



**The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Pride Sunday
Sunday, July 28, 2024
at 9:30am**

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

Prelude "Antiphon" - Calvin Hampton
(see bulletin note)

Welcome

The Lord be with you!
And also with you.

* **Call to Worship** *Adapted from Call to Worship
by Avery Arden with blessedarethebinarybreakers*

Gracious God,
in this time of worship and wonder, story and song
into which you have gathered us,

we marvel at the wondrous diversity of your human creation.
Each of us – Black, white, Latine, Asian, Indigenous, and beyond –
is an integral part of your magnificent spectrum.

You call us to join in joyous worship, just as we are.

Each of us – with our bodies of diverse shapes, sizes, and abilities – is
an integral part of your magnificent spectrum.

You call us Good, you call us whole and holy, just as we are.

Each of us – of all sexualities and genders, all these ways of being and
loving – is an integral part of your magnificent spectrum.

You call us to share the gifts you gave us, just as we are.

* **Hymn of Praise** All the Colors of the Rainbow Insert

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED

Prayer for Illumination *Adapted from Opening Prayer
by blessedarethebinarybreakers*

**O high eternal Divinity,
You who are both
Unknowable, Other, utterly Beyond all sense and space –
and Presence itself,
pervader of all things,
glimpsable**

**in every human face,
in the wheeling of the stars
and the miniscule machinations of ants –
In our worship & reflection on your Word, remind us of your
vastness.
Make room for our littleness.
Stoke in us a burning desire
not for easy answers
but for grace to guide our questioning;
not for light that forces out all shadow
but for the wisdom encountered only
by those who brave the stormy night.
Amen.**

Scripture Lesson Psalm 145:10-18 (NRSVUE)

Storytelling Carly Wolf

Chorus of Blessed Assurance No. 369

Storytelling Nate Nick

Chorus of Blessed Assurance No. 369

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S CALL

Prayer of Confession *Adapted from Confession:
our siblings and God’s world are suffocating by blessedarethebinarybreakers*

We pause in a time of silence for reflection and self-examination.

**We confess that we are bystanders and collaborators
in the stifling of God’s children –
not only on national and global scales
but even here in our own congregation.
Our society teaches us that to admit to being wrong
is a moral failing
instead of an act of courage,
so we stick to our side out of spite,
resisting repentance,
refusing reconciliation.
In our refusal to budge,
meanness and malice engulf us all.
Lord, we forget that we are one Body, your Body.
We forget that you call us not to complete
all the colossal tasks that stack up across the world,
but to do our small part, in our small place,
and to strive even when all seems hopeless.**

Assurance of Pardon

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Alleluia! Amen.

* **Sharing The Peace** *Let us offer one another covid-conscious signs
of reconciliation, love, and peace.*

* **Hymn** A Hymn for Self Acceptance Insert

Prayers of the People

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer. Amen.

Sharing our Tithes & Offerings

*At Grace, we practice giving our tithes and offerings by sharing
through plates distributed by ushers and also through giving online.
We pray that you experience God’s joy during this tangible act of giving today.*

Offertory "Lullaby" Hampton

* **Doxology** No. 95

* **Offertory Prayer** *In December of 2023, our church wrote prayers of Gratitude from Grace.
These prayers are shared weekly during our worship time of giving.*

WE DEPART TO SERVE

* **Hymn of Sending** For All the Children Insert

* **Benediction**

Postlude "Trumpet Tune" Calvin Hampton

*We invite you to be seated during this postlude time of meditation,
as we prepare our minds, bodies, and spirits to reenter a world that needs Grace.*

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Sound Board & Video - Hilary Holmes, Becky & Scout Reynolds
Worship Leader - Jamie McClung
Director of Music - Shelly Moorman-Stahlman
Storytellers - Carly Wolf & Nate Nick
Pastor - Anna Layman Knox

