

# Worship Leader Guide

Pastor: Amy S  
Liturgist: Deborah C  
Accompanist: Leigh Ann C  
Greeters/Ushers:  
Media Technicians: Adam B-F  
Nursery Attendant: Shirley C

*[9:55 AM]*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*[10:00 AM]*

## WELCOME & WORDS OF GRACE

*[Amy WELCOMES PEOPLE AND ONLINE GUESTS]*

**Amy:**

The Lord be with you!

Good morning and welcome to Grace United Methodist Church! I'm Pastor Amy, and I am so glad to be here with you, and more importantly, I am so glad that you are joining us in worship this morning! If you are in the sanctuary or joining us online, welcome! At Grace we recognize the light of Christ in all people, so thank you for shining your light with us this morning.

Let's pray: God of love, you show your people how to be truly rich in faith, through the gifts you give when least hoped for or expected. Come to your people today with words of both judgment and mercy, that we may be fed from the bread of life. We pray this in your holy triune name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, Mother of us all. Amen.

*Liturgist moves to the pulpit.*

**Liturgist:** Beloved, as we gather in the presence of our creator, let us lift our voices in praise, yearning to echo the fervor of Charles Wesley's timeless hymn. So, would you please stand as you are able or comfortable and join me as we begin our time of worship.

## CALLING ON GOD

One: Let us celebrate the Redeemer who brings us together,

**Many: Whose name deserves more praise than a thousand tongues could express.**

One: May our worship rise as a testament to

God's power, Christ's grace, and the Spirit's unending love.

**Many: Come, let us worship with joy, as we unite our spirits to give glory to God.**

**Liturgist:** Please stand as you are able and comfortable and join me in our opening hymn, O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing.

## OPENING HYMN: UMH# 57 O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

O For a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.

Jesus! The name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;  
'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.

He breaks the power of canceled sin, he sets the prisoner free;

His blood can make the foulest clean; his blood availed for me.

He speaks, and listening to his voice, new life the dead receive;  
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.

In Christ, your head, you then shall know, shall feel your sins forgiven;  
Anticipate your heaven below, and own that love is heaven.

## Children's Message

### SCRIPTURE READING – James 2:1-10

**Deb:** *This morning's first lesson comes from the book of James.*

My brothers and sisters do not claim the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ of glory while showing partiality. <sup>2</sup>For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, <sup>3</sup>and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here in a good place, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit by my footstool," <sup>4</sup>have you not made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup>Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup>But you have dishonored the poor person. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into the courts? <sup>7</sup>Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? <sup>8</sup>If you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you do well. <sup>9</sup>But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. <sup>10</sup>For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

### CHOIR ANTHEM - "Blessed is He" by Lon Berry - UMC Choir

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

**Amy:** Now, let us pass the peace of Christ with one another.

### JOY & CONCERNS

**Amy:** As we make our way back to our seats, we will move into a time of prayer. Are there joys and concerns that you would like to lift up, so that we can be in prayer and praise with each other today and in this coming week?

### Congregational Response: TFWS #2193 Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

### PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD

**Amy:** Resurrecting Christ, you turned the world upside down and inside out when you revealed that there is life after death and that love always has the last word. Therefore, we uplift our prayers for this broken and bruised world to you so that you might transform them into sources of hope and healing.

Comfort your children whose lives are shaped by terror and tyranny. Loosen the grip hatred has on the hearts of those who have been hardened by greed and trauma. Mend the wounds of all who are in pain.

We pray for the children in Ukraine, Gaza, Russia, Israel, Haiti, and Ethiopia. Protect all those who are abused, fearful, or neglected. Reveal your love to those who are being trafficked, those who are trying to escape domestic violence, those who yearn for a way out, and those with no way out. May they know they are loved and not alone.

Make us instruments of your peace and vessels of restoration in our world. In the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace, we pray. Amen.

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#### **OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES**

**Amy:** Thank you for giving to support the ministries and mission of Grace. We cannot be a beacon of hope to this community without your faithful giving.

There are many ways that you can give today. There is an offering box at the back of the sanctuary. You can give online at [graceumcbillings.org/give](http://graceumcbillings.org/give) or you can text to give as well. You can text (406) 660-3699 and follow the prompts to give that way as well. Whatever you give, great or small, thank you for giving so we can continue to spread God's love for all people to all the folk we meet.

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#### **GOSPEL LESSON – Mark 7:24-37**

**Amy:**

<sup>4</sup> From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre.<sup>[a]</sup> He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,<sup>25</sup> but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet.<sup>26</sup> Now the woman was a gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter.<sup>27</sup> He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs."<sup>28</sup> But she answered him, "Sir,<sup>[b]</sup> even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs."<sup>29</sup> Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter."<sup>30</sup> And when she went home, she found the child lying on the bed and the demon gone.

<sup>31</sup> Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went by way of Sidon toward the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup> They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup> He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup> Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” <sup>35</sup> And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup> Then Jesus<sup>[c]</sup> ordered them to tell no one, but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup> They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

**MESSAGE**      “Throw it to the Dogs”

**Pastor Amy**

### **HOLY COMMUNION - Pages 9-10 in the front of the Red Hymnal**

**Amy:** The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,  
    always and everywhere to give thanks to you,  
Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.  
You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.  
When we turned away, and our love failed,  
your love remained steadfast.  
You delivered us from captivity,  
made covenant to be our sovereign God,  
    and spoke to us through your prophets,  
who looked for that day  
    when justice shall roll down like waters  
    and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream,  
    when nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
    neither shall they learn war anymore.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven  
    we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.  
Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor,  
    to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind,  
    to set at liberty those who are oppressed,

and to announce that the time had come  
when you would save your people.  
He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.  
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection  
you gave birth to your Church,  
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,  
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.  
At his ascension you exalted him  
to sit and reign with you at your right hand.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,  
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me."  
When the supper was over he took the cup,  
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving  
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

**Gary:** Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,  
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,  
redeemed by his blood.  
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,  
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,  
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.  
Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,  
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.  
Amen

**Amy:** And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray: The Lord's Prayer

Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body,  
for we all partake of the one loaf.  
The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.  
The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

**Prayer after communion.**

**Amy:** 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.

Amy will introduce the closing hymn.

### **CLOSING HYMN**

WS# 3149 A Place at the Table

For everyone born, a place at the table,  
for everyone born, clean water and bread,  
A shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,  
For everyone born, a star overhead.

Refrain: And God will delight when we are creators  
Of justice and joy, yes,  
God will delight when we are creators  
of justice, justice and joy!

For woman and man, a place at the table,  
Revising the roles, deciding the share,  
With wisdom and grace, dividing the power,  
For woman and man, a system that's fair. [Refrain]

For young and for old, a place at the table,  
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,  
The hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,  
For young and for old the right to belong. [Refrain]

For just and unjust, a place at the table,  
Abuser, asbused, with need to forgive,  
In anger, in hurt, a mindset of mercy,  
For just and unjust, a new way to live. [Refrain]

For everyone born, a place at the table,  
To live without fear, and simply to be,  
To work, to speak out, to witness and worship,  
For everyone born, the right to be free. [Refrain]

### **CHARGE AND BLESSING**

**Amy:** Go forth in peace.  
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
And the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all. Amen.

Postlude: "Sinfonietta" by G.F. Handel

Leigh Ann Corcoran, Minister of Music

<https://billingsgrace.breezechms.com/form/virtualpewcard>