



# **GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
September 8, 2024**

**Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Rev. Robin Palmer – Pastor

Jamie Clay – Director of Music Ministries

Brenda Davis - Organist

Martie Kullman – Handbell Choir Director



# GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)



September 8, 2024  
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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## ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

The People Gather and Welcome One Another

[Open us, Eternal God, to your Word read and proclaimed. Help us not to turn from your truth or avoid and distract ourselves from your message. Help us be receptive to the wisdom you offer in this worship moment. Amen.]

Prelude

Welcome and Invitation to Share in Our Life Together

(Please sign and pass the attendance register)

Introit

“Praise the Lord”

Natalie Sleeth

Call to Worship

Come, people of God. Come rich and poor alike.

**God is the maker of us all.**

Come and worship our generous God.

**God calls us to share this abundance.**

Come and worship the God who pleads our case.

**We worship with hearts and hands and voices**

**The God of all.**

Let us worship God!

✠ Hymn No. 262

“God of the Ages Whose Almighty Hand”

✠ Prayer of Confession

**Holy God, although we honor you with our words and worship, our hearts are often far from you. We are quick to judge, quick to exclude, quick to put others down instead of building them up. Forgive us, God. Help us amend our ways. Help us embrace the inclusive love you graciously offer us and expect us to offer others.**

✠ A Time of Silence for Private Confession

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✠ *Rise in body or in spirit*

✠ Hymn No. 572

“Lord Have Mercy Upon Us”

✠ Assurance of Forgiveness

✠ Hymn No. 579

“Glory Be to the Father”

Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the  
Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be - gin - ning, is  
now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men, A - men.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Glory Be to the Father" by Henry W. Greatorex (1851). It is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The score consists of three systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are: "Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men, A - men."

## PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

- |                              |                            |                      |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Old Testament Lesson         | Prov. 22: 1-2, 8-9, 22-23  | Bible Page 604, O.T. |
| Psalm 125, read responsively |                            | Bible Page 572, O.T. |
| Anthem                       | “Amazing Grace”            | arr. John Ness Beck  |
| Children’s Time              |                            |                      |
| New Testament Lesson         | Mark 7: 24-37              | Bible Page 42, N.T.  |
| Sermon                       | “Astounded Beyond Measure” | Rev. Robin Palmer    |
| Meditative Music             |                            |                      |

# RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

✠ Affirmation of Faith (Apostles' Creed – Traditional version) Hymnal, Page 14

✠ Hymn No. 434

"Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples"

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

(The congregation is invited to respond with "**Lord, hear our prayer.**")

Call to Prayer

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer (Traditional version)

Hymnal, Page 16

The Offering

Offertory

✠ Hymn No. 592

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

## Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all crea-tures

here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heaven - ly

host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1674  
MUSIC: Attr. to Louis Bourgeois, 1551

OLD 100th  
LM

## Offertory Prayer

### ✠ The Peace

Since God in Christ has given us peace, let us share that peace in the whole family of faith. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

(Share some sign of God's peace with those near you.)

## GO IN GOD'S NAME

### ✠ Hymn No. 386

"O for a World"

### ✠ Call to Service

May we leave this house of worship today,  
following God's Spirit into the world,

**calling us to an inclusive, barrier-breaking love.**

May the grace, hope, peace and love of God the Creator,  
Redeemer and Sustainer be with you now and always.

**Alleluia! Amen.**

### ✠ Benediction

"God Be With You Till We Meet Again" William G. Tomer

### ✠ Postlude

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OUR LITURGIST TODAY** is Judy Rich.

**FLOWERS** are given today to the Glory of God and by Rebecca Harbor Jones, in remembrance of September 9, 1964.

**ST. ELIZABETH FOOD DRIVE:** St. Elizabeth CPCA is holding a food drive to restore their food pantry. Please bring non-perishable food items and place them in the basket located in the Narthex.

**OFFICE HOURS:** Robin is in the office Mon-Thurs. 9:00am-3pm. Alex is in the office Wed. 9am to 2pm.

**OFFICE ADMINISTRATION FOR NORTH ALABAMA PRESBYTERY** part-time position is available. Ask Robin for details.

**SEPTEMBER 29th** we will be sharing gifts during worship, with a finger-food potluck after worship. After our potluck, we will also be setting up for the Amazing Grace Flea Market.

