



Sunday, September 24, 2023

9:30 AM Worship Service

*The Seventeenth Sunday
after Pentecost*

Welcome and Invocation

Gathering Song: Earth and All Stars

LSB #817
vs. 1, 3-6

ALL: 1 Earth and all stars!
Loud rushing planets!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Oh, victory!
Loud shouting army!
Sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain: He has done marvelous things.
I too will praise Him with a new song!

ALL: 3 Trumpet and pipes!
Loud clashing cymbals!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Harp, lute, and lyre!
Loud humming cellos!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

MEN ONLY: 4 Engines and steel!
Loud pounding hammers!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Limestone and beams!
Loud building workers!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

WOMEN ONLY: 5 Classrooms and labs!

Loud boiling test tubes!

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Athlete and band!

Loud cheering people!

Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

ALL: 6 Knowledge and truth!

Loud sounding wisdom!

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Daughter and son!

Loud praying members!

Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

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Confession & Absolution

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Holy and gracious God,

C: I confess that I have sinned against You. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.

P: By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. We rest now in His peace and rise in the morning to serve Him.

C: Amen.

Share Grace

Baptisms of Brigid Vance & Clair Vance:

Parents: Anthony Blake Vance

& Shannon Nicole Edgar

Baptismal Friends: Children of Grace

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.



First Reading

Genesis 39:4-6, 19-23

- 4 Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant. Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned.
- 5 From the time he put him in charge of his household and of all that he owned, the Lord blessed the household of the Egyptian because of Joseph. The blessing of the Lord was on everything Potiphar had, both in the house and in the field.
- 6 So he left in Joseph's care everything he had; with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate. Now Joseph was well-built and handsome
- 19 When his master heard the story his wife told him, saying, "This is how your slave treated me," he burned with anger.
- 20 Joseph's master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined. But while Joseph was there in the prison,
- 21 the Lord was with him; he showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden.
- 22 So the warden put Joseph in charge of all those held in the prison, and he was made responsible for all that was done there.
- 23 The warden paid no attention to anything under Joseph's care, because the Lord was with Joseph and gave him success in whatever he did.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 20:1-16

- 1 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire men to work in his vineyard.
- 2 He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.
- 3 "About the third hour he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing.
- 4 He told them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.'
- 5 So they went.
- 6 "He went out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour and did the same thing. About the eleventh hour he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, 'Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?'
- 7 " 'Because no one has hired us,' they answered. "He said to them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard.'
- 8 "When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.'
- 9 "The workers who were hired about the eleventh hour came and each received a denarius.

- 10 So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius.
- 11 When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner.
- 12 'These men who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.'
- 13 "But he answered one of them, 'Friend, I am not being unfair to you. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius?'
- 14 Take your pay and go. I want to give the man who was hired last the same as I gave you.
- 15 Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?'
- 16 "So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Series Song: Children of the Heavenly Father

LSB #725
vs. 1-4

Children of the heav'nly Father
Safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven
Such a refuge e'er was given.

God His own doth tend and nourish;
In His holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things He spares them;
In His mighty arms He bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord His children sever;
Unto them His grace He showeth,
And their sorrows all He knoweth.

Though He giveth or He taketh,
God His children ne'er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy.

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Message: "God's Sub-Creators" - Pastor Doug Widger

Connection Points

Offering

Offering Song: Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

LSB #806

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given
Jesus Christ His Son. (2x)

And now let the weak say "I am strong,"
Let the poor say "I am rich,"
Because of what the Lord has done for us. (2x)

Give thanks, give thanks.

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Prayers of the Church

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Ways to Follow Jesus

Benediction

P: "May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing His will, and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." (*Hebrews 13:20-21*) Go in peace. You are God's gifted people!

C: Thanks be to God!

Sending Song: All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

LSB #549
vs. 1-5

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem and crown Him Lord of all.
[Bring forth the royal diadem and crown Him Lord of all.]

