



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A Protestant church in the worldwide
Anglican Communion.

The Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost *November 9, 2025*

Before the Service — Speak quietly to God
During the Service — Let God speak to you
After the Service — Speak to one another

LITURGICAL SEASON EXPLAINED

The Season after Pentecost is not actually a liturgical season with a common focus, rather, it is just the weeks between the Day of Pentecost and the First Sunday of Advent. This period is often referred to as “Ordinary Time” and the liturgical color is **green**. These are the ordinary days in which we live our Christian faith in the regular routine of daily life. This seems simple enough, but the way the Sundays are counted on the calendar gets a bit confusing. It begins with the First Sunday after Pentecost and then counts sequentially until the 24th Sunday after Pentecost which is Christ the King, the Sunday before Thanksgiving. If it stopped here that would be clear, but each Sunday during this time is also given another title: Proper 7-29 where the numbers do not coincide with the numbered Sundays after Pentecost. This proper numbering system is based on the moveable date of Easter. Honestly, there is no need to be concerned about this numbering framework, just focus on the ordinary daily life of Jesus as he goes about teaching, healing, and loving people as you live your ordinary life each day!

TO JOIN SERVICES ONLINE OR BY PHONE

To join the 8:30 service online, visit our website at gracechurchmtclemens.org and follow the links.

To join the 8:30 service by phone, call 312-626-6799
8:30 AM Service: Meeting ID: 881 8016 9300 Password: 246040

Follow the link on our website to watch the 10:30 service on YouTube.

Rector: The Rev. Steven Steinberger-Domienik
Cell: 203-641-2068
Clergy Emerita: The Rev. Deacon Betty Brogan
Mr. Josh Dulin, Minister of Music
115 South Main Street, Mt Clemens, MI 48043
Office 586-465-4573
Email: gracemtclemens@yahoo.com
Visit us on the web at
www.gracechurchmtclemens.org

OPENING HYMN: America The Beautiful



1. O beau - ti-ful for spa-cious skies, For am-ber waves of grain,
2. O beau - ti-ful for pil - grim feet, Whose stern, im-pas-sioned stress
3. O beau - ti-ful for he-roes proved In lib - er - at - ing strife,
4. O beau - ti-ful for pa - triot dream That sees be-yond the years



1. For pur - ple moun-tain maj - es - ties A - bove the fruit - ed plain!
2. A thor-ough-fare for free-dom beat A - cross the wil - der-ness!
3. Who more than self their coun-try loved, And mer - cy more than life!
4. Thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, Un-dimmed by hu - man tears!



1. A - mer - i-ca! A - mer - i-ca! God shed his grace on thee,
2. A - mer - i-ca! A - mer - i-ca! God mend thine ev - 'ry flaw,
3. A - mer - i-ca! A - mer - i-ca! May God thy gold re - fine,
4. A - mer - i-ca! A - mer - i-ca! God shed his grace on thee,



1. And crown thy good with broth-er-hood From sea to shin-ing sea.
2. Con - firm thy soul in self-con-trol, Thy lib - er - ty in law.
3. Till all suc-cess be no - ble-ness, And ev - 'ry gain di - vine.
4. And crown thy good with broth-er-hood From sea to shin-ing sea.

ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. AMEN.**

Celebrant continues:

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

AMEN.

GLORIA: To God Be The Glory

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, key of D major (indicated by two sharps), and 3/4 time. It consists of nine measures of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first three measures are the main body of the song, and the last six measures are the refrain, which begins with the word 'Refrain' written above the first measure of the refrain.

To God be the glo - ry, great things he has done; so loved he the
world that he gave us his Son, who yield - ed his life an a -
tone - ment for sin, and o - pened the life - gate that we may go in.
Refrain
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice! Praise the
Lord, praise the Lord; let the peo - ple re - joice! O come to the
Fa - ther through Je - sus the Son, and give him the glo - ry; great things he has done.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

***People* And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please be seated

FIRST READING Haggai 1:15b-2:9

Reader A reading from the book of Haggai.