**THE AMAZING GRACE FLEA MARKET** will be October 5<sup>th</sup>. Please be watching for a Signup Genius to sign up for slots to help set up for the market the week before.

**LECTIONARY READINGS** for Next Week:

Prov. 1:20-33

Ps. 19

James 3:1-12

Mark 8:27-38

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## THIS WEEK AT GRACE

### Today, Sept 8

9:30–10:30 a.m.  
11:00 a.m.

### SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday School  
Worship (in-person and livestreamed)\*\*

### Tuesday, Sept 10

12:00 p.m.

Al-Anon (in person)

Donate to Grace Presbyterian now!



### Wednesday, Sept 11

6:30 p.m.

Handbell Choir rehearsal

### Thursday, Sept 12

4:00 p.m.

Barbershop Quartet rehearsal

7:00 p.m.

Voice Choir Rehearsal

### Sunday, Sept 15

9:30–10:30 a.m.

### SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

11:00 a.m.

Sunday School  
Worship (in-person and livestreamed)\*\*

12:00 p.m.

Round Table & Team Meetings

Grace Presbyterian supports the following ministries: The Vine Pastoral Counseling Center, Enable of Madison County, Presbyterian Home for Children, and St. Elizabeth Food Bank. The produce from the Harvest of Grace Community Garden is donated to the hungry of Madison County.

**\*\* Hearing devices, large print bulletins, and large print hymnals are available upon request. After the service, copies of sermons are available upon request.**

Grace Presbyterian Church (USA)  
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(256) 722-0508

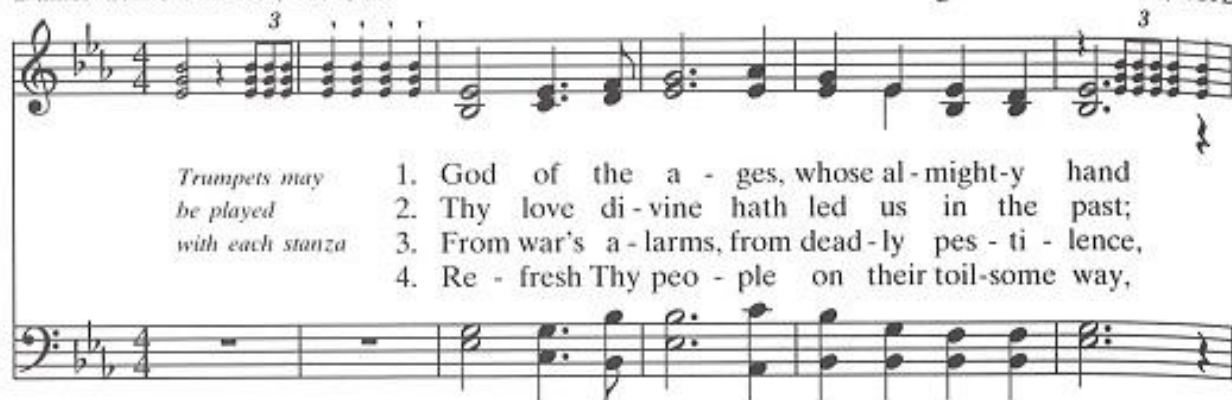
Rev. Robin Palmer, Pastor – email: [pastor@gracepcusa.org](mailto:pastor@gracepcusa.org)  
Office Administrator, Alex Ford – email: [secretary@gracepcusa.org](mailto:secretary@gracepcusa.org)  
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## 262 God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

NATIONAL HYMN 10.10.10

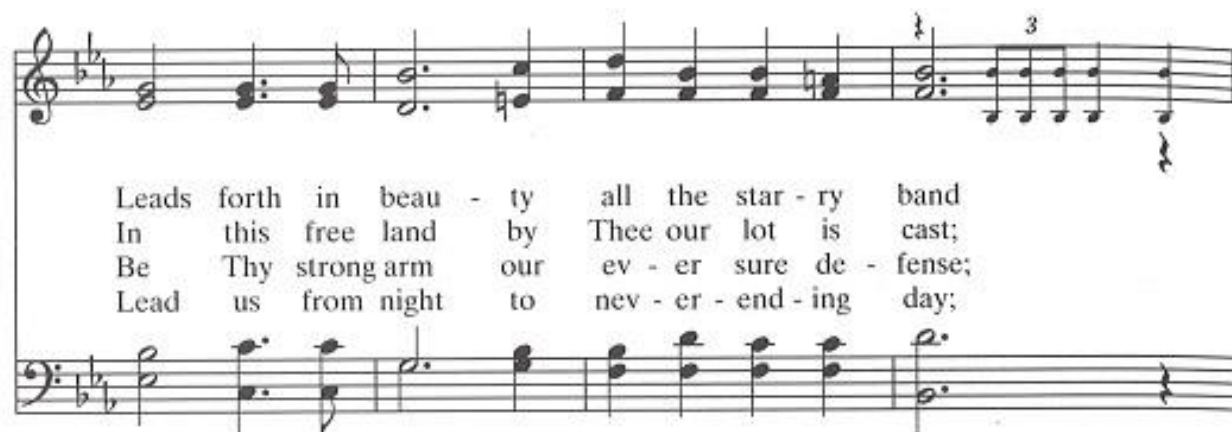
Daniel Crane Roberts, 1876; alt.

George William Warren, 1892



*Trumpets may  
be played  
with each stanza*

1. God of the a - ges, whose al - might - y hand
2. Thy love di - vine hath led us in the past;
3. From war's a - larms, from dead - ly pes - ti - lence,
4. Re - fresh Thy peo - ple on their toil - some way,



Leads forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band  
In this free land by Thee our lot is cast;  
Be Thy strong arm our ev - er sure de - fense;  
Lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day;



Of shin - ing worlds in splen - dor through the skies,  
Be Thou our rul - er, guard - ian, guide, and stay;  
Thy true re - li - gion in our hearts in - crease;  
Fill all our lives with love and grace di - vine,



Our grate - ful songs be - fore Thy throne a - rise.  
Thy word our law, Thy paths our cho - sen way.  
Thy boun - teous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.  
And glo - ry, laud, and praise be ev - er Thine.



## Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples 434

KINGSFOLD CMD

H. Kenn Carmichael, 1985

*English Country Songs*, 1893  
Arr. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

1. To - day we all are called to be Dis - ci - ples of the Lord,  
2. God made the world and at its birth Or - dained our hu - man race  
3. Pray jus - tice may come roll - ing down As in a might - y stream,  
4. May we in ser - vice to our God Act out the liv - ing Word,

To help to set the cap - tive free, Make plow - share out of sword,  
To live as stew - ards of the earth, Re - spond - ing to God's grace.  
With righ - teous - ness in field and town To cleanse us and re - deem.  
And walk the road the saints have trod Till all have seen and heard.

To feed the hun - gry, quench their thirst, Make love and peace our fast,  
But we are vain and sad - ly proud, We sow not peace but strife,  
For God is long - ing to re - store An earth where con - flicts cease,  
As stew - ards of the earth may we Give thanks in one ac - cord

To serve the poor and home - less first, Our ease and com - fort last.  
Our dis - cord spreads a dead - ly cloud That threat - ens all of life.  
A world that was cre - at - ed for A har - mo - ny of peace.  
To God who calls us all to be Dis - ci - ples of the Lord.

# O for a World

386

AZMON CM

Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828  
Arr. Lowell Mason, 1839

Miriam Therese Winter, 1987



1. O for a world where ev - ery - one Re - spects each oth - er's ways,
2. O for a world where goods are shared And mis - er - y re - lieved,
3. We wel - come one world fam - i - ly And strug - gle with each choice
4. The poor are rich, the weak are strong, The fool - ish ones are wise.



Where love is lived and all is done With jus - tice and with praise.  
Where truth is spo - ken, chil - dren spared, E - qual - i - ty a - chieved.  
That o - pens us to u - ni - ty And gives our vi - sion voice.  
Tell all who mourn; Out - casts be - long, Who per - ish - es will rise.



5. O for a world preparing for  
God's glorious reign of peace,

Where time and tears will be no more,  
And all but love will cease.

Alternate version, 466

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