Crown Him, ye martyrs of our God, Who from His altar call;
Extol the stem of Jesse's rod and crown Him Lord of all.
[Extol the stem of Jesse's rod and crown Him Lord of all.]

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race, Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him who saves you by His grace and crown Him Lord of all.
[Hail Him who saves you by His grace and crown Him Lord of all.]

Hail Him, ye heirs of David's line, Whom David Lord did call,
The God incarnate, man divine, And crown Him Lord of all.
[The God incarnate, man divine, And crown Him Lord of all.]

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget the wormwood and the gall,
Go, spread your trophies at His feet and crown Him Lord of all.
[Go, spread your trophies at His feet and crown Him Lord of all.]

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EMBRACE *Grace*

SUPPORT GROUPS

Support groups for young single moms and dads are now forming. Is this a ministry you feel called to help with? Please let Nancy Grieser, Gary White, or Serena Pace know if you would like to help. There are many ways to serve in this ministry.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

- Donate a gift for the baby shower (item or monetary)
- Assist with the baby shower
- Assist with the Embrace Legacy Night Out event
- Be a prayer warrior!
- Bring a meal or snacks to the group one night.
- Use a Thrivent Action Team card.



Special Meetings - Sanctuary Renovation

- Sunday, October 1st – *Congregational Meeting*
Lunch at 12:00 pm (following Life Groups),
Meeting at 12:30 pm. in the Gym
- Sunday, October 15th – *Special Voters' Meeting*
12:00 pm in the Gym (following Life Groups)

Music Ministry

Bells and choir reconvened in late August. Rehearsals are held Wednesday evenings, with Bells at 6:30 pm and Choir at 7:30 pm. Here is the planned rehearsal schedule for the next year:



FALL 2023 Season:

Last rehearsal - 12/20/2023

* no rehearsal the week of Thanksgiving (11/22/2023)

SPRING 2024 Season:

First Rehearsal - 1/17/2024; Last rehearsal - 4/24/2024

* no rehearsal on Ash Wednesday/Valentine's Day (2/14/24)

* no rehearsal the week after Easter (4/3/2024)

Come join us as we make music to the Lord, and contact Will Land at wland@grace.lc if you have any questions!



COME JOIN THE FUN! OCTOBER 29, 3-5 PM RAIN OR SHINE INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!

We are in need of the following:
Candy, Decorated Trunks, Cool Cars,
Parking Lot Attendants, Food Prep and Food
Table Volunteers, Games/Crafts Volunteers,
Prayer Partners, People to pass out flyers
and **make Goody Bags on Sunday, Oct. 8**
(following Bible Study—Lunch provided),
Set Up and Clean Up Crews, Bathroom
Monitors, Greeters and Runners.

Contact Serena at space@grace.lc for
details and watch for volunteer sign up!

~ Sundays @ 10:45 a.m. ~

- ♦ Life Groups - Gym
- ♦ Jim Runzheimer's Bible Class - Fireside Room
- ♦ Grace Youth (Grades 9-12) - Youth Shed
- ♦ Grace Youth (Grades 6-8) - Meeting Room 4
- ♦ Grace Kids (preschool 3's - grade 6)
- Preschool Wing Classrooms
- ♦ Babies/Toddlers - Nursery

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 24, 2023

- 9:30 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary
- 10:45 AM Life Groups
- 10:45 AM Jim Runzheimer's Bible Class - Fireside Room

Tuesday, September 26, 2023

- 6:30 PM Embrace Legacy - Library
- 7:30 PM Community Basketball - Gym

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

- 9:30 AM Braille (Cross of Christ) - Braille Room: MR1
- 6:30 PM ESL Classes
- 6:30 PM Embrace Grace Group - Meeting Room 2
- 6:30 PM Joybells Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal - Music Room

Saturday, September 30, 2023

- 9:00 AM Altar Guild

Women's Prayer Gathering

"For when two or more are gathered in my name, I am there among them." *Matthew 18:20*

Women of Grace - come join us and invite others for a prayer gathering on **Saturday, September 30th from 9:00 - 11:00 am**. Come expecting worship, prayer, discussion, and a light breakfast.

Register by Sunday, September 24th, and bring your Bible and a journal! For additional information, please contact the church office.



Sunday, October 1, 2023

- 9:30 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary
- 10:45 AM Life Groups
- 10:45 AM Jim Runzheimer's Bible Class - Fireside Room
- * Sanctuary Renovation Congregational Forum: Lunch at 12:00 pm, followed by Meeting at 12:30 pm in the Gym

MUSIC LESSONS COMING SOON!

Open to all ages and skill levels, and available for guitar, voice, or violin. [Contact the church office](#) to get in touch with the instructors or write your information on the interest forms in the lobby/narthex.

ESL Ministry

Classes began Wednesday, September 6, 6:30 - 8:00 pm, through mid-May. We follow the Arlington ISD Calendar for Holidays. Childcare is provided.

The ESL program has created the opportunity for mission outreach. Interested in serving? Knowing the Spanish language is not necessary to help. You can serve in the following ways.

- Serve or provide snacks - Wednesdays, 7:15-7:45 pm
- Serve as a Teachers' Aid or Substitute for our 3 class levels (beginner, intermediate & advanced classes)
- Greet
- Childcare Substitute

Material and guidance will be provided. You can serve for a short time in some roles, or all year. Please let us know if you feel the call to help serve in our effort to reach our Hispanic Community and beyond! Send an email to Pastor Juan at izamora@grace.lc or Deaconess Alma at azamora@grace.lc.

ELDERS AND THEIR ASSIGNED MEMBERS

Ernie Owens	A-B
Hank Jacobs	C-E
David Swille	F-H
Mike Kennedy	I-L
Mike Curtis	M-O
Ernie Owens	P-R
Joe Masterson	S
Jim Schmidt	T-Z
Head Elder:	
Joe Masterson	



210 W. Park Row Dr., Arlington, TX 76010
817.274.1626 online @ grace.lc

Pastor Doug Widger, Lead Shepherd
Pastor Steve Roth, Community Care
Dr. Serena Pace, DCE, Director of Ministries
Ms. Jennifer Chavez, Director of Early Education
Rev. Dr. Russell Hildebrandt, Pastor Emeritus



Sermon Series & Life Groups



GIFTED – that is what we are! Called out and special people – creatures living under a generous creator. We are given many amazing gifts, including eternal life! We use these gifts to serve Him! This Fall we'll explore seven of these gifts together in our Sunday morning

messages, small groups at 10:45 am in the Gym, and home study. Visit grace.lc/gifted to access the study online, or pick up a printed copy in the Lobby/Narthex. Join us for this "ALL IN" time of learning, fellowship, and growth.

Each week we will anchor in a Bible passage and then expand out from that single passage to some related passages which help us explore a certain area of our giftedness from the Almighty Creator. Over the course of seven weeks, we will begin to understand, believe, remember and do ministry because of these gifts. Our topics are as follows:

Week 1-Sept. 10: Ephesians 2:8-10 – *The Gift of Grace*
Week 2-Sept. 17: Romans 12:3-8 – *Your Spiritual Gifts*
Week 3-Sept. 24: Genesis 39:4-6, 19-23

– *Wow, God's Gifted Me*

Week 4-Oct. 1: Matthew 25:14-30 – *Your Bag of Gifts*

Week 5-Oct. 8: 2 Corinthians 9:7

– *Gifted for Generosity*

Week 6-Oct. 15: Philipians 2:14-18 – *Gifted for Love*

Week 7-Oct. 22: 1 Peter 1:3-9 – *Gifted for His Glory*

- Pastor Doug Widger

Soccer Ministry

Our soccer ministry is looking for volunteers to help coach our new team - FC Grace!

No prior coaching experience is necessary, just a willingness to learn and a desire to help our players develop their skills both on and off the field. [Contact the church office](#) to get involved.