In the second year of King Darius, in the seventh month, on the twenty-first day of the month, the word of the Lord came by the prophet Haggai, saying: Speak now to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, and say, Who is left among you that saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Is it not in your sight as nothing? Yet now take courage, O Zerubbabel, says the Lord; take courage, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; take courage, all you people of the land, says the Lord; work, for I am with you, says the Lord of hosts, according to the promise that I made you when you came out of Egypt. My spirit abides among you; do not fear. For thus says the Lord of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations shall come, and I will fill this house with splendor, says the Lord of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord of hosts. The latter splendor of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity, says the Lord of hosts.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE Psalm 145:1-5, 18-22 – *Exaltabo te, Deus*

*Verses read alternately by the reader and the people, breaking at the **

¹I will exalt you, O God my King,*
and bless your Name for ever and ever.

²Every day will I bless you*
and praise your Name for ever and ever.

³Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;*
there is no end to his greatness.

⁴One generation shall praise your works to another*
and shall declare your power.

⁵I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty*
and all your marvelous works.

¹⁸The Lord is righteous in all his ways*
and loving in all his works.

¹⁹The Lord is near to those who call upon him,*
to all who call upon him faithfully.

²⁰He fulfills the desire of those who fear him;*
he hears their cry and helps them.

²¹The Lord preserves all those who love him,*
but he destroys all the wicked.

²²My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord;*
let all flesh bless his holy Name for ever and ever.

SECOND READING 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

Reader A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. Let no one deceive you in any way; for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?

But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. For this purpose he called you through our proclamation of the good news, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL HYMN: Praise God Who Lives Within You



1. Praise God who lives with - in you, whose
 2. Praise God who grows a - mong us, a
 3. Re - joice, for we bear wit - ness to



Spir - it shakes my soul! What bless - ing has been
 bud a - bout to flow'r. Our prayers at last are
 mir - a - cles to - day! Re - joice, for we are



giv - en to chal - lenge and con - sole,
 an - swered with proph - e - cy and pow'r
 sum - moned to help pre - pare a way.



to greet our des - o - la - tions with
 that la - bors forth with rhy - thms our
 Re - joice and join in won - der—be -



move - ment glad and bold, the Faith - ful One ful -
 hearts can - not con - tain, the Might - y One, em -
 liev - ers, do not fear! The Ho - ly One's de -



fill - ing great prom - is - es of old.
 bod - ied, now born through hope and pain.
 liv - 'rance ar - rives a - mong us here.

GOSPEL

Luke 20:27-38

The Rev. Steven Steinberger-Domienik

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

***People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to Jesus and asked him a question, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. Now there were seven brothers; the first married, and died childless; then the second and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. Finally the woman also died. In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her."

Jesus said to them, "Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage; but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. Indeed they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive."

Celebrant The Gospel of our Lord.

***People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

HOMILY

The Rev. Steven Steinberger-Domienik

THE APOSTLES' CREED

*This is an ancient baptismal creed, but using the words "I give my heart,"
a truer translation of the Latin word "credo" than "I believe."*

I give my heart to God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I give my heart to Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried, and descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I give my heart to the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic and apostolic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. AMEN.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The People stand or kneel

Leader We pray for those who have served our nation, and for those who have laid down their lives to protect our country.

***People* Hear us, O God.**

Leader We pray for those who have fought, for those whose spirits and bodies are scarred by war, whose nights are haunted by memories too painful for the light of day.

People **Hear us, O God.**

Leader Comfort our ill and wounded veterans who languish in hospitals or homes. Lighten their burdens; relieve their suffering and pain.

People **Hear us, O God.**

Leader We pray for those who serve us now, especially for those in harm's way. Shield them from danger and bring them home.

People **Hear us, O God.**

Leader Watch over all those who live and work in war-torn areas of the world, especially in Ukraine, the Middle East, Haiti, and Sudan.

People **Hear us, O God.**

Leader Grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured, or disabled due to war and violence.

People **Hear us, O God.**

Leader Bless physicians, nurses, medics, chaplains, and all others who minister to the suffering and injured in time of war.

People **Hear us, O God.**

Leader Look with compassion on all victims of war; ease their sufferings and heal their wounds.

People **Hear us, O God.**

Leader Put an end to wars over all the earth, and hasten the day when the human family will rejoice in lasting peace.

