Iliff School of Theology, Denver CO. Adapted by the Rev. Mark Ruzicka.



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Contributions received week of 10/10:

Regular Offering: \$900 Loose Change Offering: \$20 Communion Offering: \$5
Organ Fund: \$100 Building Fund: \$30

Sunday Worship Attendance for 10/10: In-House 24 Facebook Viewers: 9



Pastor Emeritus

The Reverend Ralph S. Geiman, 1967-1995



GRACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Church Announcements for Week of October 17, 2021

Greeters/Ushers: Tony & Deb Homer

Reader: Deb Homer

We continue to keep some safety measures in place for your health. Wearing a face mask will be at your own discretion. We encourage those not vaccinated to wear a mask and distance appropriately. Hand sanitizer will continue to be available at church entrances. We are passing the offering trays, and on communion Sunday's we are passing the element trays.

Live streaming of the services will continue to be available on our Facebook page for those who would prefer to watch from the comfort of your home. If you are unable to view our live streaming and would like access to a recording of the service, please contact Elaine at the office and we will provide a copy of the bulletin, Pastor Mark's sermon, and a recording.

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser will be held this Saturday, October 23, from 4pm - 7pm. This is a carry-out meal which includes: spaghetti, meatballs, salad, roll, dessert and drink. We need your help selling tickets! Please pass the word to your family, friends and neighbors! Tickets for Adults are \$10, Youth (6-12 years) \$5, Children 5 & under are by donation. Please see Chet Nye following today's service to get your tickets or stop by the church office Mon-Thursday, between 8am-1pm. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$12.

Volunteers are needed to help run the camera during service for live streaming our worship on Facebook. It's easy to learn! Please see Steve Miller for further details!

Congregational Group Email – Don't miss out on any church updates! Contact church office if you are not currently on our email list so we can add You today.

GUCC Website: Please look us up on the web to see the history of our church! You can download our weekly worship programs and our bi-monthly newsletters from our website.

Grace's Free Closet needs volunteers! Help is needed to sort, tag, greet and help monitor and clean the downstairs room. The Closet is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:30am till 12:30pm. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the front vestibule if you can offer any free time. Grace's Closet thanks everyone for their generous donations. We not accepting donations at this time as we are fully stocked. We have been working on cleaning out the downstairs room it is being converted to a seasonal room for holiday items. Please stop by and shop with us! Contact Nancy Myers if you have further questions.

Grace United Church of Christ Facebook: Please like our Facebook page to keep updated on church activities and connect with others in the community. You can join us at 10am to watch the live streaming of our worship service. Please comment or say hello on our live stream so we know you are watching with us.

Chancel Choir – Please join us for choir rehearsals on Wednesday evenings, at 7:15pm, in the Sanctuary. We welcome new members and would love to hear you sing! Contact Patty Stepler with any further questions.

Called to Care Committee – Our next training meeting will be held on October 20, from 6-6:30pm, in the social hall, and will continue each Wednesday evening through the end of October. *Called to Care* is a program designed by the UCC to help us be *better trained* in care giving and visitations. It is also a way for the church to be *better organized* to meet the needs of the congregation as they arise. Everyone welcome to join us, even if you missed some sessions.

Autumn Bible Study – The next bible study is being held on October 20, and will continue on Wednesday evenings, in the Chapel, from 6:30-7:10pm, through the end of October. The resource we are using is called *Mark: 20 Studies for Individuals or Groups* and is written by N.T. Wright and it is part of the "N.T. Wright for Everyone Bible Study Guides." Even if you missed some sessions, you are always welcome to join us!

Volunteers are Needed for November & December to Greet/Usher, Read scriptures and prepare and serve the elements for Communion Sunday's. Please see the sign-up sheets on the table in the front vestibule.

Upcoming Events:

First Saturday Free Community Meal – Being held on Saturday, November 6, from 11-1pm, we will be hosting our holiday community meal. Menu and details will be available next week. Contact Chet Nye to help volunteer!

Apple Dumpling Sale – Will be held on November 19 for preorders and on November 20 any extras will be on sale in the front of the church prior to the Christmas Parade. Details and order forms will be available next week.

Worship Volunteers for Sunday, October 24, 10am:

Greeters/Ushers: Sydnae Vanner & Jim Thomas

Reader: Nancy Myers

