



October 29, 2023 – Livestream
Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunil Kotian

MINISTRY INTEREST SURVEY

<https://forms.gle/sYvwyu9H7zPXNeal9>

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

Prelude No. 2

G. Gershwin
Becky Archibald, piano

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Insiders and outcasts,
friends and foes,
disciples and disputers
in the name of Jesus,

People: welcome to the house of peace.

Leader: Searchers and strangers,
skeptics and sinners,
dreamers and doubters
in the name of Jesus,

People: welcome to the home of grace.

*OPENING HYMN #365

Grace Greater than Our Sin

***Marvelous grace of our loving Lord, grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt!
Yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured, there where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.***

***Refrain: Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
grace, grace, God's grace, grace that is greater than all our sin!***

***Sin and despair, like the sea waves cold, threaten the soul with infinite loss;
grace that is greater, yes, grace untold, points to the refuge, the mighty cross. (Refrain)***

***Dark is the stain that we cannot hide. What can avail to wash it away?
Look! There is flowing a crimson tide, brighter than snow you may be today. (Refrain)***

***Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace, freely bestowed on all who believe!
You that are longing to see his face, will you this moment his grace receive? (Refrain)***

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear.
 What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer.
 Oh, what peace we often forfeit. Oh, what needless pain we bear,
 all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

Swahili: Yesu kwetu ni Rafiki. Maombi asikia

OPENING PRAYER

O God,
you are the parent and protector of all peoples,
and in your grace, we live and move and have our being.
Stir up in us a desire to discover
the power of your invincible love
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PIANO SOLO

Lamentango

Becky Archibald, composer

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE #766

Psalm 32

Brandon Wallace

Leader: Blessed are those whose transgression is forgiven,
 whose sin is covered.

People: Blessed are those whom the Lord does not hold guilty,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

Leader: While I did not declare my sin, my body wasted away
 through my groaning all day long.

People: For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

Leader: I acknowledged my sin to you,
 and I did not hide my iniquity;

People: I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord',
then you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Leader: Therefore let those who are godly
 offer prayer to you;

People: at a time of distress, the rush of great waters
shall not reach them.

Leader: You are a hiding place for me;
 you preserve me from trouble;
 you encompass me with deliverance.

People: I will instruct you and teach you
the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

Leader: Do not be like an unruly horse, without understanding,
 whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle.

People: Many are the pangs of the wicked,
but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.

Leader: Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O righteous;

People: shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

FIRST LESSON

Acts 17:26-31

²⁶ From one person God created all peoples to live on the whole earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their lands, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps search for and find God. In fact, God isn't far away from any of us. ²⁸ In God we live, move, and exist. As some of your own poets said, 'We are God's offspring.'

²⁹ "Therefore, as God's offspring, we have no need to imagine that the divine being is like a gold, silver, or stone image made by human skill and thought. ³⁰ God overlooks ignorance of these things in times past, but now directs everyone everywhere to change their hearts and lives. ³¹ This is because God has set a day to judge the world justly by a man the Lord has appointed. God has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead."

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

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF PRAYER #355

Depth of Mercy

***Depth of mercy! Can there be mercy still reserved for me?
Can my God his wrath forbear, me, the chief of sinners, spare?***

***I have long withstood his grace, long provoked him to his face,
would not hearken to his calls, grieved him by a thousand falls.***

***I my Master have denied, I afresh have crucified,
oft profaned his hallowed name, put him to an open shame.***

***There for me the Savior stands, shows his wounds and spreads his hands.
God is love! I know, I feel; Jesus weeps and loves me still.***

***Now incline me to repent, let me now my sins lament,
now my foul revolt deplore, weep, believe, and sin no more.***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Darren Cushman Wood

THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

**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 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.**

MUSICAL RESPONSE #2276

Glory to God in the Highest

***Glory to God in the highest! Sing glory to God!
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth!***

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY SOLO

Grace

arr. M. Hayes
Ron Berry, soloist

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and that same grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear the hour when I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already safely come;
this grace that brought me safe thus far, and surely grace will lead me home. I shall go home.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the glorious sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than since the day we first begun.

*DOXOLOGY #94

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow****Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;******Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!******Praise God, the source of all our gifts!******Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!******Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:31-39

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

'For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.'

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Where Can You Go?

Amy Sell

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #371

I Stand Amazed in the Presence

***I stand amazed in the presence of Jesus the Nazarene,
and wonder how he could love me, a sinner, condemned, unclean.***

***Refrain: How marvelous! How wonderful! And my song shall ever be:
How marvelous! How wonderful is my Savior's love for me!***

***For me it was in the garden he prayed: "Not my will, but thine."
He had no tears for his own griefs, but sweat-drops of blood for mine. (Refrain)***

*In pity angels beheld him, and came from the world of light
to comfort him in the sorrows he bore for my soul that night. (Refrain)*

*He took my sins and my sorrows, he made them his very own;
he bore the burden to Calvary, and suffered and died alone. (Refrain)*

*When with the ransomed in glory his face I at last shall see,
'twill be my joy through the ages to sing of his love for me. (Refrain)*

*THE CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Grand Choeur

T. Salomé

This week's worship leaders:

Darren Cushman Wood, *Senior Pastor*
Sunil Kotian, *Pastor of Mission & Outreach*
Amy Sell, *Minister of Discipleship & Formation*
Brandon Wallace, *Minister of Youth & Young Adults*
Greg Jordan, *Liturgist*
Eric Russell, James Horton and Allen McCormack, *Audio Visual*
Heather Hinton, *Organist*

The Unwelcome Exhibit will be on display at North Church throughout the month of October. This interactive exhibit is designed by The Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana to inform and educate participants of the systemic barriers. These barriers have impacted our neighborhoods through redlining, racial covenants, steering, neighborhood intimidation, and other forms of housing discrimination. Modern-day forms of housing discrimination in sales and lending will also be highlighted.

Invite your friends and family to view the exhibit,
which will be on display throughout the week from 9:00 am-2:30pm.

Upcoming Events

Charge Conference, Today, 3pm, at Bethel UMC
(5252 W. 52nd Street, Indianapolis)

Trunk-or-Treat, Today, 4-6pm in Northwest parking lot

Young Adult Indy Fuel game, November 10 at 7pm. Cost is \$20

Thanksgiving Feast and Game Night, November 17, 5-8pm

Scan to make your 2024 pledge