People **Hear us, O God.**

Leader Restore to wholeness all those who are grieving, suffering, or in pain. Are there others?

(The people may say the names of those who need our prayers.)

People **Hear us, O God.**

Leader Be with all of those who are close to death and those who have died, as well as their families and caregivers.

People **Hear us, O God.**

CONCLUDING COLLECT

Good and gracious God, send forth your Holy Spirit upon your people throughout our country and our world. Tear down the walls that divide us, and make us one through Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

RECOGNITION OF OUR VETERANS

Celebrant continues:

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the women and men of our armed forces both present and past. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

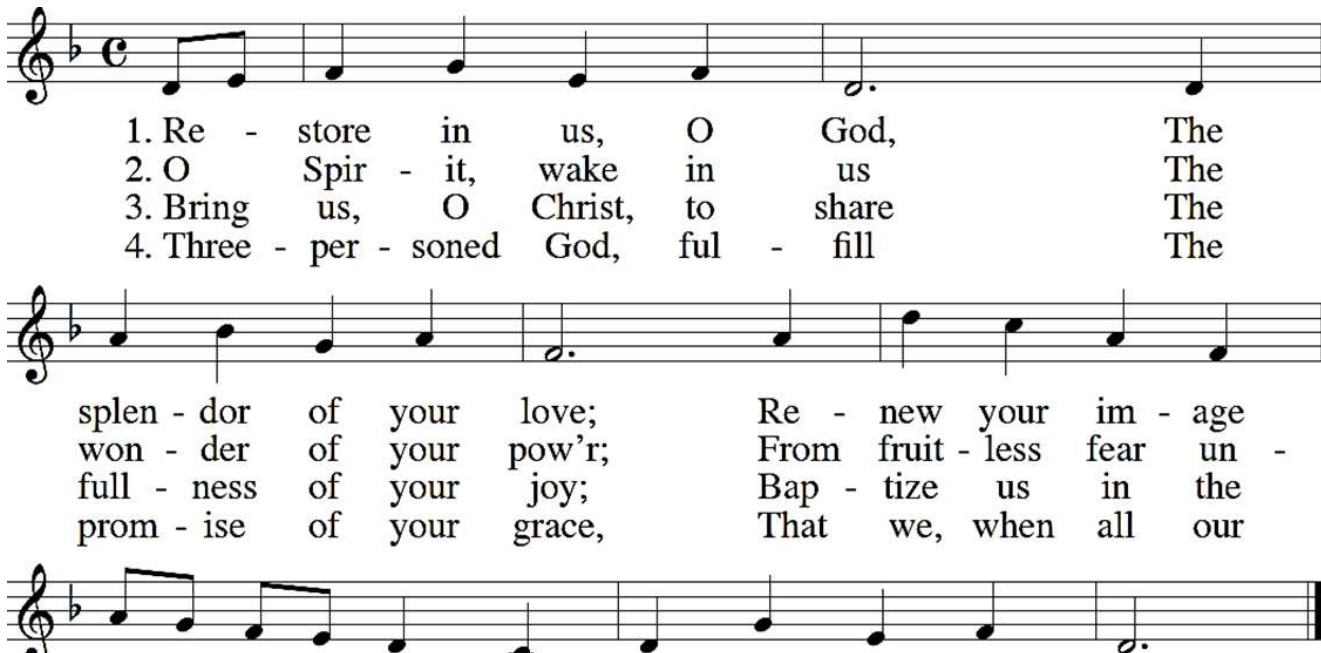
People And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with one another.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated

OFFERTORY HYMN: Restore In Us, O God

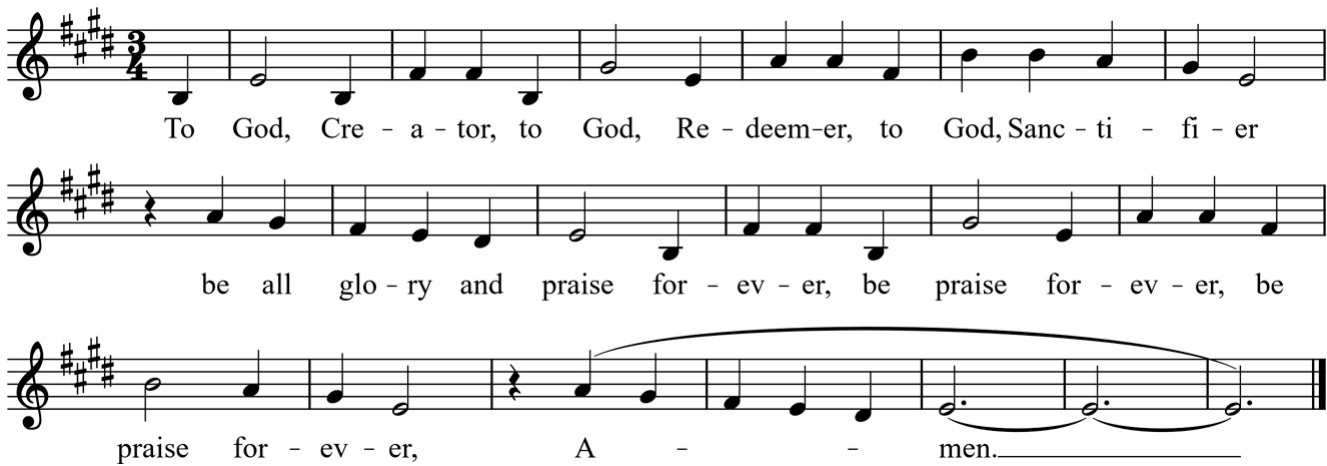


1. Re - store in us, O God, The
2. O Spir - it, wake in us The
3. Bring us, O Christ, to share The
4. Three - per - soned God, ful - fill The

splen - dor of your love; Re - new your im - age
won - der of your pow'r; From fruit - less fear un -
full - ness of your joy; Bap - tize us in the
prom - ise of your grace, That we, when all our

in our hearts, And all our sins re - move.
furl our lives Like spring - time bud and flow'r.
ris - en life That death can - not de - stroy.
search - ing ends, May see you face to face.

DOXOLOGY: To God, Creator



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand as you are able

Celebrant May God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up to our God.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant continues:

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with saints and angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

SANCTUS

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, the Lord God of hosts. Heav - en and earth are filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

2. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord God of hosts. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant continues:

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant says:

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

Our Father in heaven, holy is your Name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. AMEN.

FRACTIO: Where Two Or Three Are Gathered



Here in the bread that is bro - ken, here in the cup that is
poured, here in the word that is spo - ken: Je - sus Christ is
Lord! Here where the poor find their treas - ure,
here where the great - est are least, come find a love be - yond
meas - ure in this heav'n - ly feast.

Celebrant The Gifts of God, for all of us, the holy people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith and with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION

Communion at Grace is Open to Everyone

Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, there is a place for you at God's table. You may choose to receive bread (gluten free wafers available upon request). You may choose to receive wine in the silver chalice or grape juice in the white and blue chalice. You may drink from either cup or intinct (dip) the bread into the chalice. You may refrain from the bread and chalice and just receive a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest.

COMMUNION HYMN: In This House



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People say together:

Gracious God, we thank you for nourishing us with the food of our savior. Now send us out in the power of your Spirit to be beacons of hope and love in your world. For it is through Christ and with all your saints that we offer ourselves and our lives to your service, O God. We humbly pray in the name of Jesus Christ, your Son. AMEN.

BLESSING

May Christ, who is human and divine, who is of heaven and earth, give you strength to do God's will in this world; and may the blessing of God our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier be with you this day and forever. **AMEN.**



