

Worship Leader Guide

DATE: Sunday, Sept 1, 2024

SERIES TITLE:

Preacher: Pastor Amy

Liturgist: Gary T

Accompanist: Leigh Ann C

Greeters/Ushers:

Media Technicians: Tammy M

Nursery Attendant: Shirley C

[9:55 AM]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

[10:00 AM]

WELCOME & WORDS OF GRACE

[Amy welcomes people online and in the sanctuary]

Amy: The Lord be with you!

Good morning and welcome to Grace United Methodist Church! I'm Pastor Amy and I am so glad to be here with you, and more importantly, I am so glad that you are joining us in worship this morning! If you are in the sanctuary or joining us online, welcome! At Grace we recognize the light of Christ in all people, so thank you for shining your light with us this morning.

Would you please stand as you are comfortable and join me as we begin our time of worship.

CALLING ON GOD

Leader: We come, for God gathers us here,
into a community, called faith:

**People: where the hungry are served first,
where the thirsty drink life's water.**

Leader: We come, for God gathers us here,
into a home, called grace:

**People: where the naked are clothed in robes of hope;
where the stranger is embraced as a long-lost friend.**

Leader: We come, for God gathers us here,
into a family, called love:

**People: where the imprisoned model justice,
where the sick are cradled in God's peace.**

Amy: Please turn in your red hymnal to page 577 as we lift our voices together and sing

God of Grace and God of Glory.

OPENING HYMN: #577 God Of Grace and God of Glory

God of grace and God of glory, on the people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story, bring her bud to glorious
flower. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this
hour,
for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
Fears and doubts too long have bound us; free our hearts to work and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness, bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
let the search for thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.

(Liturgist moves to pulpit)

SCRIPTURE READING – 1 Peter 4:8-11

Gary: *Today's first reading comes from the book of 1 Peter.*

Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹ Be hospitable to one another without complaining. ¹⁰ Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. ¹¹ Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: #432 Jesu, Jesu vs. 1-2

Refrain: Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.

Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet, Master who acts as a slave to them. [Refrain]

Neighbors are rich and poor, neighbors are black and white, neighbors are

near and far away. [Refrain]

CHOIR ANTHEM "Lift Your Light" by Mary McDonald

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Amy: Now, let us pass the peace of Christ with one another.

JOY & CONCERNS

Amy: As we make our way back to our seats, we will move into a time of prayer. Are there joys and concerns that you would like to lift up, so that we can be in prayer and praise with each other today and in this coming week?

(congregation can share their joys and concerns)

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: #432 Jesu, Jesu vs. 3-4

Refrain: Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.

These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should love, all these are neighbors to us and you. [Refrain]

Loving puts us on our knees, serving as though we are slaves, this is the way we should live with you. [Refrain]

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Amy:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Creator 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.**

Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: #432 Jesus, Jesu vs. 5

Refrain: Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.

Kneel at the feet of our friends, silently washing their feet, this is the way we should live with you. [Refrain]

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Amy: Thank you for giving to the ministries and mission of Grace. We can not be a beacon of hope to this community without your faithful giving.

There are many ways that you can give today. There is an offering box at the back of the sanctuary. You can give online at graceumcbillings.org/give or you can text to give as well. You can text (406) 660-3699 and follow the prompts to give that way as well. Whatever you give, great or small, thank you for giving so we can continue to spread God's love for all people to all the folx we meet.

GOSPEL LESSON – Matthew 25:34-40

Amy: Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.'

MESSAGE "Who to Serve?" Pastor Amy Sell

HYMN TFWS #2222 (Black Hymnal) "The Servant Song" Amy will introduce.

**Brother, sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.**

We are pilgrims on a journey; we're together on this road.
We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.
I will hold the Christlight for you in the nighttime of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh, I'll laugh with
you. I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey
through.

When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

CHARGE AND BLESSING

Amy:

Postlude: "Postlude in G Minor" by Franklin Ritter

Leigh Ann Corcoran, Minister of Music

WORSHIP NOTES

Liturgy by:

re:Worship

Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion

<https://billingsgrace.breezechms.com/form/virtualpewcard>