

WELCOME TO GRACE CHURCH

A people gladly serving the Lord Jesus and neighbors near and far

BECAUSE OF THE LORD'S GREAT LOVE, WE ARE NOT CONSUMED, FOR HIS COMPASSIONS NEVER FAIL. THEY ARE NEW EVERY MORNING; GREAT IS YOUR FAITHFULNESS.

We worship our Savior on September 15, 2024 (9 a.m.)

(“Come as you are ... then go home different”)

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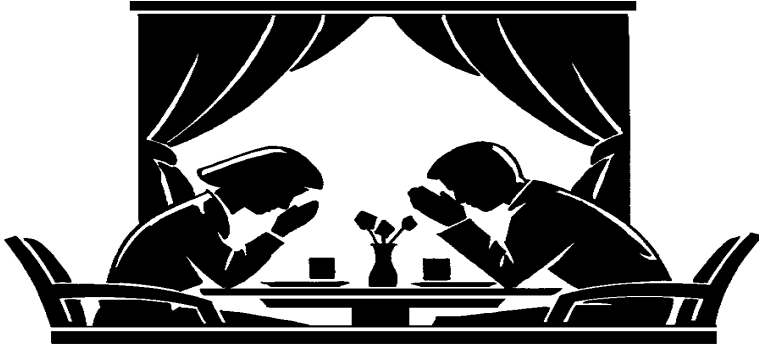
<https://www.gracechurchmech.com/>

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PASTOR: W. Michael Langford

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Chris Peters (9 a.m.- 5 p.m. on Thursdays)

MINISTERS: All of us! (We are all ministers of God's grace and we're on-duty '24/7')



**God...
has appointed
a time for
every matter,
and for every
work.**

Ecclesiastes 3:17

BLESSING US WITH MUSIC.....Chris Peters
(piano)

GATHERING HYMN (U.M. # 391) “O Happy
Day”

(1) O happy day, that fixed my choice on thee, my Savior and my God!
Well may this glowing heart rejoice, and tell its raptures all abroad.

(Refrain) Happy day, happy day, when Jesus washed my sins away
He taught me how to watch and pray, and live rejoicing every day.
Happy day, happy day, when Jesus washed my sins away!

(2) O happy bond, that seals my vows to him who merits all my love!
Let cheerful anthems fill his house, while to that sacred shrine I move. (Refrain)

(3) It's done: the great transaction's done! I am the Lord's and he is mine
He drew me and I followed on, charmed to confess the voice divine. (Refrain)

A WELCOME from our liturgist: Donna Graham

A RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Give thanks to our loving God.

FOR HE ALONE DESERVES OUR THANKFUL PRAISE.

Let us praise God with our voices and spirits raised high!

FOR HE IS OUR CREATOR, REDEEMER AND SUSTAINER.

Let us stand before the Living God with ready arms reaching for Him.

AND LET US BOW BEFORE HIM WITH HUMBLE HEARTS.

Let us sing before the Lord of Life, lifting up imperfect voices to a Perfect Savior.

WE KNEEL IN SILENCE AS WE PRESENT OURSELVES TO HIM.

Marvel to know that our Maker has graciously reached out to each of us.

WE DELIGHT ON THIS DAY TO REACH OUT TO THE GLORIOUS ONE.

Let us begin to proclaim God's most wonderful news to all people.

LET US OPEN OUR HEARTS AND ARMS AS WE SHARE GOD'S LOVE WITH ALL!

OPENING HYMN (U.M. # 61) “Come, Thou Almighty
King”

(1) Come, thou almighty King, help us thy name to sing, help us to praise!
Father all glorious, o'er all victorious,
Come and reign over us, Ancient of Days!

(2) Come, thou incarnate Word, gird on thy mighty sword, our prayer attend!
Come, and thy people bless, and give thy word success;
Spirit of holiness, on us descend!

(3) Come, holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear in this glad hour.

*Thou who almighty art, now rule in every heart,
And ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power!*

(4) *To thee, great One in Three, eternal praises be, hence, evermore.
Thy sovereign majesty may we in glory see, and to eternity love and adore!*

INVITATION OF GOD’S PRESENCE

Offer your own “GOD IS GOOD” greeting to those seated nearby!

PRAISE SONG (T.F.W.S. # 2023) “How Majestic Is Your Name”

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your Name in all the earth!
O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your Name in all the earth!
O Lord we praise Your Name.
O Lord ... we magnify Your Name:
Prince of Peace, mighty God; O Lord God Almighty!

PRAISE HYMN (U.M. # 77) “How Great Thou Art”

(1) O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds thy hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the [rolling] thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed.
(R) Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee; how great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee; how great thou art, how great thou art!
(3) And when I think that God, his Son not sparing, sent him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, he bled and died to take away my sin **(Refrain)**

BODY BUILDING Joys, Announcements and testimonies of God’s grace

PRAYER CONCERNS

PRAYER SONG “Spirit Of The Living God”

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me.....mold me.....fill me.....use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

PRAYER

--- WE HEAR THE WORD ---

THE GOOD NEWS Ruth 1:1-

3

**“Now it came to pass in the days when the judges ruled,
that there was a famine in the land...”**

TODAY’S MESSAGE Mr. George Elliott

“Life’s Twists And Turns”

George is the Chair of Trustees here at Grace.

*He is very dedicated to the physical work of missions:
volunteering help in communities needing to re-build (floods, etc.)*

Pastor Mike appreciates the work done by his friend, in Mechanicsburg and beyond.

Mike and Linda will return next Sunday.

**CLOSING HYMN (U.M. # 430) “O Master, Let Me Walk With
Thee”**

- (1) O Master, let me walk with thee in lowly paths of service free;
Tell me thy secret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
- (2) Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear, winning word of love;
Teach me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way.
- (3) Teach me thy patience; still with thee in closer, dearer company,
In work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs over wrong;
- (4) In hope that sends a shining ray far down the future’s broadening way,
In peace that only thou canst give, with thee, O Master, let me live.

A BENEDICTION

We thank you for presenting your tithes and offerings in the plates found at the exits.

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This worship service is over. **NOW BEGINS** our Christian service in Jesus’ Name!

~~167~~

We are **not** on a “167-hour vacation from faith” after this worship ends. We show the grace daily!

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MINISTRY CHALLENGE Let’s pay attention to the needs in our neighborhoods. Do some folks need a helping hand? If some challenges there seem too big for you, maybe a few of your good church buddies could share that service work with you!

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LAST WEEK ... It’s bad to let your video camera fall into a big cup of water. We must “be careful” with what we value. Those who seek to bring honor and respect honor the Lord above all. Nobody’s more praiseworthy than our great God: above all the athletes and musicians we admire. We reverence Him for acts of power, majesty, integrity, wisdom and lovingkindness. Our respect for Him is seen in how we obey Him; we are NOT just hearers of The Word, we are ALSO doers! Believers glorify God in what they don’t do...staying pure in this world of decay. Those who need coaching in such things might simply be lacking core values. Hypocrites only pretend to honor God; their hearts are far removed from Him (Mt. 15:8-9). We don’t want to thumb our nose at God: He has meant so much to us! God has all the power in this life and the next, and certainly does not want to destroy any precious life This is why He gave us the loving Jesus, whom we must also honor if we claim to honor God (Jn. 5:22). Everything pales compared to knowing Him (Phil. 3:8). We are a “chosen people” (1 Pt. 2:9). Conservatives are considered “weird” today. Believers are “weird” in how they

honor God in giving, serving, praising, praying and (authentic) joy. God honors those who honor Him (1 Sam. 2:30). Let's bring creative NEW WAYS to honor God Himself!