



Grace United Methodist Church

October 3, 2021

OUR WELCOMING STATEMENT

We celebrate God's gift of diversity and value the wholeness made possible in community equally shared and shepherded by all. We welcome and affirm people of every gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation, who are also of every age, race, ethnicity, physical and mental ability, level of education, and family structure, and of every economic, immigration, marital, and social status.

We acknowledge that we live in a world of profound social, economic, and political inequities. As followers of Jesus, we commit ourselves to the pursuit of justice and pledge to stand in solidarity with all who are marginalized and oppressed.

We are all invited to bless this church with our love, our presence, and our participation.

PRELUDE

"Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread"
arr. June Nixon

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND GREETING ONE ANOTHER

CALL TO WORSHIP

Fashioned together by the hand of God,
we are fearfully and wonderfully made!
Since before we were even born,
we have dwelled in the heart of God.
In our depths, the Sacred resides.
In our becoming, the Sacred guides us.
May our lives be living praise to the Creator,
whose love brings us to life!

*OPENING HYMN

UMH 62

"All Creatures of Our God and King"
(Verses 1-5)

OPENING PRAYER

Blessed are we, O God, when we remember your delight in us. On days when we wonder if we are enough, when we feel broken, or when we struggle to feel our worth, your Spirit reaches out to us. You who brought us into being have more faith in us than we often have in ourselves. May we be renewed in belief and hear anew your dreams for us. Amen.

BAPTISM

Otto Bernard Haskins

Born 10/21/20

Parents: Marc & Brittney Haskins

Grandparents: Kevin & Teresa Wichtendahl,

Fred & Deb Haskins

Godparents: Ben Wichtendahl,

Stacey Haskins, Stephanie Haskins



Siblings in Christ:

Through the Sacrament of Baptism

we are initiated into Christ's holy Church.

We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation
and given new birth through water and the Spirit.

All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

It is our privilege to present to you all Otto Bernard Haskins for baptism.

On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you:

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness,

reject the evil powers of this world,

and repent of your sin?

I do.

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you

to resist evil, injustice, and oppression

in whatever forms they present themselves?

I do.

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior,

put your whole trust in his grace,

and promise to serve him as your Lord,

in union with the Church which Christ has opened

to people of all ages, nations, and races?

I do.

Will you nurture Otto

in Christ's holy Church,

that by your teaching and example they may be guided

to accept God's grace for themselves,

to profess their faith openly,

and to lead a Christian life?

We will.

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church,

reaffirm both your rejection of sin

and your commitment to Christ?

We do.

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life

and include these persons now before you in your care?

**With God's help we will proclaim the good news
and live according to the example of Christ.**

We will surround these persons

with a community of love and forgiveness,

that they may grow in their trust of God,

and be found faithful in their service to others.

We will pray for them,

that they may be true disciples

who walk in the way that leads to life.

Let us pray.

Eternal God:

When nothing existed but chaos,

you swept across the dark waters

and brought forth light.

In the days of Noah

you saved those on the ark through water.

After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow.

When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt,

you led them to freedom through the sea.

Their children you brought through the Jordan

to the land which you promised.

Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Tell of God's mercy each day.

In the fullness of time you sent Jesus,

nurtured in the water of a womb.

He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit.

He called his disciples

to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection
and to make disciples of all nations.

**Declare Christ's works to the nations,
his glory among all the people.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit,
to bless this gift of water and those who receive it,
to wash away their sin
and clothe them in righteousness
throughout their lives,
that, dying and being raised with Christ,
they may share in his final victory.

**All praise to you, Eternal God,
through your Son Jesus Christ,
who with you and the Holy Spirit
lives and reigns for ever. Amen.**

Otto, I baptize you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
One God, Mother of us all. **Amen.**

The Holy Spirit work within you,
that being born through water and the Spirit,
you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Now it is our joy to welcome
our new sibling in Christ.

**Through baptism
you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit
into God's new creation
and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood.
We are all one in Christ Jesus.
With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you
as members of the family of Christ.**

Members of the household of God,
I commend these persons to your love and care.
Do all in your power to increase their faith,
confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

**We give thanks for all that God has already given you
and we welcome you in Christian love.**

**As members together with you
in the body of Christ
and in this congregation
of The United Methodist Church,
we renew our covenant
faithfully to participate
in the ministries of the Church
by our prayers, our presence,
our gifts, our service and our witness,
that in everything God may be glorified
through Jesus Christ.**

The God of all grace,
who has called us to eternal glory in Christ,
establish you and strengthen you
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
that you may live in grace and peace.

