



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A Protestant church in the worldwide
Anglican Communion.

The Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost *October 11, 2026*

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
Field Education Student: A.J. Hawks
Clergy Emerita: The Rev. Deacon Betty Brogan
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Visit us on the web at
www.gracechurchmtclemens.org

OPENING HYMN: Christ Before Us

Please stand as you are able



1. Christ be - fore us, Christ be - side us, Christ to guide us
2. May we be for one an - oth - er all that you would
3. O Re-deem-er, fill your ser-vants with your words of



1. all our days. He to car - ry all our sor - rows, he to
2. have us be. May we live your law of kind - ness, love, com -
3. last - ing life. Give to those with hands of heal - ing love trans -



1. bear us per - fect grace. Je - sus, Sav - ior, Friend and Broth - er,
2. pas - sion, char - i - ty. May we climb your ho - ly moun - tain;
3. cend - ing pain and strife. Make us lov - ing sons and daugh - ters;



1. In - ter - ces - sor, Son of God, save your peo - ple
2. may we see your ho - ly face! Vis - it now this
3. make us ho - ly, kind and true, sent to la - bor



1. in your dy - ing, and in ris - ing, con - quer death.
2. hum - ble dwell - ing; dwell with - in this ho - ly place.
3. for your King - dom— rest - less till we rest in you.

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



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to
God in the high - est, and on earth peace, and on earth
peace, peace to peo - ple of good will.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

*This Week's Readers: **Gay Gillespie & Lucia Smith***

*Next Week's Readers: **Nora & Dash Heath***

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please be seated

FIRST READING Isaiah 25:1-9

Reader A reading from the book of Isaiah.

O Lord, you are my God;
I will exalt you, I will praise your name;
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.
For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of aliens is a city no more,
it will never be rebuilt.
Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,
the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.

It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he
might save us.

This is the Lord for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

***People* Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSE Psalm 23 – *Dominus regit me*

¹The Lord is my shepherd;*

I shall not be in want.

²He makes me lie down in green pastures*

and leads me beside still waters.

³He revives my soul*

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil;*

**for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;*

**you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.**

⁶Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,*

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

SECOND READING Philippians 4:1-9

Reader A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

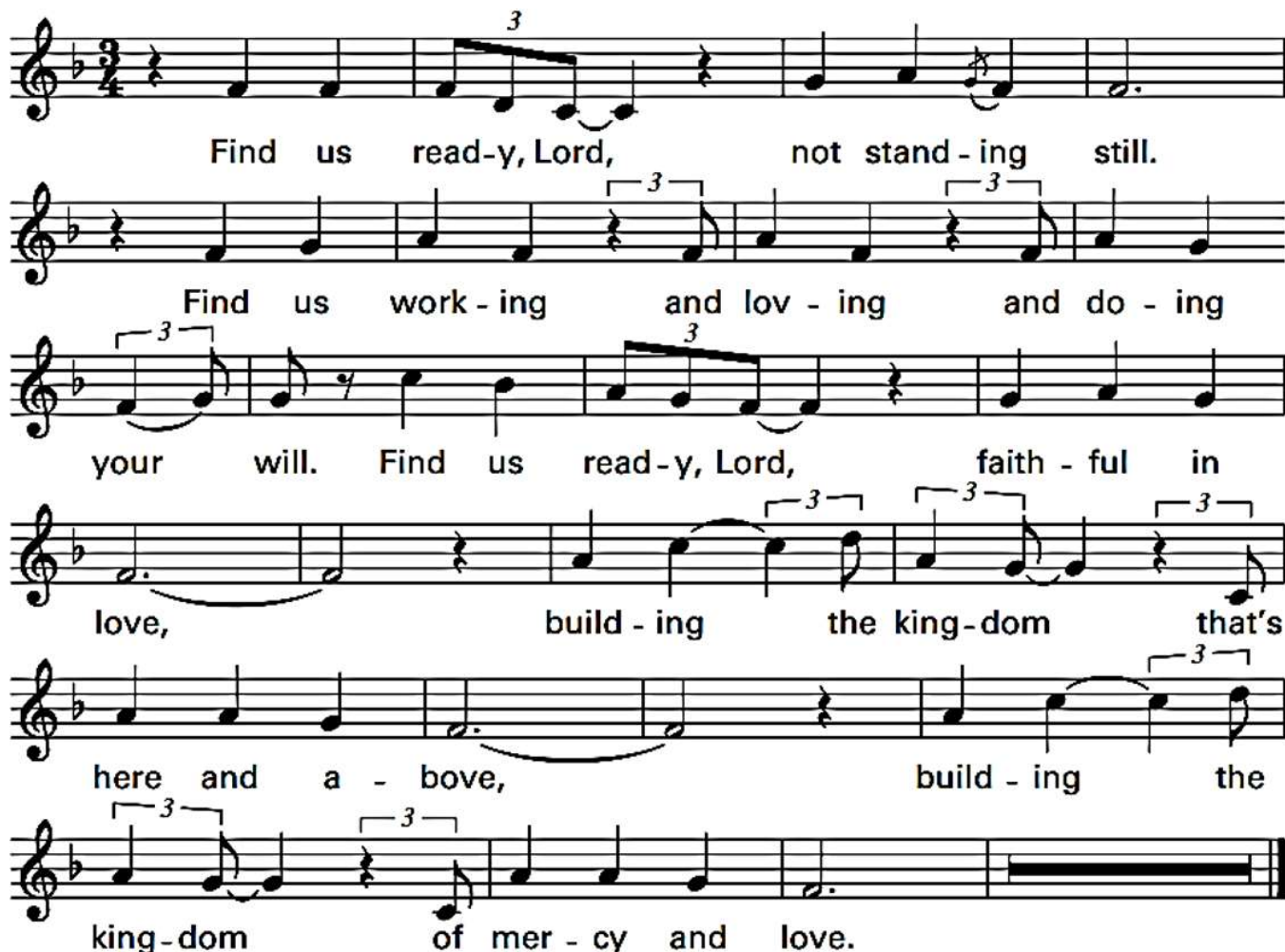
Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**



GOSPEL HYMN: Find Us Ready, Lord

Please stand as you are able



Find us read-y, Lord, not stand - ing still.

Find us work - ing and lov - ing and do - ing

your will. Find us read-y, Lord, faith - ful in

love, build - ing the king-dom that's

here and a - bove, build - ing the

king-dom of mer - cy and love.

GOSPEL Matthew 22:1-14

The Rev. Steven Steinberger-Domienik

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

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

Once more Jesus spoke to the people in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

Celebrant The Gospel of our Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

HOMILY The Rev. Steven Steinberger-Domienik

Please be seated

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Please stand as you are able

*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

Leader Holy and gracious God, you created us in your image. Help us to recognize and honor your image in ourselves and in one another, especially those whom we are at odds with. God our Creator,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Holy and life-giving God, look with compassion on all those in this world suffering from violence and broken relationships. We especially pray for women and children living in poverty and those living in fear of abuse. God of Hope,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Holy and faithful God, hear our prayers for all your people who are silent because of oppression, and for those who feel that their voices are not heard. God who speaks,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Holy and magnificent God, you have filled the earth with beauty and diversity. Look graciously upon all of us with our varied gifts,

characteristics, and qualities, and give us all a respect for the dignity of others that we may treat all people with love and care. God of Grace,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader All-knowing God, you see the pain of your people who suffer and fear because of war, especially those in Ukraine, the Middle East, Haiti, and Sudan; may you comfort them and keep them safe. Open the eyes of all those who advocate for and promote war that they may see their atrocities and pursue peaceful resolutions. God of Peace,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Holy and loving God, we give you thanks for the blessings and wisdom we have received from those who have died. Receive them into eternal life and comfort those who mourn. God of Abundant Life,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Healing God, we pray for all those who have asked for our prayers, especially those on our prayer list. Are there others?

May you bless, comfort, and heal those who are struggling with physical, emotional, social, and relational pain, especially those affected by the ongoing Ebola outbreak and disasters both natural and human-made. God of Healing,

People Hear our prayer.

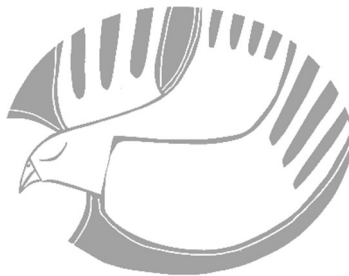
Leader Nurturing God, we pray for the children in our lives and in our world. Grant us calm strength and patient wisdom that we may teach them to love whatever is just, true, and good. God of Caring,

People Hear our prayer.

CONCLUDING COLLECT

Celebrant:

In the name of the true and living Holy One, who made us for love, who saved us by love, and who loves us still. **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: God Will Wipe Away Every Tear

God will wipe a - way ev-'ry tear. God will wipe a-way ev-'ry
 tear. Ev-'ry sor - row will end, ev-'ry bro-ken heart be healed and
 God will wipe a - way ev -'ry tear. 1. On the
 2. All is
 1. Lord's ___ moun-tain height, all will eat and have their fill at the
 2. rich-ness at that feast, fin-est food and fin - est wine. Who will
 to Refrain
 1. ban - quet that the Lord of Hosts pro - vides for them.
 2. ev - er hun - ger, ev - er thirst a - gain? Not one!) And



DOXOLOGY

Please stand as you are able

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise him all
 crea - tures here be - low; Praise him a - bove, ye
 heav'n - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Celebrant continues:

You are worthy of our thanks and praise, Lord God of truth, for by the breath of your mouth you have spoken your Word and all things have come into being. You fashioned us in your image and placed us in the garden of your delight.

Though we chose the path of rebellion, you would not abandon your own. Again and again you drew us into your covenant of grace. You gave your people the Law and taught us by your prophets to look for your reign of justice and mercy. In our unending joy we echo on earth the song of the angels in heaven, evermore praising you as we sing:

SANCTUS

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
2 Bless - ed is he who comes in the

pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant continues:

Lord, you are the most holy one, enthroned in splendor and light, yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ, who suffered for the salvation of the world, you reveal the glory and power of your love.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

Embracing our humanity, he taught us the way of salvation. Loving us to the end, he gave himself to death for us. Dying for his own, he set us free from the bonds of sin, that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

On the night you gave up your Son for us all, he took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross, we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb, and we long for his coming in glory.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption, Father, by your Holy Spirit, let these gifts of your creation be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; form us into the likeness of Christ and make us a perfect offering in your sight.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit!

Look with favor on your people and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts. Bless the earth, heal the sick, free the oppressed, and fill your Church with power from on high.

Gather your people from the ends of the earth to feast with all your saints at the table in your kingdom, where the new creation is brought to perfection in Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

Amen. Alleluia!

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.

FRACTION



Celebrant Taste and see that our God is good; come to the banquet table with joy and thanksgiving!

COMMUNION

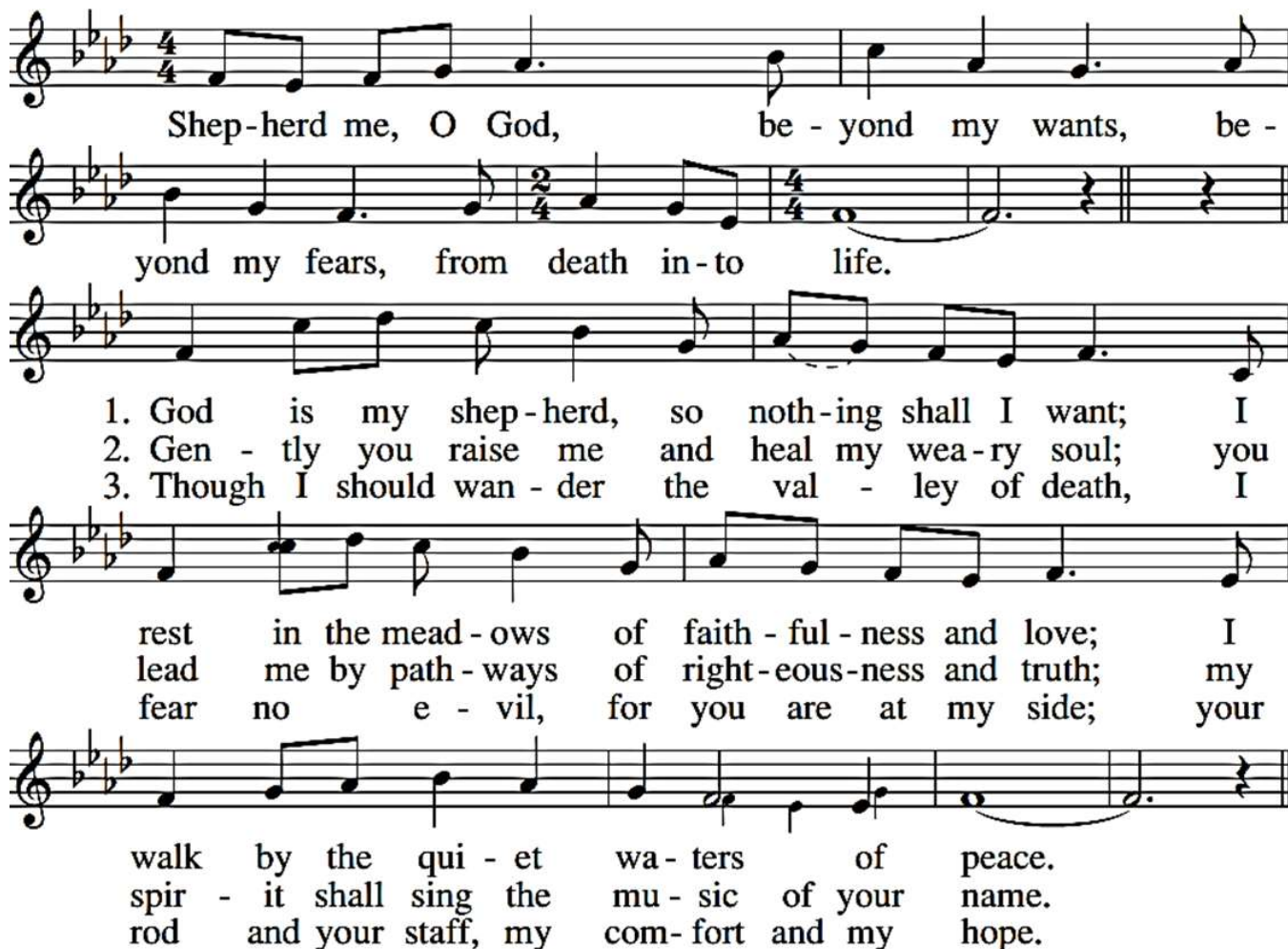
Please be seated

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: Shepherd Me, O God



The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a range of one octave. The lyrics are printed below the staff, with line breaks corresponding to the musical phrasing. The hymn consists of a main verse and three numbered verses.

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -
yond my fears, from death in-to life.

1. God is my shep-herd, so noth-ing shall I want; I
2. Gen - tly you raise me and heal my wea-ry soul; you
3. Though I should wan - der the val - ley of death, I

rest in the mead - ows of faith - ful - ness and love; I
lead me by path - ways of right - eous - ness and truth; my
fear no e - vil, for you are at my side; your

walk by the qui - et wa - ters of peace.
spir - it shall sing the mu - sic of your name.
rod and your staff, my com - fort and my hope.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Please stand as you are able

Celebrant Let us pray together our post-Communion prayer.

Celebrant and People say together:

Eternal God, comfort of the afflicted and healer of the broken, you have fed us at the table of life and hope: teach us the ways of gentleness and peace, that all the world may acknowledge the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

BLESSING

May God lead you in marvelous ways and stir your inmost being to be light and love to those around you, and may the blessing of God—God our Creator, God our Redeemer, and God our Sanctifier—be upon you this day and remain with you always. **AMEN.**

CLOSING HYMN: O God, Our Help In Ages Past



1. O God, our Help in a - ges past, Our Hope for years to come,
2. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, Or earth re - ceived her frame,
3. A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone;
4. O God, our Help in a - ges past, Our Hope for years to come,



1. Our Shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal Home.
2. From ev - er - last - ing thou art God, To end - less years the same.
3. Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.
4. Be thou our Guard while life shall last, And our e - ter - nal Home.

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Our time of worship has now ended. Go in peace to love God and to love 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; Julie E. Schneider-Thomas, 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 our Wednesday and Sunday supper guests; Donna Hanes; Frankie Dion; Elliott Belair; Charlotte Kalligeros; Jennifer Holland; Joan Walsh; Elizabeth Gage; Logan & Teresa Davidson; Jeanne Nowak; Donna Powell; Pamela Sherry; Linda Fields; Michael Woodard; Sara Mattocks; Gene Skladnowski; Sherie Borsa; Joan Donald; Rob Haynes; Scott Kadets; Brenda Steinberger-Domienik; Laurisa; Pat Ruditis; Jean & Terry Hitchcock; Laura Mary Lake; Allen Clay; Martha Wehba; Jody Gorney; Tammy Murphy; Eka & Kiana Bassey; Suzanne LaMontagne; Vito Fontana; Christa Carpenter; Nancy & Bob Johnson; Rick Gherisi; Rory Heinz; Carole Schwertman; Tish Germain; Shirley & Nelson Rumpel; Helen Fitzgibbon; Joyce & Roy Schafer; Danielle; Betty Brogan; Ulrike Lamb; Debbie H.; Beverly Wolff; Beth Jarvis; Dave Salyer; Al Gazoul; Sharon Fedchenko; Joyce Geiger; Steve Burns; Sandy Krell; Bobby Coutts; Sharon Potter; Rita Vermeersch; Sallie Coffey; Frank Davis; Shelly Volpe; Bud Denham; John Schober; Tish Mastro-Burns; Gary Cynowa; Linda Hurley; Fran Merlo; Betty Gillis; David Schihl; Matthew Smith; Robert Tuten; Daniel Ranger; Gary Keranen; Leslie Sasges; Louise Lambert; Norris Satterly; the Wagenknecht family; Dan Kotesky; Judy Kuase; Brian Negran; Sue Culver; Takashi Nawafune; Mary Lang; Sue Sargent; Jess Taylor.

Do you know someone who can use our prayers?

Please contact the office to add them to or keep them on the prayer list.

The MINISTRIES of GRACE CHURCH

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 250-500 people every month

Fueling Kids' Futures:

Tuesdays at 11 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

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!

COME, CHRISTIANS, JOIN AND SING!

Join us at choir rehearsal **Wednesdays at 6:30 PM** in the sanctuary. Faces and voices both new and familiar are most welcome as we lift up our praises in song and help guide our Grace community into the seasons of thankfulness, Advent, and the birth of our Lord!

BOOK CLUB

The next book club meeting will be at Grace on **Thursday, November 12 at 6 PM**, and we'll be discussing John Grisham's *The Widow*. We would love for you to attend! Just read the book, come to the meeting, and be prepared for a lively discussion in a comfortable setting. Call or see Ann Strevel with any questions or concerns.

BLESSING OF THE PETS DONATIONS

A big thank-you to everyone who donated to this year's pet-food drive. We ended up with a trunkful of donations for the Macomb County Animal Shelter, where they helped fill up the closet for seniors having a hard time feeding their pets.

For Everyone Supporting Free, Fair, and Safe Elections

Faithful **God**, who **raises up** leaders, prophets, and people of goodwill **to guide us** on our earthly pilgrimage, **we give you thanks** for the many people who have **volunteered to help others** participate in our elections. **Protect** the poll workers, civic organizations, librarians, and **all who help** people understand deadlines, requirements, and other important election-related information. As voter registration deadlines approach in many states, **we pray** that our neighbors across the country may have the **opportunity** and **encouragement** to participate in our elections. **Be with us** as we seek to build communities marked by justice, safety, and respect. Grant this through the steadfast love of Jesus Christ, who works in us through your Spirit. Amen.