

Grace

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## Grace United Church of Christ

August 14, 2022

Rev. Joyce Wealand, Minister

**Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

\* When a portion of the service is preceded with an \*, you are invited to stand in body and/or spirit.

**Words printed in bold are an invitation for you to join in the spoken or sung response.**

### PRELUDE

Create in Me - Wimber

### \*WORDS OF WELCOME

Leader: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

People: **In this safe space, may God grant us the vision to see the Holy in each other and the Holy in ourselves.**

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In a world uprooted at every turn, come beloved of God for replanting.

People: **Our hope and weariness are mixed together, yet we come, trusting ancient promises.**

Leader: The Holy One who led the people out of

Egypt, yearns to lead us, too.

**People:** **God will not rest until all are rerooted, restored, and renewed for rejoicing.**

Leader: Let us be joined to God's song of justice, bearing beauty into the life of the world.

**People:** **May our lives be formed for faithfulness by the One who is always faithful.**

### **\*GATHERING PRAYER**

**People:** **Loving and Gracious God, form a new song of soul within us. Take every fragment of our lives and fashion a new creation. Plant us deep in the soil of Your love, that your living water might rise in us, forming a fruit of possibility unimaginable on our own. Grant us grace to trust your promised presence already meeting us here, now, and always. By this, gift us with a new strength of heart for whatever Your love demands. Amen.**

### **\*GATHERING HYMN I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry**

#### **PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION**

**People:** **Gardener God, You plant us in a gifted place, but often we return sour grapes. In the midst of Your abundance, we complain of not having enough or being enough. Your call "to give justice to the weak and the orphan; to maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute" is easily overlooked or ignored. We are uprooted by our own inaction, selfishness, and fear. Re-root our hearts, our minds, and our lives in the soil of Your forgiving love. Bear up in us a boldness to sing a song strange to the world but known by You. Let it be the song of shalom, the chorus of Christ-love, a hallelujah rising as the world is mended by our consent to You. Yes, plant this anew in us today.**

## **ASSURANCE OF BLESSING**

### **A GIFT OF MUSIC**

To Pass the Spirit On - DeFrange

### **A MISSION MOMENT**

Dr. Ikeshia Smith

### **SACRED TEXT**

Luke 20:27-38 NRSV

### **CENTERING HYMN**

**Breathe on Me, Breath of God**

### **SACRED TEXT**

Philippians 1:20-30 NRSV

## **REFLECTION**

### **\*SUNG RESPONSE**

**Spirit of the Living God,  
Fall afresh on me,  
Spirit of the Living God,  
Fall afresh on me.  
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.  
Spirit of the Living God,  
Fall afresh on me.**

### **\*INVITATION TO FAITHFUL SHARING**

### **\*DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God, all creatures here below.  
Praise God, above, ye heavenly host.  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!**

### **\*DEDICATION OF GIFTS**

**People: We thank you, Loving God, that death  
gives way to life when we answer Your  
call to be generous. Multiply these gifts  
and Your spirit in us, that the world may  
know your life-giving will and way. Amen.**

## **MORNING PRAYER**

### **THE PRAYER OF JESUS**

**Our Father, who art in Heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name.**

Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done,  
On earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts,  
As we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
And the power, and the glory,  
Forever. Amen.

## **CHURCH FAMILY UPDATES**

**\*SENDING HYMN**

**Jesus, I Live to You**

**\*WORDS OF SENDING AND PEACE**

**\*SENDING RESPONSE**

**Sent Forth by God's Blessing**

Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,  
The people of God from this dwelling take leave.  
The service is ended, O now be extended  
The fruits of our worship in all who believe.  
The seed of the teaching, receptive hearts reaching,  
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.  
God's grace did invite us, and love shall unite us  
To work for God's realm and to answer the call.

**POSTLUDE**

**I'll Fly Away - Barret**

***Grace United Church of Christ***

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Song for the Vineyard: Service Prayers for the 10th Sunday after Pentecost – Proper 15 were written by Rev. Dr. Dave Long-Higgins, Conference Minister of the Heartland Conference, United Church of Christ.

