

9:00 am Contemporary Worship Service

Welcome and Announcements

Reverend Megan Barber

†Praise and Worship Time

Praise Band

“Less Like Me”
“Holy Water”
“Forever Reign”

Children’s Message

Anna Marie Rainwater

Children’s Busy Bags are available in the Gathering Area outside the Sanctuary. Children’s Church is offered for children ages 4 - 3rd Grade.

Prayers of the People

Reverend Megan Barber

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 for ever. Amen.

Scripture Reading: Acts 8:26-40

Reverend Bryan Sisson

Pastor: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Message: “A Kingdom of Compassion and Openness”

Reverend Bryan Sisson

Offering of our Gifts

†Closing Song

Praise Band

“Why Me Lord”

†Blessing and Sending Forth

Reverend Bryan Sisson

†Please stand as you are able

Today’s Scripture

²⁶ Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road - the desert road - that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” ²⁷ So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians. This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, ²⁸ and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. ²⁹ The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.” ³⁰ Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked. ³¹ “How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³² This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading: “He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before the shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth. ³³ In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth.” ³⁴ The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?” ³⁵ Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶⁽³⁷⁾ As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?” ³⁸ And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. ³⁹ When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰ Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

Acts 8:26-40, Today’s NIV

11:00 am Traditional Worship Service

Responsive Call to Worship

Reverend Megan Barber

Pastor: O let us give thanks to the Lord.

People: For the love of God will never end.

Pastor: Let us who love God be unashamed to declare it.

People: Because God has answered our cries for help.

Pastor: The Lord our God has met our every need.

People: We will therefore proclaim the love of the Lord!

Musical Invitation: “Christ for the World We Sing” Curtis Lindsay, Pianist

Welcome and Announcements

Reverend Megan Barber

†Opening Hymn #89: “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

†Affirmation of Faith #881: *The 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, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

†Gloria Patri #71

†Passing the Peace

Children’s Message

Anna Marie Rainwater

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Prayers of the People

Reverend Megan Barber

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 for ever. Amen.

Anthem: “Rescue in the Night”

GraceFull Singers

Scripture Reading: Acts 8:26-40

Reverend Bryan Sisson

Pastor: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Message: “A Kingdom of Compassion and Openness”

Reverend Bryan Sisson

Offertory: “Reverie” Debussy

Curtis Lindsay, Pianist

†Doxology #94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

†Hymn #548: “In Christ There Is No East or West”

†Blessing and Sending Forth

Reverend Bryan Sisson

† Please stand as you are able

HAPPENINGS @ GRACE . .

GraceFull Singers Spring Performance and Potluck

The GraceFull Singers will present *Rescue in the Night* tonight, **Sunday, April 28th**, at 5:30 pm. The show will be followed by a potluck meal. Bring your friends and family (and a dish to share) for this retelling of Daniel and the Lions’ Den! All are welcome!

Craft Night

Our next Craft Night is **Friday, May 3rd**, at 5:30 pm. Bring a project to work on, a friend, and a snack to share!

Youth Sunday

Please join us next Sunday, **May 5th**, for Youth Sunday! Our Grace Youth will be leading all aspects of our worship at both the 9:00 and 11:00 services, and we will be recognizing our graduating Seniors. All are invited to come as we celebrate our students.

Celebrating our High School Seniors!

We have gift baskets to fill for our five high school seniors in the hallway. Visit bit.ly/2024SeniorWishlist to order and for ideas. If you bring cash or gift cards, please deliver them directly to Melissa or the Church Office. Let’s do everything we can to show our graduates the love of Grace!

Upcoming Grief Support Group

If you are grieving the death of a loved one, please join us on the journey through grief in a “*Beyond the Broken Heart*” support group. Pastor Megan will be leading an 8-week class beginning **Wednesday, June 5th**, at 10:00 am. This will be a closed class after the first week, so make sure to RSVP ahead of time at bit.ly/GraceGriefSupport.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE . .

Month of Change

During the month of April, bring in your spare change to benefit our Missions Team and the ministries they support involving children. Please drop off your change in the container in the Gathering Area.

Food Pantry Needs

We are always looking for staples such as spaghetti sauce, canned meat, baked beans, meal starters, muffin mixes, cereal, peanut butter, jelly and all canned items for our Food Pantry. Donations can be dropped off in the Food Pantry cabinet in Room 101.

