

Grace United Methodist Church

Celebration of Worship

January 8, 2012

Worship 9:00am; Fellowship 10:15am; Sunday School 10:15am

We are glad you are here!

Gathering to Worship

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude/ Centering time

Call to Worship (Unison):

Creating Spirit, as you called the world into being, call us together as your church. Give us power and strength to serve the world. Give us wisdom to see the goodness in creation.

Blessing Spirit, as you named Jesus the Beloved, name us and bless us with your grace, that we, your children, may tell your story. Empowering Spirit, fill the church with your strength, that it may carry your love throughout the world. Amen

UMH 334

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

Hearing God's Word

Children's Time

Psalter UMH 761

Psalm 29

***Gloria Patria UMH 70**

***Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

Creating God, you formed the world and called it good. Yet, we take our earth for granted: consuming its resources, polluting its air and water, ignoring its beauty. You called forth humanity and called it good, yet we treat one another with disrespect: ignoring those in pain, choosing violence over peace. We repent of the many ways we have dishonored your gifts. We turn our lives toward you, opening ourselves to the power of your transforming love. Shine the light of your grace upon us, that we may see your way. Send your Spirit upon us, giving us the power to proclaim your word.

Words of Assurance

UMH 393

Spirit of the Living God

Lifting Up Our Prayers

Affirmation of Faith

We belong to God, creator of all that is and all that is to come, abundant provider of the gifts in this life and the gifts in our own hearts. It is God alone who gives life, who is generous beyond measure with grace and blessing.

We follow Christ, whom God sent to teach and heal, to show us a new way of living, with love and trust and courage, with joy and generosity.

In this faith Jesus gave of himself, even his very life. He was crucified and buried; yet God raised him from death, and he lives among us, and grants his spirit to us.

We live by that Holy Spirit, and entrust ourselves to its guidance and empowerment. As members of the church, the Body of Christ, we devote ourselves to lives of love, rejoicing in the power of forgiveness, the reality of resurrection, and the mystery of eternal life. Amen.

Passing the Peace of Christ

Responding to God's Word

Invitation to the Offering

Offering/Offertory

Offertory Prayer

Acts 19:1-7 CEB

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul took a route through the interior and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He asked them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you came to believe?"

They replied, "We've not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit."

Then he said, "What baptism did you receive, then?"

They answered, "John's baptism."

Paul explained, "John baptized with a baptism by which people showed they were changing their hearts and lives. It was a baptism that told people about the one who was coming after him. This is the one in whom they were to believe. This one is Jesus."

After they listened to Paul, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in other languages and prophesying. Altogether, there were about twelve people.

Mark 1:4-11

¹ The beginning of the good news about Jesus Christ, God's Son, ² happened just as it was written about in the prophecy of Isaiah:

Look, I am sending my messenger before you. He will prepare your way, ³ a voice shouting in the wilderness: "Prepare the way for the Lord; make his paths straight."

⁴ John was in the wilderness calling for people to be baptized to show that they were changing their hearts and lives and wanted God to forgive their sins. ⁵ Everyone in Judea and all the people of Jerusalem went out to the Jordan River and were being baptized by John as they confessed their sins. ⁶ John wore clothes made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ He announced, "One stronger than I am is coming after me. I'm not even worthy to bend over and loosen the strap of his sandals. ⁸ I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹ *About that time, Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and John baptized him in the Jordan River. ¹⁰ While he was coming up out of the water, Jesus saw heaven splitting open and the Spirit, like a dove, coming down on him. ¹¹ And there was a voice from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I dearly love; in you I find happiness."*

Witness to the Word

Going To Serve

Benediction

FWS 2022

Great Is the Lord

400 West Morgan
Jacksonville, IL 62650
Rev. Michael W. Fender, Pastor
Office 217.245.9521
www.jaxgrace.org

Looking Ahead

January 15th 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Human Relations Day

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20); Psalms 139:1-6;

1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

This Week at Grace

Sunday, January 8th

Food Bank Sunday

6:00 am Bread Bake
9:00 am Grace Worship Service
9:00 am FCC Sunday School
10:15 am Grace Sunday School
10:45 am FCC Worship Service

Tuesday, January 10th

1:00 pm Handwork
7:00 pm J.D. Group – Parlor

Wednesday, January 11th

10:00 am Memorial Committee
6:30 pm Prayer Service
7:00 pm Boy Scouts

Announcements

UMW

The January meeting of the JD Group will be on January 10th at 7 pm in the Grace Church Parlor. The program will be presented by May-linn, the exchange student staying with the Hackett family for the school year. Cathy will be sharing a dessert with us. Any woman in the church is welcome to join us for the evening. If you have any questions, please call the church office.

Human Relations Day

The Human Relations Day offering is helping students at Philander Smith College engage in ministries that advocate for solutions to injustice, hunger, homelessness and other social ills. Your gifts to Human Relations Day provide avenues to restore relations through ministries like Youth Offender Rehabilitation, Community Developers self-improvement programs and United Methodist Voluntary Services community advocacy programs. It's time to think and support Justice, to become radical in changing lives and changing the world. Please give generously.

Human Relations Day will be celebrated on January 15th

UMM Wild Game Feast

Wesley Chapel is hosting a meeting of the Jacksonville Area United Methodist Men on Tuesday, January 17th at 6:30 pm. The program is by musician Rod Nicholson. All United Methodist Men are invited.