



GRACE  
EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH

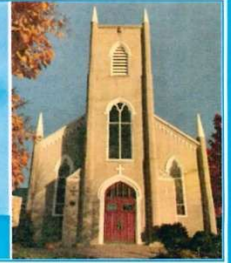
Mount Clemens, Michigan

# Amazing Grace

WHERE ALL ARE WELCOME

Monthly newsletter of the people and ministries of Grace Episcopal Church

August 2025



## The Lord's Prayer



This past Sunday our Gospel reading was about the Lord's Prayer. I chose to preach on the first reading from Hosea instead, so I thought I would share some thoughts about this important prayer in my newsletter article for this month.

### 1. Significance for the Disciples

- **Direct Teaching on Prayer:** The disciples asked Jesus to teach them how to pray, and this prayer was His direct response. It gave them a clear framework for addressing God, moving beyond rote religious formulas of the time.
- **Revealing God's Fatherhood:** Calling God "Our Father" was radical—it emphasized an intimate, personal relationship with God, not just a distant reverence.
- **Kingdom-Focused:** The prayer prioritized God's kingdom and will, teaching the disciples to seek divine purposes above their own desires.
- **Dependence on God:** By asking for "daily bread," forgiveness, and deliverance from evil, the disciples were reminded to rely on God for both physical and spiritual needs.
- **Forgiveness as Central:** It underscored the need for reconciliation with God and others, shaping their community life and mission.

### 2. Significance for Us Today

- **Model for Prayer:** It still serves as a template for structuring our prayers—praise, surrender, petition, confession, and spiritual protection.
- **Grounding in God's Priorities:** It refocuses us on God's kingdom, reminding us to align our desires with God's will rather than merely presenting personal requests.
- **Daily Dependence:** The prayer teaches humility and trust in God for daily provision, forgiveness, and moral guidance.
- **Community-Oriented:** Using "our" instead of "my" reminds us that faith is lived out in community and that we share in God's care as a family.
- **Ever-Relevant:** In a world of uncertainty, it reassures us of God's sovereignty, mercy, and protection.

## Worship Opportunities

*Sundays at 8:30 and 10:30 AM*

**TO JOIN SERVICES LIVE ONLINE  
VIA ZOOM, VISIT OUR WEBSITE AND  
FOLLOW THE LINKS**

[www.gracechurchmtclemens.org](http://www.gracechurchmtclemens.org)

**TO JOIN SERVICES LIVE BY  
PHONE VIA ZOOM:**

**8:30 Service:** Call 312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 881 8016 9300

Password: 246040

**10:30 Service:** See YouTube link  
on Website

**SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY**

9:30 AM in Guild Room

*Worship resources are available  
on our Website 24/7/365.*



In short, the **Lord's Prayer** is more than just words to recite—it is a spiritual blueprint for living in constant connection with God, shaping our priorities, deepening our trust, and transforming our relationships with God and others.

*Here is a way to pray, meditate and reflect on this prayer saying each line slowly:*

**1. Our Father in heaven**

*God is close and loving, yet sovereign.*

*Reflect:* Start your prayer by remembering you are God's beloved child.

**2. Hallowed be Your name**

*Before requests, we worship.*

*Reflect:* Pause to honor God's holiness and give God glory in your own words.

**3. Your kingdom come**

*Seek God's rule in your life and world.*

*Reflect:* We pray for God's reign in our lives, our communities, and the world. It's a call to live as active participants in God's kingdom work. Pray for it.

**4. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven**

*True prayer is surrender.*

*Reflect:* It challenges us to surrender our plans, trusting that God's purposes are higher and better than our own.

**5. Give us this day our daily bread**

*God cares for your needs today.*

*Reflect:* It reminds us to bring our needs to God — physical, emotional, and spiritual, one day at a time, avoiding worry about tomorrow.

**6. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors**

*Grace received means grace given.*

*Reflect:* Confess where you need forgiveness and choose to release those who have hurt you.

**7. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil**

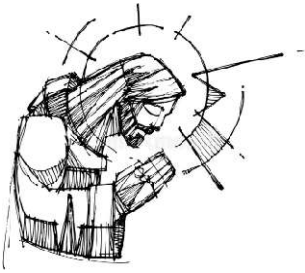
*God protects and guides us.*

*Reflect:* We acknowledge our weakness and depend on God for strength and deliverance in a world filled with trials and spiritual dangers.

**8. For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

*End in praise.*

*Reflect:* Declare God's eternal power and glory over your life.



