

“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.” - *Hebrews 13:2*



3410 Lemay Ferry Road
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314-631-9217 <https://abftonpc.org/>

June 14, 2020 - Second Sunday After Pentecost

Meet with us online or via phone at 10 am:

[Click here to join via Zoom](#)

or call 312-626-6799 and when prompted enter the meeting ID: 942 617 477
and password 3410

On the phone, dial *6 to mute or unmute yourself.

Service for the Lord's Day

Words of Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

One: We come to worship our God,
who has done wonders in our lives.

**Many: God anoints us with joy and light,
gifts from the treasures of God's heart.**

One: We come to follow Jesus,
who bears our lives with grace and hope.

Many: Jesus would send us into the brokenness

of the world to bring healing.

One: We come to be touched by the Spirit,
who brings gentleness and peace for all.

**Many: The Spirit would enable us to offer
reconciliation and justice to everyone we meet.**

Hymn

"Amazing Grace"

1 Amazing grace how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

3 Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come:
'tis grace has brought me safe
thus far, and grace will lead me home.

4 The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

THANKSGIVING

649 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved. How pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come. 'Tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures. He will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found, was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

CHOCTAW

*Shilombish holitopa ma!
 Ishmminti pulla cha
 hatak ilbusha pia ha
 is pi yukpalashke.*

CREEK

*Po ya fek cha he thlat ah tet
 ah non ah cha pa kas
 cha fee kee o funnan la kus
 um e ha ta la yus.*

NAVAHO

*Nizhónítgo joo bá diits' a'
 yisdáshútínigí,
 lah yóóiyá, k'ad
 shénáhoosdzin,
 doo eesh'íy da ní'ée.*

As was his custom, the author wrote this hymn to accompany his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16–17, preached on January 1, 1773; he called it “Faith’s Review and Expectation.” Much of its current popularity comes from this now-familiar tune, an association that began in 1835.

Unison Prayer for Forgiveness

Creative and loving God, we confess our sin and the sin of this world. You have searched us out and known us and all that we are is open to you. We have sinned against each other giving in to fear, ignorance, and arrogance. We are stained by the sin of racism and fail to respect the gifts of all your peoples. We have used our power to dominate and our weakness to manipulate. We have evaded responsibility and failed to confront evil. We have denied dignity to ourselves and each other. Forgive us for what we have done to hurt others. Give us your blessing and help, so that we may walk in your great love; through the great peacemaker, your Son, Jesus Christ.

Let us confess our individual sins in silence. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Response

"Have Thine Own Way," verse 1

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!

Thou art the potter, I am the clay.

Mold me and make me after thy will,

while I am waiting, yielded and still.

Passing the Peace

One: The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

Many: and also with you.

One: Let us share a sign of Christ's peace.

Conversation with Children of God

You are a beloved child of God.

With you God is well pleased.

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture

Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, 'My lord, if I find favour with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little

bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.’ So they said, ‘Do as you have said.’ And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, ‘Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.’ Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, ‘Where is your wife Sarah?’ And he said, ‘There, in the tent.’ Then one said, ‘I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.’ And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, ‘After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?’ The Lord said to Abraham, ‘Why did Sarah laugh, and say, “Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?” Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son.’ But Sarah denied, saying, ‘I did not laugh’; for she was afraid. He said, ‘Oh yes, you did laugh.’

The Lord dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as he had promised. Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him. And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. Now Sarah said, ‘God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me.’ And she said, ‘Who would ever have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age.’

Matthew 25:31-46

‘When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for 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, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." 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? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

Sermon

Rev. Kathleen Henrion

Hymn

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

1 Precious Lord, take my hand
Lead me on, let me stand
I'm tired, I'm weak, I'm worn
Through the storm, through the night
Lead me on to the light
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home

2 When my way grows drear
precious Lord linger near
When my light is almost gone
Hear my cry, hear my call
Hold my hand lest I fall
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home

3 When the darkness appears
and the night draws near
And the day is past and gone

At the river I stand
Guide my feet, hold my hand
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home

4 Precious Lord, take my hand
Lead me on, let me stand
I'm tired, I'm weak, I'm worn
Through the storm, through the night
Lead me on to the light
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home

834 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand; lead me on, help me
2 When my way grows drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger

stand; I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
near; when my life is al - most gone,

Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I

light; take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.
fall; take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

This black gospel song, like much hymnody, sprang out of the author's deep personal loss (the death of his wife and newborn son), yet it has brought solace to many. He thought his fingers were playing new music, but they unlocked a deep memory of a tune almost a century old.

Affirmation of Faith From Confession of Belhar

We believe that God has revealed God's self as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people; that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream; that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged; that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others. Jesus is Lord.

Offering
[link](#)

If you would like to give electronically, [follow this link](#)

Checks may also be mailed to the church office

Response of Praise "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" verse 1

Come, ye thankful people, come,
raise the song of harvest home;
all is safely gathered in,
ere the winter storms begin.
God our Maker doth provide
for our wants to be supplied;
come to God's own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest home.

367 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit in thank-ful praise to yield,
 3 For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the har - vest home;
 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest home.

All is safe - ly gath - ered in, ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
 wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
 from each field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;
 Gath - er thou thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,

God, our Mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
 First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
 give the an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
 there for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy pres - ence to a - bide:

Come to God's own tem - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
 Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
 but the fruit - ful ears to store in God's gar - ner ev - er - more.
 come, with all thine an - gels, come; raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

Despite its familiar Thanksgiving associations, the real concern of this text is to recall the harvest imagery Jesus used to describe the fulfillment of God's sovereignty. The tune name commemorates the royal chapel where the composer was organist for forty-seven years.

Prayer of Dedication

We could be the healing for those who suffer; we could be the strength for those who long to endure; we could be the hope for those buffeted by the world, and so, we offer ourselves, as well as our gifts, in hopes that you will bless others who are in your heart. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

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.

Hymn "Lift Every Voice and Sing"

1 Lift ev'ry voice and sing,
Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith
that the dark past has taught us;
Sing a song full of the hope
that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun
Of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

2 Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the chast'ning rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat,
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our people sighed?
We have come over a way
that with tears has been watered;
We have come, treading our path
through the blood of the slaughtered;

Out from the gloomy past,
Till now we stand at last
Where the bright gleam of our bright star is cast.

3 God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
You who have brought us thus far on the way;
You who have by your might
Led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places,
our God, where we met you;
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine
of the world, we forget you;
Shadowed beneath your hand,
May we forever stand,
True to our God, true to our native land.

Charge and Benediction

Confession of Forgiveness from Grace Presbytery:

www.gracepresbytery.org/statement-of-solidarity/

Other Liturgy from Thom M. Shuman: lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com