

## Welcome to Grace United Methodist Church!!

Sunday – August 6, 2023 – 9:00 am



**Meditation Verse:** *"This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves."* – Matthew 14:15

### Grace United Methodist Church

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Pastor John Britt

(605) 787-2414 | [pastorjohnbritt@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjohnbritt@gmail.com)

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

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

## Order of Worship

\*Welcome and Opening Prayer

### Call to Worship:

Leader: Beloved disciples, welcome. Some of us come weary and hungry, while others come rested and content. Still others come ready to wrestle with the questions that keep us up at night. No matter how you enter this space, we say,

**People: Come, let us worship God together!**

Leader: Together, we notice the fatigue we carry, the exhaustion that comes from our hunger for care and connection with one another and with God. Yet, when God says to feed one another, we answer,

**People: We have nothing but...**

Leader: Together, we feel the unrest and turmoil of grappling with the unknown, unsure whether we are fighting for everyone's well-being or merely our own stability. Yet, when God tells us to start by loving God and our neighbors, we answer,

**People: We have nothing but...**

Leader: Together, then, let us wrestle with our hungers that we may be transformed into people who seek and find God all around us, so that when God calls us to feed the hungry and struggle for those in need of help, we answer,

**People: In you, we have everything. Use us as you will. Amen.**

\*Passing of the Peace

\*Hymn #277 – Tell Me the Stories of Jesus

Scriptures: Genesis 32:22-31 and Matthew 14:13-21

\*Song: Your Great Name

Kids Message

Message: "Wrestling with Our Hunger"

Holy Communion and the Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings  
- Hymn #625 - Come, Let Us Eat

Morning Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Announcements

\*Closing Songs:

- Reckless Love
- More Love, More Power

\*Blessing                      (\*Please stand if you are able.)

### **GPS – Grow, Pray, Study**

1) *Grow*. When have you most recently wrestled with God? What positive changes or new growth *did you experience as a result of this encounter with God?*

2) *Pray*. Inside all of us is a little Jacob – scheming, greedy, worried. What do you need to give up to God to walk more faithfully in the weeks ahead?

3) *Study*. Read Genesis 35:1-4. God leads Jacob back to Bethel, where he first met God. What does God ask Jacob and family to do to prepare to return to Bethel?

### **Next Week's Lectionary Readings:**

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28  
Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b  
Romans 10:5-15  
Matthew 14:22-33

To go a little deeper  
with these readings  
each day this week,  
please go to:  
[pastorjohnb.org](http://pastorjohnb.org)

**Next Sunday's Message:** "What Are You Searching For?" - We go from "What are you hungry for?" to "What is the vision that we move towards?" Put another way, what would our community look like if we really believed what we say about Jesus and about grace and salvation? ...

To that end we ask that God would open our eyes to our shortcomings and blind spots. In Joseph's story we see terrible family dynamics unfolding while God seems absent. And yet God watches over him again and again. In Peter we see another who desperately needs the Lord to reach out, to save him as he sinks beneath the waves. When Jesus says, "You of little faith," maybe he was speaking of Peter getting out of the boat?

### This Week at Grace

- Wednesday - 1:30 PM – Midweek Chat – Fellowship Hall
- Wednesday – 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:**

Our August Mission of the Month is for UMCOR kits.

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!!**