Bulletin Note: Our hymns this morning are taken from Songs for the Holy Other which was collected by the Hymn Society of America. The preface includes, "In our society and in our churches, we continue to build walls marking "out" and "in". We continue to mark boundaries of "us" and "them", of "normal" and "other". Songs for the Holy Other aims to provide congregations working to dismantle these walls with a toolbox of hymns by and for those who identify as members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, pansexual, transgender, nonbinary, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual, aromantic, two-spirit, and other sexual/gender minority (LGBTQIA2S+) community and their allies. For many members of the LGBTQIA2S+ community, assimilation is not an option; we continue to be othered for our identities, relationship-styles, dis/abilities, race, economic status, and more. The title, Songs for the Holy Other, is a selfconscious claiming of otherness as holy and beloved of God. We who have been labeled as "wholly other" are claiming our holiness, and reclaiming our otherness as a prophetic witness to the church. The gifts God has given us are not in spite of our otherness, our queerness, our LGBTQIA2S+ identities, but rather our identities are inextricably tied

up in our God-given gifts, and are, in and of themselves, a gift to the church, as we reflect the rainbow diversity of God's creation." The publishers, authors, and composers have graciously granted permission for use of any of the hymns in this collection at no royalty cost for a period of two months.

The prelude and postlude were written by Calvin Hampton (1938-1984), a leading American organist and church musician. From 1963-1983, he was the organist and choirmaster at Calvary Episcopal Church in New York City. His "Fridays at Midnight" organ recital series, which ran from 1974 to 1983, was among the most well-known organ recital series in America. Hampton contracted AIDS and died at the age of 45 at a time when the cause of death was not being publicized due to the stigma with the disease.

PRAYER CHAIN

We pray for the family of Vince Gonzales, a friend of Pastor Anna's from the General Commission on Religion & Race, who passed away last weekend swiftly following the diagnosis of an aggressive cancer. - 7/22

We lift up Claudia Lukert, as she recovers from hip replacement surgery. We give thanks for a smooth procedure and pray for a swift ongoing recovery. - 7/21

We pray for all of the individuals involved in this past weekend's three separate shooting incidents in our city. The third incident taking place outside our own doors on Sunday evening. Be with all of the family and friends of those involved in these coming days and weeks. May we continue to pray for the gun violence to cease and for peace to fill our streets and lives. - 6/25

We pray for Jaelin Palmer, as she recovers from a recent fall that resulted in over 20 stitches to her knee. We ask for swift restoration of full mobility and ease of movement. - 6/14

We lift up Andre Morriseau's friend, Karl Heithacker, who has had a stroke and is also suffering from brain cancer. May the peace of God sustain them. - 7/15

We continue to lift up Larry Coleman in prayer, as we have heard word that his illness has been caused by poison from rabbit tick that left him unable to stand and partially paralyzed. We praise God for the tremendous progress he has made in recovery and pray for continued patience, healing, and perseverance, as he continues with intensive therapy. - 7/22

We continue to pray for Carly Wolf, for ongoing relief from pain and hope for complicated health concerns. - 5/13

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Michael Kains - for cancer treatment
Carol Moore
Ed & Peggy Lucas

If you are aware of anyone homebound, please let the office know so we can see that they are cared for. Thank you!



OUR MISSION: We celebrate human diversity and affirm God's gifts of love and grace for ALL persons. Each of us is created in the image of God and is a child of God. We invite you, no matter your age, race, ethnicity, family structure, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental or physical ability, or economic situation, to be in ministry with us. We support the full participation of all persons in every phase of church life. We believe that at Grace Church you will experience our God who already knows you by name, loves you, and yearns to have an even closer relationship with you. As a Reconciling Congregation, our hearts, minds and doors are open, and we are blessed by your presence.

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LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

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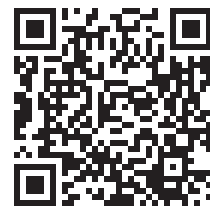
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SUNDAY, JULY 28, 2024

 **GRACE**
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH