

# Welcome to Grace United Methodist Church

January 13, 2019

(\*Please stand as you are able)

Prelude & Lighting of Altar Candles

Song "We Believe (Apostle's Creed)"

Reflection Connection

Song "Holy Spirit Rain Down"

\*Call to Worship

One: We are a people filled with expectation,  
longing for good news of God's presence and power.

**Many: Come, Holy Spirit, and bless us once more.**

One: We are in different stages of the spiritual journey,  
carrying different burdens, yet traveling together.

**Many: Come, Holy Spirit, and bless us once more.**

One: Guide us, Holy One, to follow the example of Jesus,  
staying focused on you in prayer so that we may hear your voice.

**Many: Come, Holy Spirit, and bless us once more. Amen.**

\*Hymn "When Jesus Came to Jordan"

#252, vs. 1-3

Scripture Luke 3:15-22, Acts 8:14-17

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message

Sermon "Gentleness: Receiving the Holy Spirit"

Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer of Confession & Assurance

**ALL: God of gentleness and grace, we confess we can be stiff-necked and hard-hearted people, hands clenched into fists and tongues sharpened for argument. Let your Spirit of gentleness soften us, we pray: that we may open our hands to receive your grace, hold our tongues so that we listen more than speak, bow our heads in humility and let you break our hearts of stone to receive the heart of flesh you long to restore to us. Even as we stand firm in the convictions we believe come from you, let us gentle our postures toward one another to acknowledge we are all your children, all in need of turning around, all worthy of your love and mercy. Amen.**

Pastor: God's grace is unfailing, and God's power is not a power over, but a power for, within, and through. By the grace of God and the blessing of the Holy Spirit, you are empowered to let go of your hardness, whatever it might look like for you, and embrace the gentle vulnerability of being a child of God. Amen.

Offering

\*Doxology "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

#95

\*Prayer of Dedication

**ALL: God of Water and Wind: We worship this morning, grateful for the good things that fill our lives, but many of us carry within ourselves feelings of emptiness, unworthiness, disappointments, and failures. We desperately need to be reminded that, in our baptism - as in the one Jesus received - there is an affirmation that we are claimed and loved by you just as we**

are. We could do more; we could be better; yet you say to us, "My child, with whom I am well pleased". May we open our hearts in generosity as those who are claimed as beloved children. In the name of the Son, who pleased you so well, we pray. Amen.

Communion

Lord's Prayer

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

**ALL: Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your spirit to give ourselves for others. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

Announcements

\*Hymn

"Spirit Song"

#347 vs. 1 & 2

\*Benediction

\*Closing Son

"Let There Be Peace on Earth"

#431

Liturgies by Rev. Kerry Greenhill 2019

### Information to Share

#### Prayer Concerns:

Family of Michael Dentz

Janice Fisher

Bobby Marcum

Carol Martin

Katie's co-worker Penny's mom, Dotie

Todd's grandmother

Janice's friend Lloyd

All federal employees that have been furloughed not knowing when their next payroll check is coming

Today's Pianist: Sarah Sutton

#### Classes

- Adult Sunday School 9:00 am in Upper Room
- Youth Group 9:00 am in Youth Room
- Open Connections 9:00 am in Grace Hall

#### Announcements

- Friday - Christ's Coffee Shop 6:00 pm Grace Hall
- Saturday - UMW 10:30 am Grace Hall
- Sunday - Discipleship Team 11:30 am
- January 21 - Grace Notes Due!!

**Thank you for joining us today!**

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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