

Welcome to Grace United Methodist Church!!

Sunday – July 30, 2023 – 9:00 am



Meditation Verse: *"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field." – Matthew 13:44*

Grace United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 265 | Piedmont, SD 57769

(605) 787-4858 | www.gracepiedmont.com
gumc@midconetwork.com

Pastor John Britt

(605) 787-2414 | 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

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

Order of Worship

*Welcome and Opening Prayer

Call to Worship:

Leader: We come to worship the Triune God who creates, redeems, and sustains us all.

People: We come to worship God who never leaves us and yet whose purposes often seem hidden.

Leader: As the bulb hides the flower, as the seed hides the tree, as the cocoon hides the butterfly, so too does God bring forth life even when we cannot see it.

People: We gather today to learn how to watch, wait, and anticipate the season when God's unrevealed work will come into the open.

Leader: As silence gives way to song, as night gives way to dawn, as the past flows through the present into the future, so too does God tirelessly persist in bringing about the abundant life of the kingdom of heaven.

People: We gather today to learn how to join in God's dance as partners who prepare for the season when God's unrevealed work comes into the open.

Leader: As our end meets our beginning, as our time meets infinity, as our doubt meets our believing, so too does God meet our brokenness with persevering love, unfolding a new reality of flourishing for all creation.

People: We gather today to learn how to love as God loves so that we may be part of bringing God's unrevealed work into the open. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

*Hymn #144 – This Is My Father's World

Scriptures: Genesis 29:15-28 & Matthew 13:31-33 & 44-52

*Hymn #139 – Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Kids Message

Message: "Hidden and Mixed In"

The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings
- Song: Love the Lord

Morning Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Announcements

*Closing Songs:
- Sweetly Broken
- My Lighthouse

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

GPS – Grow, Pray, Study

1) *Grow*. When in your life have you realized you've been looking in the same ways with the same results? In your spiritual life, what steps can you take to change things up and see Gods new creation differently?

2) *Pray*. Pray that God would open your eyes to hidden and mixed in manifestations of Gods new creation all around us.

3) *Study*. Read Genesis 29:15-28. As you do, think about each character, their emotions, thoughts, actions, and reactions that are clearly stated, implied or not recorded. Gods does not desire hurt and pain in our lives but can and will continue to work in those moments. Where do we see God working through this passage and the stories that spring from it (the 12 sons of Jacob, Joseph, etc)?

Next Week's Lectionary Readings:

Genesis 32:22-31
Psalm 17:1-7, 15
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:13-21

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

Next Sunday's Message: "Wrestling with our Hunger" - We wrestle with the question of hunger this week. It is part of being human, whether we're talking physical or spiritual or emotional hunger. In our Genesis text Jacob is hungry for family connection, for a sense of belonging. He wrestles with God before crossing the river to face Esau. Refusing to let go, Jacob is blessed by God. In our gospel text Jesus forces the disciples to wrestle with the hunger of the crowd in the deserted place. They worry that they don't have enough. This too can be our worry when God places a need before us. As we wrestle with and come to a place of meeting those needs, we too will be blessed as we encounter Christ in the ones right before us.

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:

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. Shopping day is August 19 from 8:00 -10:00 AM. Volunteers are needed.

The August Mission of the month will be 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!!