

Worship Leader Guide

DATE: Sunday, November 10, 2024

Preacher: Pastor Amy

Liturgist: Beth B

Accompanist: Leigh Ann C

Greeters/Ushers:

Media Technicians: Tammy M

Nursery Attendant: Shirley C

[9:55 AM]

PRELUDE

[10:00 AM]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME & WORDS OF GRACE

Amy: The Lord be with you.

What a joy to see you all today. My name is Amy Sell, I use she/her pronouns, and am the pastor here at Grace UMC. It is a joy to welcome you today whether you are here in our sanctuary today or joining us on livestream. We know we have a wonderful, diverse group of folks that come to worship with us online.

Friends, no matter where you come from today, or where you go at the close of this service, no matter what you believe or doubt, no matter what you feel or don't feel today, no matter your immigration status, no matter whom you love, you're welcome to come just as you are to be met by our God who knows you by name and who loves you and who wants to have an ever closer relationship with you. You are welcome here.

Let's pray:

Holy God, you have made us in your image, and we belong to you alone. Therefore, we offer ourselves to you, in service, love, and praise. Use us for the glory of your realm and the good of your people; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Liturgist moves to the pulpit.

Beth: Today, as we gather, let us worship the eternal God, who is our refuge and strength, our ever-present help in times of trouble. God is our Rock, our Savior, and our Home. Please rise as you are able and comfortable in body or spirit as we lift our hearts and voices in praise.

CALLING ON GOD

One: O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come.

Many: You have been our refuge through every generation.

One: You are our strength, our shelter, and our guide.

Many: In you, God, we find our trust, our joy, and our peace.

All: You have been faithful through the ages, and you will be faithful still.

Beth: Please join me as we lift our voices together in our opening hymn, O God, Our Help in Ages Past, found in the red hymnal on page 117.

OPENING HYMN: UMH #117 O God, Our Help in Ages Past

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home!

Under the shadow of thy throne,
still may we dwell secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting, thou art God,
to endless years the same.

A thousand ages, in thy sight,
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night,
before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever rolling stream,
bears all who breathe away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come;
be thou our guide while life shall last,
and our eternal home.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SCRIPTURE READING Jeremiah 17:7-8

Deb: Today's first lesson comes from the prophet Jeremiah.

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,
whose trust is the Lord.
They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.
It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

One: This is the word of God, for the people of God.
Many: Thanks be to God.

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?

Congregational Response: TFWS #2055 You Are My Hiding Place (sung twice)

You are my hiding place.

You always fill my heart with songs of deliverance,

Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in you, I will trust in you.

Let the weak say, "I am strong in the strength of the Lord."

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Living and loving God, you know what we have been through this week.

You know our frayed nerves and anxious stomachs.

You know that even though Election Day is over, our ministry continues.

We ask your Spirit to bless us with good courage to speak the truth, to put service over self, and to remember that we worship you and you alone.

Do not let us stray from you. Let us be like trees planted beside living water.

Let us remain rooted in your love. Let us bear fruit and not be anxious.

We ask you to let Christ's light shine in our community, in this country, and in the world you have made.

Let peace reign. Let justice roll down.

Let there be a table set for those who do not have enough to eat.

Let Christ the healer touch those who are ailing.

Let the Spirit's wisdom guide those making consequential decisions.

Remind us, Holy God, that we are human.

On our own, we cannot fix all that is broken.

We cannot heal all who are in need.

Yet, we can be part of the change we wish to see in the world.

We can act with intention.

We can respond in love.

We can advocate for change that serves the common good.

We can trust in you, Lord.

We can lift our prayers to you.

We rejoice with:

Bring healing to:

God, you have led your people in the past: out of slavery, through the wilderness, and into beloved community.

Lead us once again through the unknowns ahead, through the challenges yet to come, toward a time when your promises of new life begin to appear all around us.

This we pray, as we always do and as we always will, in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ who taught us to pray 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 us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Congregational Response: TFWS #2275 Kyrie (sung twice)

Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.
Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.
Christe, Christe eleison.
Christe, Christe eleison.
Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.
Kyrie, Kyrie eleison, eleison.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Stewardship Moment: John Kennedy, Finance Committee, chairperson

John: Thank you for giving to support the ministries and mission of Grace. We cannot be a beacon of hope to this community and to each other 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 folk we meet. Please fill out your pledge card and return it to the church on Sunday, November 24.

Let us pray:

All honor and majesty, strength and beauty are yours,
Almighty God, maker of heaven and earth.
Let the simple offerings that we bring be a sign
of the great glory that is due to your holy name.
Help us to use our resources as a life-giving means for the transformation of the world
through your radical love and acceptance. Amen.

Congregational Response: TFWS #2016 Glorify Thy Name

Father, we love you, we worship and adore you,
Glorify thy name in all the earth.
Glorify thy name, glorify thy name,
Glorify thy name in all the earth.

Jesus, we worship and adore you,
Glorify thy name in all the earth.
Glorify thy name, glorify thy name,
Glorify thy name in all the earth.

Spirit, we love you, we worship and adore you,
Glorify thy name in all the earth.
Glorify thy name, glorify thy name,
Glorify thy name in all the earth.

***GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 22:34-40**

Amy:

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your

soul and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

One: This is the word of God for the people of God.

Many: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE "Who are we?" Pastor Amy

CLOSING HYMN

Amy will introduce at the end of the sermon.

TFWS # 2117 Spirit of God

Spirit of God, bright Wind, breath that bids life begin,
blow as you always do; create us anew.

Give us the breath to sing, lifted on soaring wing,
held in your hands, borne on your wings.

Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come.

Spirit of God, bright Dove, grant us your peace and love,
healing upon your wings for all living things.
For when we live your peace captives will find release,
held in your hands, borne on your wings. Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come.

Spirit of God, bright Hands, even in far-off lands
you hold all the human race in one warm embrace.
No matter where we go you hold us together so,
held in your hands, borne on your wings. Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come.

Spirit of God, bright Flame, send us in your holy name,
with power to heal, to share your love everywhere.
We cannot fail or fall or know defeat at all,
held in your hands, borne on your wings. Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come.

Spirit of God in all, we gladly hear your call,
the life in our hands that sings, the power of your wings.
Born of your grace we rise, love shining in our eyes,
held in your hands, borne on your wings. Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come.

CHARGE AND BLESSING

Amy:

Go into the world, to share the light of Christ with others.

Even when you don't feel like you have a light,
let others light the way for you.

Hold tight to your community and let the Spirit guide you in your love of others.

Go in peace. Amen.

Postlude: "Fantasia on 'Salvation'"

by: David Paxton

Leigh Ann Corcoran, Minister of Music

WORSHIP NOTES

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