Our worship and reflection are guided and influenced by “We Make the Road by Walking”, written by Brian D. McLaren.



**Live stream can be found at:**

<https://www.facebook.com/gracetown/live>

## **THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

Monday:	7pm	Catching Our Spiritual Breath (A time of prayer) on Zoom
Tuesday:	9am-noon	Tuesday Crew meets here to do work on our building and grounds. You are welcome to join in!
	9am-noon	Office Hours
Wednesday:	9am-noon	Office Hours
	10am	Yoga in the Family Activity Center
Sunday		Third Sunday Food Drive
	9:15am	Adult Sunday School in HeBrews Café

## **WORSHIP LEADERS**

**Rick Hutcherson** is helping lead worship as our liturgist. Altar flowers are presented by **Steve and Kay Mitchell** in honor of their 54th anniversary. Our greeters this morning are **Tom and Shirley Rice**.

**Dave Forman, Mike Pirogowicz, Paul Sodergren, and Jim Lynn** serve as our Livestream and Sanctuary Technicians and **Tom DeFrance** serves as musician and accompanist.

## **About Today's Guest: Dr. Ikeshia Smith**

Today we welcome Dr. Ikeshia Smith to Grace. Dr. Smith will be sharing with us in worship and leading us in our After Thoughts conversation today. Ikeshia Smith completed her PsyD in Clinical Psychology and is acquiring her independent social worker license. Her interest is in providing therapy and conducting psychological testing/assessments to children, adolescents, and adults. Ikeshia's treatment approach is integrative with a foundation in cognitive-behavioral therapy. Ikeshia is passionate about diversity, inclusion and the LGBTQ population.

Ikeshia has an extensive history working with children, families, and the geriatric population. She has worked with children and families involving abuse and neglect and participated in Family Reunification Recovery Court to address substance abuse using motivational interviewing skills. With diversity and inclusion, Ikeshia participated on the diversity, equity, and inclusion team while completing her APA-Accredited Appalachian Internship, to create an agency-wide social justice program manual to implement among staff located in rural southern Ohio.

Lastly, Ikeshia is currently the chief strategist for a non-profit organization based out of Cleveland, Ohio that helps implement mental health focus groups in religious institutions.

Ikeshia earned her bachelor's degree from Kent State University in Ohio, her master's degree from Case Western Reserve University in Ohio, and earned her doctorate of clinical psychology from Capella University.

# AFTER > Thoughts!

> August 14    Topic > Mental Health

**After Thoughts:** A time to gather AFTER worship to share our THOUGHTS about a specific topic. For our next session we will welcome Dr. Ikesha Smith, Clinical Psychologist, to worship and then to lead us in our After Thoughts conversation. Dr. Smith has a long list of professional qualifications and is currently the chief strategist for a non-profit organization based out of Cleveland that helps implement mental health focus groups in religious institutions. She will be here to lead us in conversation so we can begin to learn more and discern how we want to incorporate a focus on mental health into our congregational vision of the future. Please come join us!

## 2022 Uniontown Lions Festival

The Uniontown Lions Festival is Wednesday, August 17 through Saturday, August 20. Grace will again host a Snow Cone booth, selling Snow Cones, water, and PowerAde. Lots of volunteers are needed to provide a presence. Last year was fun and we had good success getting our name out into the community. Over the next few weeks, look for more information about how to get involved, when and where to sign up for your time in the Snow Cone booth, and more!



**Join us at the  
Uniontown Lions Festival  
August 17-20**



**ALL  
FREE!**

**COMMUNITY**

**Inflatables**

**FUN  
FEST**

**Entertainment**

**Food**

**Games**

**FOR ALL!**

**Sunday, August 28  
2 -5 pm**



**GRACE UCC**



**13275 Cleveland Ave NW  
Uniontown, OH 44685**

**Water  
Balloon  
Launcher**

**And  
more!**

**gracetown.com**