Kroger Community Rewards Program

For those who shop at Kroger, you have a way to support Grace as you shop! Please visit the krogercommunityrewards.com website and follow the steps to select Grace UMC #GF870 as the organization you wish to support.

The worshipers at Grace UMC are its ministers.

The Staff who support them are:

Bryan Sisson, Senior Pastor

Megan Barber, Associate Pastor

Joy Smith, Communications Coordinator

Anna Marie Rainwater, Director of Children’s Ministries

Melissa Kowderduck Robinson, Director of Youth Ministries

Joey Taylor, Praise & Worship Leader

Gianna Gimenez, Music Director

Curtis Lindsay, Accompanist

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NOTES...

(K - 5th Grades)

End-of-School Party

Our End-of-School Party will be on **Saturday, May 18th**, from 2:00-4:00 pm at Creekwood Park. We'll go creek stomping, play on the playground, and have snacks. Please join us!

VBS Registration is Open!

This year's VBS is scheduled for July 14th-18th, from 5:30 - 8:00 pm. Kids ages 4 - 5th Grade will dive deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. Register at bit.ly/2024GraceVBS or scan the code!



Please contact Anna Marie Rainwater at amrainwater@graceumchsv.org if you have questions about any of the Children's activities.

YOUTH MINISTRY NOTES...

(6th - 12th Grades)

Youth Summer Calendar

Did you get it? Are you on the list? Don't miss out on our FUN summer activities this year. Make sure you reach out to Melissa if you're not receiving the GUMY emails.

Sunday School Update

We've officially split into a Junior High and Senior High Sunday School format, but it's only possible with enough adult leaders. Contact Melissa if you're interested in leading one of our groups!

Please contact Melissa Kowerduck Robinson at melissakr@graceumchsv.org if you have questions about any of the Youth activities.

NEW HERE?!? WELCOME!

Joining Grace UMC

Are you new to Grace, or have you been visiting for a while and want to join? It's easy! Connect with Pastor Bryan throughout the week to find out the options of how to join the church. Or simply come forward at the end of a service, and you can join right then. We'd love for you to officially become a part of Grace, so let us know how we can help!

Office Hours

The Church Office is open Monday-Friday from 9:00 am-2:00 pm and other hours by appointment. Feel free to stop by or give us a call at (256)430-0003.

Weekly Grace Newsletter

Do you want to receive the weekly GUMC Newsletter?! Stay up to date with everything happening at Grace by signing up today. Email joysmith@graceumchsv.org to make sure you're in the know!

Follow us!

We've recently relaunched our social media channels, so give us a follow and engage with us online!
Instagram: @GUMCHSV • Facebook: @GUMC • YouTube: @GUMCH

This Week's Calendar:

Sunday, April 28th

9:00 am Contemporary Worship Service
10:05 am Sunday School Classes
11:00 am Traditional Worship Service
5:30 pm GraceFull Singers Performance & Potluck

Monday, April 29th

6:00 pm Daughters of Abraham Study

Thursday, May 2nd

10:00 am Women's Emmaus Reunion Group
6:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal

Friday, May 3rd

10:00 am Thrift Shop Open
5:30 pm Craft Night

Saturday, May 4th

10:00 am Thrift Shop Open

Sunday, May 5th - Holy Communion, Senior Sunday

9:00 am Contemporary Worship Service led by Youth
10:05 am Sunday School Classes, Youth Brunch
11:00 am Contemporary Worship Service led by Youth
5:30 pm GUMY

The flowers today are from Eric Bagwell, in honor of his wife, Nancy's birthday.



Get ready for an exciting Summer!

We've got some great activities coming your way, so be on the lookout for new groups, creative sermon series, and all-church gatherings! Mark your calendars for June 12 & July 24! Details coming soon!

ONGOING PRAYER CONCERNS...

Please continue to keep the following church members in your prayers: Clarence Golson, Dennis Hardiman, Rich Hosner, Betty Lawson, Denise Marden, Jan Nuckols, Sandy Page, Robert Schwartz, Kelly Stinson, VanSant Family, Callie Vincent, Connie Weis, John Willhite



UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

Praising God
Proclaiming Christ
Serving Others



Sunday, April 28, 2024

Grace United Methodist Church
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