

Grace Presbyterian Church

September 20, 2026

9:30 am

WELCOME AND VISION STATEMENT

We are an open and affirming congregation.

**We genuinely welcome people of all ages,
races, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations, beliefs,
and those who are cognitively
and or physically challenged.**

Our vision is to be a community of love and purpose,
**each one engaged in ministry,
seeking to know Christ, growing in discipleship,
and embodying God's love for the world.**



"the Lord was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love"
Genesis 39:21

We Gather

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call to worship (based on Psalm 34)

I will bless the Beloved at all times;
a song of praise will I sing.

**My soul speaks to the Beloved continually
let all who suffer hear and be glad.**

O, open your hearts, friends, that your pain and
loneliness be turned to Love;

And then, we shall rejoice in the Beloved together!

When I searched for Love, the Beloved answered within
my heart, and all my fears flew away.

**Look to the Beloved, and your emptiness will be
filled, your face will radiate Love.**

For when you weep, the Beloved hears and comes to
companion you; your burdens are eased by Love.

**The Beloved sends angels when you call upon these
messengers for guidance and light, for their
gracious inspiration,**

One with Love, you are never alone!

Happy are all who dwell in the Beloved's heart!

Nan Merrill, Praying the Psalms

Hymn #621 "I Will Call Upon The Lord"

Call to Confession

We come before God with honest and contrite hearts,
trusting God whose love never fails us.

Prayer of Confession

Incarnate God

For the times we've hurt you

Forgive us

For the times we've hurt others

Forgive us

For the times we've hurt ourselves

Forgive us

For we are made in your image

and it is very good.

(time of silent prayer for personal confession)

Words of Assurance

Believe the good news of the gospel, God is with us at all times, loving, forgiving, and guiding us in life.

Amen.

Sung response #634 "To God Be the Glory" (verse 1 and refrain.

We Reflect

Prayer for Understanding

Compassionate God, all creation delights in your radiant presence of your Word.

May the authority of your Spirit

bring understanding into our confused minds

and truth into our troubled hearts,

that we may praise and serve Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

~ from a collection of prayers posted on the Worship@North website.

A Reading from Genesis 39

Sermon

Hymn: Joseph Was His Father's Favorite (vs 1-2)

Joseph's nights were filled with dreaming; in his mind, he'd always win.

Soon his brothers started scheming so they could get rid of him.

In a pit they took and threw him, then they sold him. Who could save?

To a land where no one knew him, he was taken as a slave.

Bought in Egypt, Joseph labored for a man named Potiphar.

In that house he soon was favored — once again, a rising star.

What went wrong? That star was falling — falsely charged and locked up tight.

In his dreams, he heard a calling in the middle of the night.

(BEACH SPRING 8.7.8.7 D, "God Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

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We Respond

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission is **to Know, Love, and Serve God**

Offertory Invitation

Prayer of Dedication

God, You heap your love upon us

like a parent providing for a family's needs,
embracing a child with tenderness.

Forgive us
when, like spoiled children,
we treat Your generosity as our right,
or hug it possessively to ourselves.

Give us enough trust to live secure in Your love
and to share it freely with others
in open-handed confidence
that Your grace will never run out. Amen.

~ Copyright © Jan Berry, England, in Bread of Tomorrow: Prayer for the Church

(Many thanks to all who contribute to the mission and
ministry of our church in offering plates during worship
and by electronic giving throughout the month).

Prayers of God's People (sharing of Joys and Concerns)
Lord, in your mercy/with thanksgiving,
Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

We Are Sent

Hymn#39 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

*Charge and Benediction

Mercy and compassion are Love's way;
May these guide our thoughts and our actions.
May we always recognize that
You are our peace, our hope, our life. Amen.

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Peace be with you!

And also with you.

(We invite you to offer a sign of peace to those around you and as you gather for fellowship. We remind you to ask what folks feel comfortable with...a verbal greeting, a handshake or fist bump, etc. Do not assume.)

***Indicates, please stand in body or spirit.**

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