

Welcome to Grace United Methodist Church!!

Sunday – July 16, 2023 – 9:00 am



Meditation Verse: *“Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.” – Matthew 13:8*

Grace United Methodist Church

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Pastor John Britt

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Check us out on Facebook!

Church Staff:

Pastor
Office Administrator
Children's Ministry
Youth Ministry
Financial Administrator
Custodian
Digital Campus Host
Audio/Visual
Lay Leader
Pianist

John Britt
Phyllis Stevens
Kelly Carter

Cindy Puckett
Barb Walker
Kristin Britt
Steve Hilton
Mike Marsland
Julie Marsland

Order of Worship

*Welcome and Opening Prayer

Call to Worship:

Leader: Come, let us worship God!

People: Come, let us worship our Creator!

Leader: God is the great Sower, scattering seeds of life and abundance across the earth.

People: We are the soil the Sower plants, created to nurture and sustain the seeds of God's life-giving love.

Leader: God is the great Gardener, tilling and cultivating our soil with love and grace.

People: We notice the rocks and thorns in our soil and call on the Gardener's love and grace to transform us into good soil.

Leader: God is the great Life-giver, sowing seeds and tending the soil to produce the fruit of abundant life.

People: May we nurture and grow God's new reality, bearing the fruit of flourishing and abundance for all God's creation. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

*Hymn # 454 – Open My Eyes, That I May See

Scriptures: Genesis 24:19-34, and Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

*Hymn #707 – Hymn of Promise

Kids Message

Message: "Seeds in the Dirt"

The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

- Song: From the Inside Out

Morning Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Announcements

*Closing Songs:

- Come, Now Is the Time to Worship
- Jesus Is the Answer/Seek Ye First

*Blessing

(*Please stand if you are able.)

GPS – Grow, Pray, Study

1) *Grow*. As you think about the soil types, which type are you going to be? What step(s) are needed to become this soil type?

2) *Pray*. Where might you have the opportunity to plant seeds this week? Pray for the Spirit to guide you to plant seeds in another's soil.

3) *Study*. Read Genesis 27:1-40. What insight does this give you into the family dynamics around Jacob? How might it affect his future decisions?

Next Week's Lectionary Readings:

Genesis 28:10-19a

Psalms 139:1-12, 23-24

Romans 8:12-25

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

To go a little deeper with these readings each day this week, please go to:
pastorjohnb.org

Next Sunday's Message: "Shine Like the Sun" - Throughout the Bible we see God calling and then equipping people whose flaws were as obvious as their strengths. That is good news for us! As we plumb the scriptures, we are continually surprised at what God's grace can do and for whom. We never know who we might see shining like the sun. Jacob, while running for his life, lays down and has a whopper of a dream. His broken dreams are given new hope and new life because he learned that God was with him. In the gospel text we are reminded that we are not equipped to see the depths of anyone's heart. We'll explore many blind spots as a means to remember that God alone is the judge. Our call is to live so that others see the power of God's grace at work in our lives, allowing us to shine like the sun.

This Week at Grace

- Wednesday - 1:30 PM – Midweek Chat – Fellowship Hall
- 5:30 PM – Discipleship Small Group
- Thursday - 5:30 PM – Men’s Group – Fellowship Hall
- Friday - 6:30 AM – Women’s Study – Fellowship Hall

Announcements:

The July Mission of the Month goes to the “Clothe-A-Kid”.

This ministry provides students, K-8, with clothes and other necessary school items.

Please consider signing up to serve on a Sunday morning. Simply choose a Sunday that is convenient for you and sign up on the sheets opposite the drinking fountains! Thank you for serving.

May God Bless you throughout the coming week!!