CLOSING HYMN #507: Praise The Spirit In Creation



1. Praise the
2. Praise the
3. Praise the
4. Tell of
5. Pray we



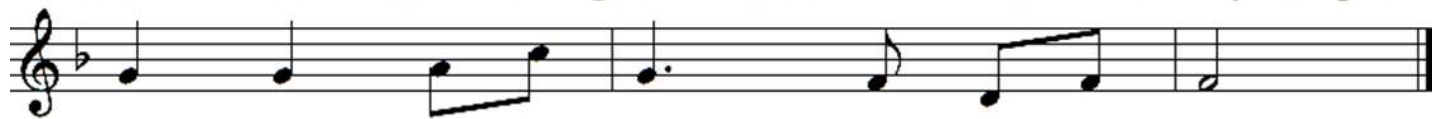
Spir - it in cre - a - tion, Breath of God, life's or - i -
 Spir - it, close com - pan - ion Of our in - most thoughts and
 Spir - it, who en - light - ened Priests and proph - ets with the
 how the as - cend - ed Je - sus Armed a peo - ple for his
 then, O Lord the Spir - it, On our lives de - scend in



gin: Spir - it mov - ing on the wa - ters Quick-'ning
 ways; Who, in show - ing us God's won - ders, Is him -
 word; His the truth be - hind the wis - doms Which as
 own; How a hun - dred men and wom - en Turned the
 might; Let your flame break out with - in us, Fire our



worlds to life with - in, Source of breath to all things
 self the pow'r to gaze; And God's will, to those who
 yet know not our Lord; By whose love and pow'r, in
 known world up - side down, To its dark and fur - thest
 hearts and clear our sight, Till, white - hot in your pos -

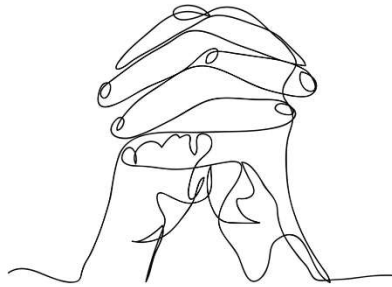


breath - ing, Life in whom all lives be - gin.
 lis - ten, By a still, small voice con - veys.
 Je - sus, God him - self was seen and heard.
 cor - ners By the wind of heav - en blown.
 ses - sion, We, too, set the world a - light.

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Our worship has ended; let our service begin. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord and your neighbor. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**



The Prayers of this Congregation

Sean Rowe, our Presiding Bishop; our Bishop, Bonnie Anne Perry; Moises Quezada Mota, Bishop of the Diocese of the Dominican Republic; Elizabeth Eaton, ELCA Presiding Bishop; Donald P. Kreiss, ELCA Bishop, SE Michigan Synod; Craig A. Satterlee, ELCA Bishop, NW Lower Michigan Synod. Our retired bishop, Wendell Gibbs; our retired community, spouses, and companions. Our diocesan household: Committees, commissions, ministries, agencies, priests, deacons, lay leaders, volunteers, and staff members; Steven Steinberger-Domienik; Grace Church Mt. Clemens; Bonao, DR Church of the Pentecost.

For Donna Hanes; Katherine Domienik; Jasmine Gardner; Tom & Sandy Krell; Frankie Dion; Elliott Belair; Charlotte Kalligeros; Tom Stotz; Jennifer Holland; Joan Walsh; Elizabeth Gage; Logan & Teresa Davidson; Jeanne Nowak; Donna Powell; Pamela Sherry; Linda Fields; Michael Woodard; Pat Greenwood; Sara Mattocks; Gene Skladnowski; Sherie Borsa; Joan Donald; Rob Haynes; Andy Jaeger; Scott Kadets; Brenda Steinberger-Domienik; Laurisa; Jason Zadorski; Pat Ruditis; Jean & Terry Hitchcock; Laura Mary Lake; Allen Clay; Mary Anne Jackson; Beth Smith; Martha Wehba; Carolyn Siewert; Holly Quintero; Jody Gorney; Tammy Murphy; Eka & Kiana Bassey; Suzanne LaMontagne; Vito Fontana; Christa Carpenter; Nancy & Bob Johnson; John Kelvin; Rick Gheresi; Rory Heinz; Lynn Vineyard; Erica Fields; Emily Lau-Ward & Josh; Louise Lambert; Carole Schwertman; the St. Peter family; the Schlanbusch family; Tish Germain; Shirley & Nelson Rumpel; Nicoletta Palazzolo; Lucy Smith & family; Helen Fitzgibbon; Joyce & Roy Schafer; Danielle; Leo Bradley, Jr.; Betty Brogan; Dave Farrell; the Biehl family; the DiGaetano family; the family of Dolora Paull; Ulrike Lamb; Debbie H.; Betty Zalewski.