### A Short Devotional Prayer:

*(You can pray this slowly, pausing on each line)*

**Father, You are close and holy.**

Help me live in awe of who You are.

**Let Your kingdom come in my heart and in this world.**

Teach me to want what You want.

**Provide what I truly need today**—food, strength, peace and love.

**Forgive me**, and help me forgive those who hurt me.

**Guide me away from sin**, and protect me from evil.

**All power and glory belong to You**, now and forever. Amen.

### Highlights from the July 24 Vestry Meeting

**Facebook page:** New parishioner Calysta Saxton attended the meeting to discuss our Facebook page. Being younger than the rest of us, she has a great deal of experience and knowledge about social media. She explained how the content of the posts affects how Facebook treats individual pages, and how posting can improve our reach and also be more attractive. We decided to make Calysta the single point contact for Facebook posting, and soon we will have a procedure for parishioners to contribute to our Facebook page.

**Realm/Parish Directory:** We also discussed the use of Realm for a directory as well as printing a directory with pictures. More to follow.

**Landscaping on the south side of the church:** We have pretty much prepared this area to have sod laid. This new configuration should be much easier to maintain going forward. Thanks to Dave Farrell, Lare Poucher, Lori Simon, and Bill Siewert for the efforts with downspouts, sprinklers, and weeding among other things. Thanks also to the Siefkes for the contribution to the fertilizer service. (The only problem with recognizing individuals is that you inevitably leave someone out, so sorry in advance).

**Glider chairs:** We agreed on a style of glider chair to put in the back of the church for young mothers and older parishioners. We've ordered a couple and we'll see how they work out.

**Panera fundraiser:** We raised \$195.00 in the recent Panera fundraiser. Thanks to all involved.

#### Upcoming events:

*Saturday, August 16:* Table at Macomb County Pride in Mt. Clemens

*Saturday, September 20:* Quarters for a Cause benefiting the church

*Saturday, November 22 (tentative):* Mt. Clemens Santa Parade—need marchers and will be serving hot chocolate and cookies.

*December:* Cookie Walk—more details to follow

### August Birthdays

Sara Schlanbusch-Mattuck	8/17
Dash Heath	8/22
Patricia Mastrojanni Burn	8/22
Dave Farrell	8/23
Barbara Keranen	8/23



Join us in the Guild Room for Bible study, every Sunday at 9:30 AM.



**"F" Dollars for Fueling Kids' Futures**  
If your wallet has any dollar bills with **F** on them, please pass them along to help us fill backpacks with weekend food for hungry Mt. Clemens students.

### Book Club at Grace

The next meeting of the book club will be held at Grace Church on **Thursday, September 11 at 6 PM**. We'll be discussing *The Little Liar* by Mitch Albom. Join us! If you have any questions, please call Ann Strevel.

*Remembering Jonathan Myrick Daniels, whose feast day is August 14:*

O God of justice and compassion, who puts down the proud and mighty from their place, and lifts up the poor and the afflicted: We give you thanks for your faithful witness Jonathan Myrick Daniels, who, in the midst of injustice and violence, risked and gave his life for another; and we pray that we, following his example, may make no peace with oppression; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



### COMMUNITY SUPPERS

Wednesdays at 4 PM

Sundays (Nov.-Mar.) at 4 PM

### GRACE FOOD PANTRY

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 10 AM to 12 PM  
Curbside distribution



### Recommended Food Pantry Donations

Canned soups, canned fruits and vegetables, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter, jelly, canned tuna/chicken, SpaghettiOs, Hamburger Helper, instant mashed potatoes, spaghetti sauce, pasta, cereal, canned applesauce

### Pride 2025

Grace has reserved a spot for Macomb County Pride 2025 on **Saturday, August 16 from 12 to 6 PM**. Speak with Kris Eckert to volunteer for setup beforehand, two-hour shifts hosting the Grace table during the event, and/or cleanup afterward.



### Grace Episcopal Church Staff

**Pastor Steven Steinberger-Domienik**

Cell: 203-641-2068

Email: [pastor@gracechurchmtclemens.org](mailto:pastor@gracechurchmtclemens.org)

**Music Director: Josh Dulin**

Clergy Emerita: The Rev. Deacon Betty Brogan

### 2025 Vestry

Martha Houser	Ernie Simon	Dash Heath
Mike Oakley	Lucy Smith	Mike Zubas
Don Siefkes	Bill Siewert	Sharon Potter