

“Don’t Look Back: Press On!”



September 13, 2020
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Life at Grace Announcements

Opening Voluntary

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

arr. Mark Hayes (on piano)

Call to Worship *(responsive)*

(from John 14:6)

As we gather this day to worship the Lord, we may not know which direction to turn.

Jesus said, “I am the way.”

As we gather this day to worship the Lord, there are many voices telling us this and that. It is hard to discern what is true.

Jesus said, “I am the truth.”

As we gather this day to worship the Lord, we feel like so much is holding us back: our fear, our failures, our weariness.

Jesus said, “I am the life.” We will trust in him as we move forward.

Let us worship the Lord our God!

Opening Prayer

Praise

“Way Maker”

by Osinachi Kalu Okoro Egbu

Verse 1

You are here moving in our midst

I worship You I worship You

You are here working in this place

I worship You I worship You

Chorus

(You are) Way Maker Miracle Worker Promise Keeper

Light in the darkness my God that is who You are

Verse 2

You are here touching ev'ry heart

I worship You I worship You

You are here healing ev'ry heart

I worship You I worship You

Verse 3

*You are here turning lives around
I worship You I worship You
You are here mending ev'ry heart
I worship You yeah I worship You Lord*

Tag

*That is who You are
That is who You are
That is who You are
That is who You are*

Bridge

*Even when I don't see it You're working
Even when I don't feel it You're working
You never stop You never stop working
You never stop You never stop working*

Prayer of Confession and Silent Confession

Great and Wonderful God, we spend too much time worrying about the past, hoping we can stay there or change it. We rehearse too much anxiety about the future, pretending we even know what will happen tomorrow or by denying that we are safely in your care. We forget to live the abundant life you have promised us in Christ Jesus: enjoying bread enough for today and pressing on toward the goal of the upward call in Christ Jesus. Forgive us! Remind us to move forward, strong and courageous, for you are with us wherever we go, in Christ Jesus our Risen Lord. Amen!

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 8:31, 32

If God is for us, who can be against us? He 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? Believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Hallelujah! Amen!

Response (Hymn 581)

“Glory Be to the Father”

GLORIA PATRI (Creatorex)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Passing the Peace of Christ

Hymn 450

“Be Thou My Vision”

SLANE

1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art--
thou my best thought by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father, I thy true son;
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

3 Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

4 High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Old Testament Reading

Joshua 1:1-9

After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' assistant, saying, "My servant Moses is dead. Now proceed to cross the Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the Israelites. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses. From the wilderness and the Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, to the Great Sea in the west shall be your territory. No one shall be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous; for you shall put this people in possession of the land that I swore to their ancestors to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to act in accordance with all the law that my servant Moses commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that you may be successful wherever you go. This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful. I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Epistle Reading

Philippians 3:7-14

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Message

"Don't Look Back - Press On!"

Affirmation of Faith

23rd Psalm

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Time of Commitment

Tithes & Offerings

"Living Hope"

by Brian Johnson and Phil Wickham

Verse 1

How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished the end is written
Jesus Christ my living hope

Verse 2

Who could imagine so great a mercy
What heart could fathom such boundless grace
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken I am forgiven
The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever
Jesus Christ my living hope

Chorus

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope

Verse 3

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me

(REPEAT)

Jesus Yours is the victory whoa

Ending

Jesus Christ my living hope
Oh God You are my living hope

Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

Sacrament of Communion

1 God of grace and God of glory,
 on your people pour your power;
 crown your ancient church's story,
 bring its bud to glorious flower.
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
 for the facing of this hour,
 for the facing of this hour.

2 Lo! the hosts of evil round us
 scorn the Christ, assail his ways!
 From the fears that long have bound us
 free our hearts to faith and praise.
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
 for the living of these days,
 for the living of these days.

3 Cure your children's warring madness;
 bend our pride to your control;
 shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
 rich in things and poor in soul.
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
 lest we miss your kingdom's goal,
 lest we miss your kingdom's goal.

4 Save us from weak resignation
 to the evils we deplore;
 let the gift of your salvation
 be our glory evermore.
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
 serving you whom we adore,
 serving you whom we adore.

Benediction

Closing Voluntary

"Now Thank We All Our God"

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

Participating in Worship	
Rev. Dr. Tracey Davenport	Pastor, Head of Staff
Rev. Cara Ellis	Children's Pastor
Michael King	Director of Music Ministries
Trenton Hull	Worship Leader
Andrew Packard	Organist
Valerie Goldsmith	Soprano
Roy Davis	A/V
Mark Kinney	A/V
Deann Collins	A/V

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the Glory of God in celebration of our new Pastor, Head of Staff, Rev. Dr. Tracey Davenport.