

Welcome to Grace United Methodist Church

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 16, 2026

Prelude and Choral Introit

Welcome and Announcements (Birthdays and Anniversaries)

*Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: Come, all who have cried out and wondered whether God was listening.

People: We come trusting that the mercy of Christ is greater than every silence.

Leader: Come, all who have felt pushed aside, overlooked, or unwelcome.

People: We come to the One whose grace reaches beyond every human boundary.

Leader: Come with persistent faith, bringing the needs of those you love.

People: We come believing that even a word from Jesus can bring healing and hope.

Leader: Christ sees those the world ignores and welcomes those others send away.

People: We will worship the Lord whose mercy is wide, whose love is faithful, and whose table has room for all.

All: Let us worship God.
Christ our Savior.

***Gathering Hymn** *Amazing Grace* No. 378

*Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God, whose love reaches beyond every boundary we create.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who sees those others overlook, hears the cries of the suffering, and offers mercy to all who come to Him in faith.

We believe that Christ's grace is not scarce, His compassion is not limited, and His welcome is not reserved for people who look, speak, or live like us.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who draws every heart toward Christ, gives courage to the weary, and teaches the Church to cross barriers with humility and love.

We believe we are called to see the forgotten, welcome the outsider, stand beside the hurting, and share the good news of Jesus in word and action.

We trust that God's mercy is greater than our failures, His grace is stronger than every barrier, and His love is enough for the whole world. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (All)

Merciful God, we confess that we have not always seen people as You see them. We have judged by appearances, protected our comfort, and allowed familiar boundaries to become walls. We have heard the cries of hurting people and treated them as interruptions. We have passed by those who needed kindness, remained silent when we could have spoken of Christ, and waited for someone else to offer help.

Forgive us for guarding grace as though it were scarce. Forgive us for deciding who belongs before we have listened to their story. Forgive us for speaking of Your welcome while keeping others at a distance.

Give us the persistent faith of the Canaanite woman. Teach us to trust Your goodness when answers are delayed and Your presence seems hidden. Give us the compassion of Christ so that we may see the overlooked, hear the desperate, and carry Your mercy beyond the walls of the church.

Silent confession

Leader: Hear the good news: Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners, welcome outsiders, heal the broken, and bring us near to God. When we cry, "Lord, help us," Christ meets us with mercy. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: Glory to God. Amen.

***The Gloria Patri** No. 70

Prayer Concerns, Praises & Pastoral Prayer

Hymn of Preparation The Gift of Love No. 408

Children's Sermon

Sharing the Word Great Faith at the Edges Matt. 15: 21-28

***Sending Hymn** *Grace Greater than Our Sins* No. 365

*Benediction

Announcements

Join us on August 30th at 5:30 pm for a Family Fun Game Night.

Volunteers and food donations are needed for the Hospitality Table for upcoming weeks. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you can help.

If you have a prayer concern that you want listed in the bulletin, please text Amy Dotson at 662-660-4437. If you have information about someone on our prayer list or if someone should be removed, please let Amy know that as well.

The August 2026 newsletter is available at
<https://graceumciuka.org/events/newsletters>

The Helpful Samaritan Food Pantry items are any kind of beans.

Prayer Concerns

Christy Credille, Leah Houston, Tammy Corbett, Barbara Anglin, Marcell Bethany, Dale Tapp, Erin Hathcock, Sandra Skinner, Donnie Butler, Denny McGuff and his family, James Nabors, Mary Ray, J.P. Wilemon, and Gus Martin

Assisted Living: Judy Hawkins

Bible Study—meets on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm

Youth Group—meets on Sundays at 6:00 pm

AA groups meet here on Monday and Friday nights at 7:00 pm.

Pastor, Cheryl Farr, may be contacted by text at
(662) 252-0910 or email at cherylfarrgbg@gmail.com

Grace United Methodist Church *Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost*



205 E Eastport Street
P.O. Box 446
Iuka, Mississippi
Sunday, August 16, 2026
The Reverend Cheryl Farr, Pastor

The Mission of Grace United Methodist Church is to
Magnify God through
Love, Acceptance,
Discipleship and Service