READING

Matthew 6:5-15

SERMON

"Covenant - Prayers"

Pastor Nate Nims

COMMUNION

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin
and seek to live in peace with one another.
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

**Merciful God,
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.**

**We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will,
we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love,
we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hear the good news:
Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
that proves God's love toward us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
Glory to God. Amen.**

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,
God Almighty, 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 the prophets.

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 the one 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.

When the Lord Jesus ascended,
he promised to be with us always,
in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

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.

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 God,
now and forever.

Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE PRAYER JESUS TAUGHT

Our Father, (God, Creator) 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

ANTHEM

Chancel Choir

**"A Communion Meditation"
Nancy Price and Don Besig**

OFFERING

CLOSING HYMN

UMH 451

"Be Thou My Vision"

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Collections for UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief)

Personal Dignity Kits

- I Bath Hand Towel (No kitchen towels)
- I Bath Washcloth (No dishcloths)
- I Adult Toothbrush (No multipacks)
- I Bar Soap - 3-4 oz
- I Shampoo - 15-18 oz
- I Deodorant - 2-3 oz - stick, roll on, or pump

Personal Dignity Kits

- 3 Notebooks (I subject spiral 8" x 10 1/2")
- I Ruler (12" long with metric)
- 6 Pencils (unsharpened)
- I Pencil Sharpener
- I Pencil Eraser (2" or larger)
- I Box 12 Colored Pencils
- I Box 24 Crayons
- I Pair of Scissors (round tip)



This year's Charge Conference will be on Sunday, October 10, at 5:00 p.m. at Walnut Hills UMC (12321 Hickman Road, Urbandale).

Agenda

Plenary
Introduction/gathering
Devotion
Glory Sightings
Circuit Lay Leadership
Simpson Youth Academy

Leading: Breakouts for individual charge conferences with assigned presiding elders
Ministry Report
Trustees
Membership
Nominations
Ministry Enlistments
Form I and Resolutions

Leaning: Plenary
Moving forward: Ministry highlights and missional opportunities
RAD (Reflect. Adjust. Do)
Closing

Guide to Prayer and Study

Monday

Read - John 17:11, 13-21

Notice - Jesus uses the word 'our' a lot in the Lord's Prayer. Jesus says our father, our daily bread, our trespasses, and so on. While we often pray for personal reasons, Jesus begins the prayer that he taught the disciples with, "Our Father..." reminding us that we are all part of the same family. Just hours before he went to the cross, Jesus prayed forcefully for his followers to be one. "Holy Father, watch over them in your name... that they will be one just as we are one.... I pray they will be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you." In a world that tends to focus on our differences, how can you better open your heart to let the Holy Spirit create the type of oneness for which Jesus prayed?

Pray - Jesus, guide your people all over the earth. Guide me. Help me to live so that words like "peace," "unity," "humility" and "love" will be the main qualities others see in me. Amen.

Tuesday

Read - Psalm 139:7-12, Acts 17:24-28

Notice - The phrase "who is in heaven" in the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples is, in Greek, ouranos. Often we think of heaven as an unspecified location far away, but ouranos can be translated into air or atmosphere too. The idea of heaven may always seem far away, but God is also as close as the air we breathe. Paul went on to tell the Athenians, "We have no need to imagine that the divine being is like a gold, silver, or stone image made by human skill and thought" (Acts 17:29). Few in today's first-world cultures specifically worship gold, silver or stone images. But more broadly, many of us are tugged to give a life priority to lots of gold, silver, or stone objects (as well as many other materials). What helps you maintain a focus on the God who "isn't far away from any of us"?

Pray - God, I believe in and trust you as a personal being who loves me and my world. Help me live and act in ways that show that your love has touched my life. Amen.

Wednesday

Read - Matthew 6:12, 14-15, Luke 11:4

Notice - In addition to hamartia (which meant “missing the mark”), Greek used other words for “sin.” Luke 11:4 used hamartia about our sins, but it used a form of opheleima, which meant “a debt owed to someone,” about what we forgive in others. Matthew 6:12 also used opheleima, while Matthew 6:14-15 used a form of paraptoma, which meant a lapse or slip-up. Scholar William Barclay wrote: “Of all petitions of the Lord’s Prayer this is the most frightening. ‘Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors’.... It is... quite clear that... if we say, ‘I will never forgive so-and-so for what he or she has done to me’... and then take this petition on our lips, we are quite deliberately asking God not to forgive us.... To be forgiven we must forgive, and that is a condition of forgiveness which only the power of Christ can enable us to fulfill.” Who do you need to forgive?