***Please note: Names will remain on the prayer list for one month.
In order to add someone or keep someone on the prayer list, please call the office.
Do you know someone who is ill? Please contact the office and we will add them
to the prayer list.***

The MINISTRIES of GRACE CHURCH
Currently

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays, in person & online 8:30 & 10:30 AM. Visit our website for more information.
Bible Study: Sundays at 9:30 AM in the Guild Room

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Community Suppers:

Wednesdays at 4:00

Sunday Suppers: Sundays at 4:00, November-March

Food Pantry:

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 10 AM -12 noon, curbside pickup
Serving from 250 - 350 people every month

Fueling Kids' Futures:

Tuesdays at 11:30 AM at Oakley Industries, Inc. Plant 4
35088 Automation Drive, Clinton Township, MI 48035

**All outreach ministries welcome volunteers,
financial donations, or food and clothing donations.**

***Call the office to learn about helping or giving:
586-465-4573***

CURRENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

***Please send all bulletin submissions to
bulletins@gracechurchmtclemens.org***

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flowers were given by Karen Davenport in memory of Frank Davenport on his second anniversary. Please sign up for altar flowers on the bulletin board in the hallway leading to the sanctuary.

COFFEE HOUR

Please volunteer to host a coffee hour; the sign-up sheet is in the hallway. The host(s) makes and sets up the coffee and any snacks and then cleans up afterwards. You may also be reimbursed for any money you spend for snacks—just let Marchea (in the office) know! Thank you for sharing in the hospitality ministry of our parish!

BIBLE STUDY

Please join us on **Sundays** at **9:30 AM** in the Guild Room for our Bible study. No preparation needed; just come and listen and join in the conversation. Each session is self-contained so you do not have to attend each week; come when you can. We learn a great deal about Scripture, our faith, ourselves, and each other! Hope to see you there!

CHOIR

Please join us for choir rehearsal on **Wednesdays** at **6:30 PM** in the sanctuary. No experience required; just bring your spirited heart and a friend! Thank you!

BOOK CLUB

The next book club meeting will be this **Thursday, November 13** at **6 PM** at the church. The book we will discuss is *Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Startup*, by John Carreyrou. Elizabeth Holmes, CEO of the Theranos Company, deceived many brilliant scientists and investors with the Unicorn, a lab machine purported to make blood testing faster and easier. The author, John Carreyrou, worked for the Wall Street Journal and, through tips from former Theranos employees, was able to expose Holmes and her secrets, leading to her conviction and prison sentence. Please join us for a very interesting discussion.

