

Glorification: One of the great blessings of the Christian faith is the assurance of eternal life. Right standing with God is a sheer gift received by simple faith.

Means of Grace: From first to last, the Christian life is a gift. However, Christians have the response-ability to put themselves in the way of God’s grace through classic practices such as prayer, learning God’s Word, worship, fellowship, etc.

Grace is the transformative power of God to change a human life: Romans 2: •Don’t you see how wonderfully kind, tolerant, and patient God is with you? Does this mean nothing to you? Can’t you see that his kindness is intended to turn you from your sin? (New Living Translation)

Algona First United Methodist Church

Experience God’s Grace

Prevenient: Drawn to the Father’s loving embrace.

Justifying: Jesus dying in my place

Sanctifying: The Spirit’s strength to run the race.

Glorification: God’s love shines forever upon my face.



Welcome Serve Love

This Week’s Schedule

July 12

- Men’s Breakfast 8am
- Worship 5pm

July 13

- Worship 9am

July 14

- ELO 9-2pm
- Eastland Bible Study @ 1:30pm
- VBS 5:30-7:30pm

July 15

- Homestead 9am
- Van Buren 10am
- VBS 5:30-7:30pm

July 16

- ELO 9-2pm
- VBS 5:30-7:30pm

July 18

- ELO 9-10am
- Office closes @ 12 noon

Announcements

Mission of the Month is Student Kits

3 Notebooks - 1 subject spiral 8"x10 1/2"

1 Ruler - 12" long with metric

6 Pencils - unsharpened

1 Pencil sharpener

1 Pencil eraser - 2" or larger

1 Box 12 colored pencils

1 Box 24 crayons

1 Pair student scissors

1 One-handed cloth bag

The Student Kit has been requested by our partner Food For The Poor to be used for disaster relief. Food For The Poor makes giant disaster relief kits for entire communities that commonly experience disasters. We provide Student Kits so children are occupied in the aftermath of a disaster, and so that they have a few basic school items for when they can return to school.

Our Mission

Bringing the hearts and hands of God's people together to transform resources into humanitarian relief.

What We Do:

We send tangible resources to those in need to make an intangible difference in their lives through hope and empowerment. In times of crisis internationally and in the United States, Disaster Relief, Health, Education, and Micro Business supplies are given freely through trusted partner nonprofits.

VBS is this Week!

Butter Braid Fundraiser Ends Tuesday! Get your orders in!

Pork & Sweet Corn Supper is August 5 4:30-6:30pm. Come to the office to get your tickets!

Order of Worship

Prelude *"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound" Composed by John A. Behnke*

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: It is by God’s grace that we gather for worship.

People: And it is by God’s grace that our lives are changed.

Leader: We are counting on the active and amazing grace of God today.

People: By your Holy Spirit, enliven our worship.

Leader: Help us by our actions to be faithful followers of Jesus.

People: For this, we give you thanks and praise.

Unison Opening Prayer

God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Song #365 *“Grace Greater than Our Sin”*

Old Testament Reading *Psalm 67*

Congregational Prayer

O Father, we come before You, grateful for Your everlasting goodness that surrounds us each day. Help us to embrace Your love and mercy, finding strength in Your promises. May our hearts be filled with gratitude, and may we reflect Your goodness in our lives, sharing it with others.

Lord Jesus, we come before You with hearts full of gratitude for Your boundless grace. Thank You for the unmerited favor that transforms our lives and draws us closer to You. May we always celebrate and share this incredible gift, reflecting Your love and mercy in our actions. Help us to live in a way that honors Your grace, bringing glory to Your name.

Holy Spirit, we welcome You anew in gratitude, recognizing that Your goodness and grace encompass our lives. May we feel Your loving presence in every moment, guiding our hearts toward mercy and compassion. Help us to reflect Your grace to others, embodying the love You have so abundantly given us. Amen.

*Song #371 *“I Stand Amazed in the Presence” Verses 1, 2, 4, 5*

Sharing of Joys & Prayer Requests

Pastoral Prayer & the Lord’s Prayer

Offering & *Doxology

*Offertory Prayer

Holy Spirit, you are our guide and our peace. As we offer these gifts today, help us trust in Your presence, knowing that You are at work through us. May these financial resources fund ministries that bring comfort and assurance to others, just as Jesus’ words bring peace to our hearts. In his name, we pray.

Children’s Message

New Testament Reading *Ephesians 2:1-10*

Message *“Grace!”*

*Song *The Faith We Sing* #2162 *“Grace Alone”*

Communion

*Response #378 *“Amazing Grace” Verse 1*

*Benediction

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Postlude *"God of Grace" Composed by Paul Manz*

We welcome Tom Dearchs as our guest organist this weekend.

Sermon Notes

Grace!

1*) Definition:

At the heart of Wesleyan/Methodist theology and practice is a profound understanding and vital experience of grace. John Wesley defined grace as God's "bounty, or favor: his free, undeserved favor, ... man having no claim to the least of his mercies." The Book of Discipline defines grace as "the undeserved, unmerited, and loving action of God in human existence through the ever-present Holy Spirit." *Source: <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/content/a-wesleyan-understanding-of-grace>*

2*) The Centrality of Grace:

Grace pervades all of creation and is universally present. Grace is God's presence to create, heal, forgive, reconcile and transform human hearts, communities and the entire Creation.

Wherever God is present, there is grace! Grace brought creation into existence. Grace birthed human beings, bestowed on us the divine image, redeemed us in Jesus Christ and is ever transforming the whole creation into the realm of God's reign of compassion, justice, generosity and peace. *Source: <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/content/a-wesleyan-understanding-of-grace>* From Genesis to Revelation, the Bible is permeated with the message of grace!

3*) Our Wesleyan tradition has a unique framework for understanding grace:

Prevenient: Drawn to the Father’s loving Embrace.

Justifying: Jesus dying in my place.

Sanctifying: The Spirit’s strength to run the race.

Glorification: God’s love shines forever upon my face. In the coming weeks, we will explore Prevenient, Justifying and Sanctifying Grace as well as the Means of Grace.

4*) This understanding of Grace provides powerful direction for our ministry:

Prevenient Grace: God takes the initiative to reach us “where we are”. We will take the initiative to love our neighbor and be a powerful force of good in our community.

Justifying Grace: Through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, we have been brought into relationship with Jesus. Our sins are forgiven! We are reconciled to God! We will share the Good News that God’s love and forgiveness is available to all.

Sanctifying Grace: God invites us to a new way of doing life. We are part of a new community, we joyfully embrace a lifestyle of service, we are empowered by the Holy Spirit. It’s all about LOVE!