Pray - God, I have sins, debts and lapses aplenty toward you and others. Forgive me—and strengthen me to forgive others. Amen.

Thursday

Read - Psalm 23:1-3, Romans 8:12-14

Notice - King David had worked as a shepherd (cf. 1 Samuel 16:11, 17:34-36), and likely wrote Psalm 23. He knew a shepherd’s job description from his own experience, and pictured God as his shepherd. Centuries later, the apostle Paul said the defining characteristic of a child of God is allowing God’s Spirit to lead you. As a shepherd leads his flock of sheep in the ways that best protect and nurture them, so God leads those who put their trust in him. The apostle Paul addressed readers as “brothers and sisters” in Romans 8:12. The use of these family terms reminded his readers that, as in the Lord’s Prayer, God is our parent who leads us lovingly and well. What direction is God leading you in today?

Pray - Lord, thank you for being my shepherd. Lead me into a truly good life, based not on my own wishes and instincts, but on your eternal principles. Amen.

Friday

Read - Acts 1:6-8, Ephesians 3:18-21

Notice - The prayer that Jesus taught his disciples ends by talking about the ‘kingdom, the glory and the power forever’. Jesus promises the power to carry on his mission to the ends of the earth. Jesus said to people pretty much like us, “You will be my witnesses.” What factors made it more powerful for God to use people (us!) as witnesses? Whose witness has shaped your life? In what ways have you been able to live out Jesus’ commission for you to be one of his witnesses? Find a quiet time to spend with God this week. Ask God to spark a vision in you of what God’s power might do in and through you that goes far beyond all that you could ask or imagine.

Pray - Jesus, you promise me your power—not the power to boss people around, but the winning, persuasive power of self-giving love. Make me powerful as Jesus was. Amen.

Saturday

Read - Philippians 2:1-4

Notice - When we pray that things on earth may be as they are in heaven, we should become people that are “the best at showing honor to each other.... If possible, to the best of your ability, live at peace with all people.” What inner fears make it hard to honor and live at peace with people who are different from you? How can the truth that the eternal God loves and values you give you a footing on which you can set aside the need to climb above others?

Pray - Jesus, I want my life to count for good, to make this world a better place. May I not just talk about them but live them humbly and gratefully every day. Amen.



Grace Youth Wreath Sale

The Grace Youth are selling wreaths & greenery with proceeds supporting activities like the Wesley Heritage/Choir Trip to Europe 2023.

Wreaths and greenery may be ordered by:

Filing out this form and returning it with payment to the church at
Grace Youth

c/o GRACE WREATH SALE

3700 Cottage Grove Ave., Des Moines, IA, 50311

or by contact any Grace Youth Group member or Kari & John Walker at 515-210-7367 or johnwalker3000@gmail.com.

Orders may be placed through November 15th. Orders will be available for pick up at Grace on Saturday, November 20th.

Please Check one: ☐ I will pick up my order ☐ Please deliver my order

	Price	Quantity	Total
22 in. Wreath	\$ 23.00	_____	_____
36 in. Wreath	\$ 40.00	_____	_____
12 in. Door Swag	\$ 20.00	_____	_____
25 ft. Balsam garland	\$ 34.00	_____	_____
Cemetery wreath holders	\$ 10.00	_____	_____
	Total	_____	_____

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____
 E-mail: _____
 Notes: _____

WORSHIP LEADERS: Rev. Nate Nims; Jenna Pokorny, liturgist; Ann Gerdorn, Music Director and organist; Michael Gookin, Choir Director.

† In hymns, prayers, and liturgies, use language that makes worship meaningful, enriching, and inclusive.

*Please rise in body or in spirit

All music used under OneLicense A-727197

Hymnals: United Methodist Hymnal (UMH); The Faith We Sing (TFWS); Worship & Song (W&S).

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer from enfleshed, www.enfleshed.com



Grace United Methodist Church

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Find us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter

Worship in-person with us at 10:15 a.m. Sunday morning, or join us online.

Watch the livestream of the 10:15 am service on the GraceDesMoines Facebook page, on our YouTube channel, or at gracedesmoines.org.