

# *Grace* Presbyterian Church

**18 September 2022**

**9:30am**

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## **Come to Church Sunday**

*Rooted in Christ, We Gather in Spirit.  
Welcome to Worship!*



# We Gather

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>

God's faithfulness is as high as the clouds.

**God's love stretches everywhere.**

God's righteousness is as tall as the biggest mountains.

**God's love stretches everywhere.**

God's justice is as deep as the ocean.

**God's love stretches everywhere.**

God's love is big enough for everyone.

**God's love stretches everywhere.**

Come, let us worship the God whose gifts flow abundantly.

OPENING HYMN\*

*God Welcomes All*

No. 399 x3

PRAYERS OF APPROACH & CONFESSION<sup>2</sup>

God provides us more than we could ever need  
and yet often we are not satisfied:  
we want more.

**We hoard and do not share what we have.**

**We keep the best for ourselves, and offer the second best  
to God and to others.**

Sometimes we feel we are of little value,  
forgetting that God has invested God's very best  
in each one of us.

**Let us take a moment in silence to confess the times  
when we are wasteful,**

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<sup>1</sup> Seasons of the Spirit- January 16, 2022

<sup>2</sup> Seasons of the Spirit- January 16, 2022

**when we do not share,  
and when we do not recognize the many gifts  
that God gives to us.**

*(silent reflection)*

### WORDS OF AFFIRMATION<sup>3</sup>

The Bible tells us that all people may take refuge in the shadow of God's wings. Whatever we may have done wrong, when we turn to God, we find that we are welcomed, we are forgiven, and we are loved.

**Thanks be to God.**

### SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Called to be one in Christ Jesus, we are made to love one another in unity and grace.

Peace be with you!

**And also with you.**

### **We Reflect**

### A TIME FOR CHILDREN & THE YOUNG AT HEART

Hymn of Supplication\* *The Servant Song* No. 727

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION<sup>4</sup>

**Dear God, let us not only hear of you  
but see you with our own eyes through your Word.  
In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

OT SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Genesis 18: 1-8

NT SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Matthew 25: 31-40

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<sup>3</sup> Seasons of the Spirit- January 16, 2022

<sup>4</sup> Seasons of the Spirit- January 16, 2022

SERMON

***True Welcome***

Rev. Donald M. Pitches

## **We Respond**

HYMN of Praise\*

*Here in This Place*

No. 401

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord in your mercy/in thanksgiving,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Pastoral Prayer:

We are overflowing with the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

**For your abundant love which knows no bounds, we  
give you thanks, O God, as we pray together say;**

**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.**

### OUR GIFTS OF SACRIFICE and THANKSGIVING

#### *Invitation*<sup>5</sup>

We live in the wonderful reality of God's promise. We live in the joyous hope of God's new day. Let us give thanks to God as we share our gifts and make an offering.

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<sup>5</sup> Seasons of the Spirit- January 16, 2022

The ushers may come forward to receive today's offering.

*You can also give online by visiting the church website.*

*Musical Meditation Vince Dimura Musical Director*

*Doxology\**

No. 709

*Prayer of Dedication*<sup>\*6</sup>

Loving God, whose gifts are overflowing: as you have poured out love upon your people, so we seek to give back to you even a little of all you have given to us. Take and use the gifts you have entrusted to us, and which we now offer back to you, that we in turn might overflow with love for your world. **Amen.**

## **We Are Sent**

CLOSING HYMN\* *When Hands Reach Out*

No. 302

BENEDICTION\*

God has blessed us  
with an abundance of life.  
God's promise for the world  
is filled to the brim and overflowing.

God has blessed us  
with an abundance of hope.  
God's hope for the world

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<sup>6</sup> Seasons of the Spirit- January 16, 2022

is filled to the brim and overflowing.  
God has blessed us  
with an abundance of truth.  
God's truth for the world  
is filled to the brim and overflowing.

Go and offer the world  
God's abundant gifts  
there are more than enough.  
God's love for the world  
is filled to the brim and overflowing. Amen.

## POSTLUDE

***\*Indicates please stand in body and/or in spirit.***

*All songs not from Glory to God are used by permission of CCLI  
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