



February 12th
6th Sunday after Epiphany

- Gathering -

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

Holy Wisdom gathers us together with tenderness and care.
With gentleness, calling us into the dwelling place of God.

Our pain, our fears, and all our unmet longings - they are safe in Her embrace.
In the company of God, we tend honestly to the state of our souls.

In the depths of our being, the Spirit dwells with Her healing love.
In due time, God mends the broken heart.

The Beloved One says, "come."
Let all who long for restoration bring every ache and ill.

Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
the Word made flesh,
our life and our salvation.
Amen.

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of life,
you promise good news of great joy for all people,
and call us to be messengers of your peace.
**We confess that too often we hoard our joy,
our resources, and our security.**
We nurture conflict and build barriers.
**We neglect the needs of our neighbors
and ignore the groaning of creation.**
Have mercy on us.
Where we are self-centered, open our hearts.
Where we are reluctant, give us courage.
Where we are cynical, restore our trust.
Renew us with your grace
and give us again the hope of eternal life in you.
Amen.

Hear the good news:
We are children of God and heirs of God's promises
through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.
In ☩ Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed.
Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth
shall know the salvation of God.
Amen.

Opening Hymn

Healer of Our Every Ill
ELW 612, verses 1-4

Greeting & Prayer of the Day

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the
Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

God of Wisdom and Strength, we are mortal and we fail time and time again – yet
you offer us neverending grace and abounding forgiveness through Christ, that we
might continue to grow closer to You. Help make us aware of our own inner
weakness, and the areas in which we need help and support, so that we may live
into your teachings and live out your love. Through Jesus Christ and with the Holy
Spirit, we pray.

Amen.

- Word -

First Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Unfortunately, sisters and brothers, I was unable to speak to you as a spiritual people. I had to treat you as a sensual people, still infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, since you weren't ready for it. Indeed, you still aren't ready for it, since you're still far too carnal – a fact that should be obvious from all the jealousy and wrangling that there is among you, from the way that you go on behaving like ordinary people! What could be more nonspiritual than your slogans, "I belong to Paul," and "I belong to Apollos"?

After all, who is Apollos? And who is Paul? They are ministers through whom you came to believe. Even the different ways in which they brought the Gospel were assigned to them by God. I did the planting, Apollos did the watering, but God caused the growth. Neither the planter nor the waterer matters – only God, who makes things grow. It is all one who does the planting and who does the watering; and all will be duly paid according to their share in the work. We are coworkers with God; you are God's farm, God's building.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119:1-8

Happiness comes to those whose way is blameless,
who walk in your Law, YHWH.

**Happiness comes to those who keep your decrees,
and seek you with all their heart,**
and do no wrong, but walk in your ways.

**You have commanded that your precepts
be kept diligently –**
if only I were more faithful
in keeping your statutes!

**Then I wouldn't feel so ashamed
when I look at all your commands.**

I will thank you with an upright heart,
when I truly learn to be as just as you want me to be.
**I will obey your statutes;
do not utterly forsake me.**

Gospel: Matthew 5:21-30, 33-37

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 5th chapter.

"You've heard that our ancestors were told, 'No killing' and, 'Every murderer will be subject to judgment.' But I tell you that everyone who is angry with sister or brother is subject to judgment; anyone who says to sister or brother, 'I spit in your face!' will be subject to the Sanhedrin; and anyone who vilifies them with name-calling will be subject to the fires of Gehenna.

"If you bring your gift to the altar and there remember that your sister or brother has a grudge against you, leave your gift there at the altar. Go be reconciled to them, and then come and offer your gift.

"Lose no time in settling with your opponents – do so while still on the way to the courthouse with them. Otherwise your opponents may hand you over to the judge, and the judge hand you over to the bailiff, who will throw you into prison. I warn you, you won't get out until you have paid the last penny.

"You've heard the commandment, 'No committing adultery.' But I tell you that those who look lustfully at others have already committed adultery with them in their hearts. If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and throw it away. It's better to lose part of your body than to have it all cast into Gehenna. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away! It's better to lose part of your body than to have it all cast into Gehenna.

"Again, you have heard that our ancestors were told, 'Don't break your vow; fulfill all oaths made to our God.' But I tell you not to swear oaths at all. Don't swear by heaven, for it is God's throne; don't swear by the earth, for it is God's footstool. Don't swear by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great Ruler. And don't swear by your own head, for you can't make a single hair white or black. Say 'Yes' when you mean 'Yes' and 'No' when you mean 'No.' Anything beyond that is from the Evil One."

Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Miranda Bermes-Goller

Hymn of the Day

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

ELW 772, verses 1-4

Affirmation of Faith – Augustana Lutheran Contemporary Liturgy

Please stand as you are able as we confess our faith in God together using the words of our common creed:

**We believe in God, Mother and Father of All,
Who has called us all to work together to
build a new world of Unity and Peace.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Our Brother,
Who suffered, died and rose again for Us,
that We might learn to live for Others,
and find Hope in His victory over death.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
in the power of Truth, of Peace and of Love.**

**We believe in the Church,
the unity and fellowship to which All are called,
that We may heal the shattered world,
and find a new and better Life,
through Christ Our Redeemer, Amen**

Joys & Concerns

If you have any joys, concerns, or prayer requests to share, please type them into the comment section of the livestream so that we may lift them up together as a community.

Prayers of the People

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Nourish your creation. Accompany all who plant and water. Bless the work of farmers; provide for subsistence farmers facing drought and climate change. Guide the work of agricultural scientists toward sustainable ways to feed the world.

God of grace,

Receive our prayer.

Give growth where there seems to be no hope for life. In nations and regions where reconciliation seems impossible, empower peacemakers with your Spirit. Where death holds sway through violence, disease, and hunger, equip relief workers to bring hope.

God of grace,

Receive our prayer.

Encourage this congregation. Call us to a common purpose and keep us from quarreling. Turn our hearts toward you and guide our leaders, so that our choices may be lifegiving for all.

God of grace,

Receive our prayer.

Inspire your church that it may be a sign of life throughout the world. Through the exploration of faith in questions and curiosity, shape lives of faithfulness among us, so that all find abundant life in your ways.

God of grace,

Receive our prayer.

Nurture all in need. Bring healing to all who experience trauma caused by systems of injustice and destructive relationships. Give courage to those struggling to repent and those seeking reconciliation. Sustain all who work for restoration.

God of grace,

Receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.

Amen.

Offering

*At this time, if you are willing and able, please consider giving to
Spirit of Grace Church to support our ongoing ministry.*

Checks can be mailed to 1140 Tucker Road, Hood River OR, 97031.

Online Donations can be made through the link below:

[Spirit of Grace Church](#)

Offering Prayer

Liberating God,
you break the bonds of injustice
and let the oppressed go free.
Receive these offerings in thanksgiving
for all your works of merciful power,
and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.
You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,
Amen

Disciples' Prayer

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us, using the language you are most familiar with - the language of your heart.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

- Sending -

Sending Song:

The Church's One Foundation
UMH 546 – verses 1, 2, and 4

Benediction & Dismissal

The God who faithfully brings forth justice
and breaks the oppressor's rod
☩ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,
today and always.

Amen.

Go in peace. The Spirit of God is alive in you!
Thanks be to God!



1140 Tucker Rd. Hood River, OR 97031
541-386-3993
www.hoodriverchurch.org

Church Office Hours
Closed on Fridays

Pastor Miranda Bermes-Goller
M-Th 9-1, or by appointment
spiritofgracepastor@gmail.com

Linda Boris, Pastoral Assistant
Tuesday 10-1

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Hymn of the Day:

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