

Welcome to Grace United Methodist Church!!

Sunday – December 4, 2022 – 9:00 am



Meditation Verse: : *“On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.” - Isaiah 11:10*

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

Pianists

John Britt

Phyllis Stevens

Kelly Carter

Cindy Puckett

Barb Walker

Kristin Britt

Steve Hilton

Mike Marsland

Lisa Teachout

and Julie Marsland

Order of Worship

*Welcome and Opening Prayer

Advent Candle Lighting:

Reader One: "They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious."

Reader Two: We are the followers of that root of Jesse Isaiah spoke of. We are the ones who are now called to stand as a signal to the world, to all of creation, that peace is the will of the one who created us. Peace is the knowledge of the Lord that we proclaim from sea to shining sea.

Reader One: "In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea proclaiming. "Repent for the kingdom of heaven has come near." And "bear fruit worthy of repentance."

Reader Two: We light these candles, the candle of joyful hope and the candle of proclaimed peace, in part to remind ourselves that we are a people rising toward God's promise. But we also light them as a sign to the world, an announcement there are some who hold on to hope and there are some who work the ways of peace. We stand as a sign that Emmanuel is still our fervent prayer.

- Advent Song - Verses 1 and 2

Call to Worship:

Leader: Cut off from home and heritage, cut down to build somebody else's prosperity, Lord we come.

People: Cut off from songs, traditions, and culture that kept us together for so long, Lord we come.

Leader: Cut off by a world that expects more misery and more money, Lord we come.

People: Cut off by systems that delight in evil and ignore righteousness, Lord we come.

Leader: But because we serve God who judges people like us with righteousness, God will send a righteous judge, like a shoot out of a stump.

People: Because God is with us, the wolf will dwell with the lamb, like a shoot out of a stump.

Leader: Let your spirit of wisdom and understanding rise up in us, like a shoot out of a stump.

People: We expect you to help us grow powerful and united, righteous and holy, even in a sinful world, like a root out of a stump.

*Opening Hymn: #155 - All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

*Passing of the Peace

Scriptures: Isaiah 11:1-10, Romans 15:4-13, Matthew 3:1-12

Kids Message

Message: "Stand as a Signal"

Holy Communion and the Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings
- Song: Through It All

Morning Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

*Closing Songs:

- Burning in My Soul & God of This Valley

*Announcements

*Blessing

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

GPS – Grow, Pray, Study

- 1) *Grow.* This week, what good fruit can you bear in your life? Specifically, how can you bring another peace or hope or joy? Maybe all three?
- 2) *Pray.* Where do you need the one who “baptizes with fire” to “burn away the chaff” of your life? Invite Jesus to do just that this week.
- 3) *Study.* Read Matthew 11:25-30. This somewhat contrasts with the idea of one who baptizes with fire. How can Jesus be both fire and rest for the weary? How can he be the greatest in the kingdom and also gentle and humble in heart?

Next Week's Lectionary Readings:

Isaiah 35:1-10

Matthew 11:2-11

James 5:7-10

Luke 1:46b-55

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

Next Sunday's Message: "The Lord's

Highway" - We are invited to travel the Lord's highway, to work towards our destination as the people of God. Psalm 146 reminds us that even though we may feel in a place of exile or of uncertainty, God is right there, all the time. Isaiah also reminds us of this truth. Written during the time in exile, Isaiah speaks of hope and of their return from exile. The return will be upon the Lord's Highway – a way that is safe and secure, a way of beauty and joy. Emmanuel, God with us, walks the road with us and invites us to ask others to join us on this road.

This Week at Grace:

- Sunday – 8:00 AM – Adult Sunday School –Education Wing
- Sunday – 6:00 PM – Youth Group – Fellowship Hall
- Monday – 3:00 PM – After School Program
- Tuesday – 3:00 PM – Art with Heart
- Tuesday – 6:00 PM – Grief Support Group – Church
- Wednesday – 1:00 PM – Grief Support Group – Piedmont CC
- Wednesday – 6:00 PM – Grace Small Group – Fellowship
- Thursday – 5:30 PM – Men's Study – Fellowship Hall
- Friday – 6:30 AM – Women's Study – Fellowship Hall

Announcements:

Our December Mission is our Piedmont Valley Schools.

There is information for several holiday events on the bulletin board. Check them out!

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!

May God Bless you throughout the coming week!!