GIVING TREE

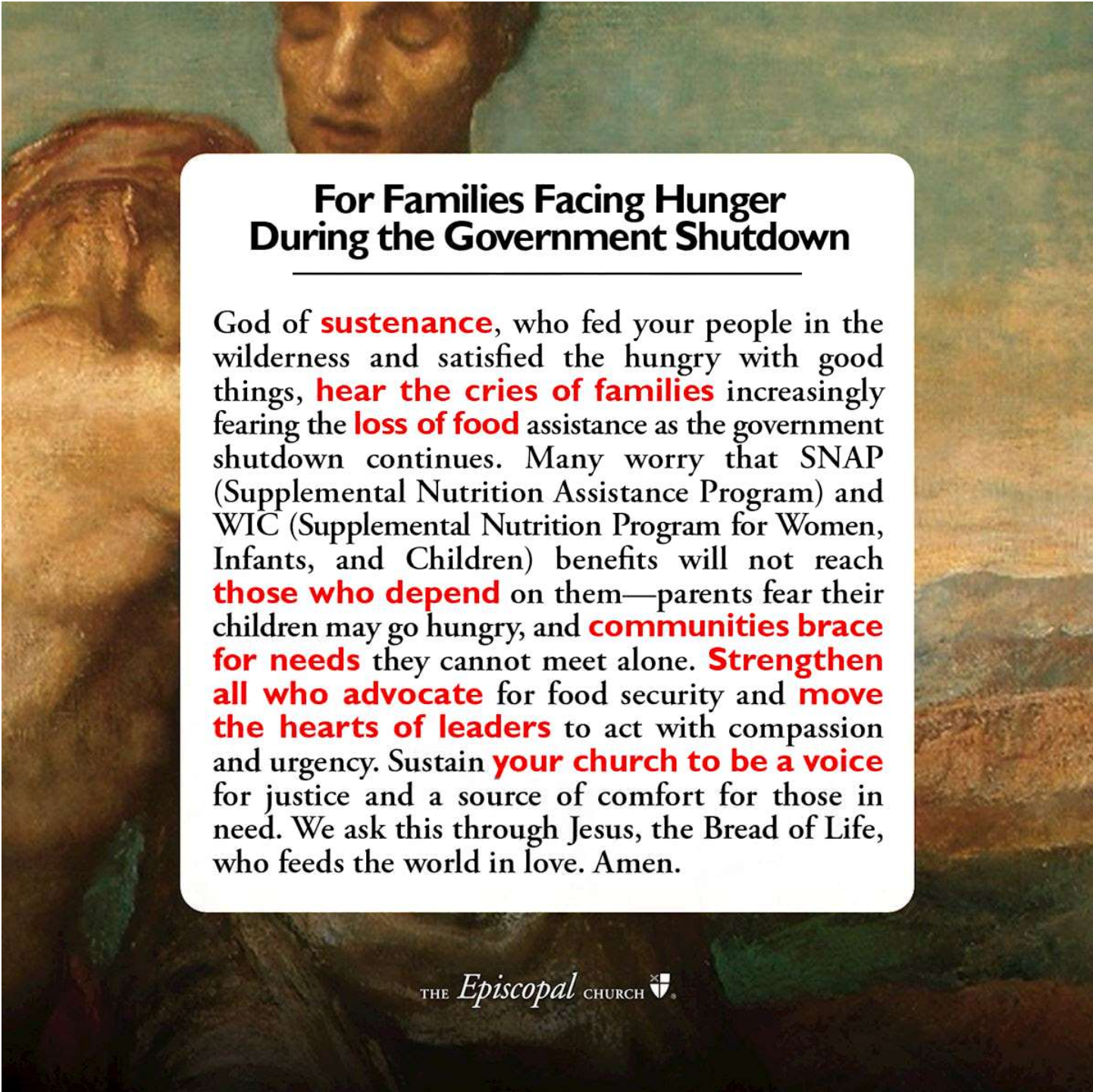
Starting **Sunday, November 16**, Grace will be collecting Christmas gifts for formerly homeless families in Macomb County. The tree is located in the parish hall, with ornaments for the requested items. Choose one or more ornaments, purchase the items, and return them to Grace unwrapped. Please place the items under the tree, in the office, or contact Christa Carpenter at Hearts for Homes directly: (586) 663-6246. Items collected daily; the deadline for drop-offs is **December 21**. The gifts collected this year will provide assistance to our families throughout the coming year. Thank you for your warm and giving hearts!



THOUGHTS ON STEWARDSHIP

I want to take a moment to reflect on my time on the vestry. It has been very wonderful to work with others in discussing the needs of this church, and trying to find solutions, so we can continue to do the ministry we provide here at Grace. It has helped my eyes be opened to this important work here, especially for the local homeless population. Thank you for your confidence in me, and the opportunity and responsibility placed on my shoulders. Let us all work together to keep our ministries working for the people of Mount Clemens, and Macomb County. Thank you again for voting for me.

—Michael Zubas



For Families Facing Hunger During the Government Shutdown

God of **sustenance**, who fed your people in the wilderness and satisfied the hungry with good things, **hear the cries of families** increasingly fearing the **loss of food** assistance as the government shutdown continues. Many worry that SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) and WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) benefits will not reach **those who depend** on them—parents fear their children may go hungry, and **communities brace for needs** they cannot meet alone. **Strengthen all who advocate** for food security and **move the hearts of leaders** to act with compassion and urgency. Sustain **your church to be a voice** for justice and a source of comfort for those in need. We ask this through Jesus, the Bread of Life, who feeds the world in love. Amen.