

Welcome to Grace United Methodist Church

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 2026

Prelude and Choral Introit

Welcome and Announcements (Birthdays and Anniversaries)

*Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: When the wind rises and the waves surround us, Christ comes near.

People: We will take courage, for Jesus is with us.

Leader: When fear clouds our vision and we struggle to recognize Him, Christ speaks peace.

People: We will listen for His voice and trust His presence.

Leader: When our faith falters and we begin to sink, Christ reaches out His hand.

People: We will call upon the Lord, who is faithful to save.

Leader: Come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus and worship the Son of God.

People: We come with faith, fear, hope, and need. We come to worship Christ our Savior.

***Gathering Hymn** O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing No. 57

*Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God the Father, who created the heavens, the earth, and the seas and whose power is greater than every storm.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who comes to us when the night is long, speaks courage into our fear, and reaches for us when we begin to sink.

We believe that Christ's grace comes before our courage and remains faithful when our faith grows weak.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us to take the next faithful step, keeps our eyes fixed on Jesus, and forms us into people of mercy and hope.

We believe the Church is called to reach toward those who are struggling, to speak peace to those who are afraid, and to bear witness that no one is beyond Christ's saving hand. We trust not in the strength of our faith but in the faithfulness of our Savior. Jesus Christ is Lord, and in Him we have forgiveness, hope, and life. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (All)

Merciful God, we confess that fear often controls where we look. We focus on the wind, the waves, and everything that might go wrong. We forget the miracles we have already witnessed and the ways You have carried us before. We want calm water before we will trust You, clear answers before we will obey You, and assurance of success before we will take the next step.

Forgive us when we mistake hardship for Your absence. Forgive us when fear speaks louder than Your promises. Forgive us when we remain safely in the boat while You call us to move toward You. Forgive us when we judge those whose faith is struggling instead of reaching out with mercy.

Lord Jesus, save us. Turn our eyes toward You. Teach us to trust Your voice when the night is dark and the wind is strong. Give us courage shaped by Your presence, and help us extend Your saving grace to others.

Hear the good news: Christ does not wait for us to overcome our fear before He comes to us. When we cry out, Jesus reaches toward us with mercy. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Pardon (Leader)

Hear the good news: God's grace is greater than our impatience, pride, and misplaced trust. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and invited again into the joy of the kingdom.

(All) In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God, Amen.

***The Gloria Patri** No. 70

Prayer Concerns, Praises & Pastoral Prayer

Hymn of Preparation *Precious Lord* No. 474

Children's Sermon

Sharing the Word **Step Toward the Savior** **Matt. 14: 22-23**

***Sending Hymn** *To God Be the Glory* No. 98

*Benediction

Depart to Serve

Announcements

You're invited to a baby shower honoring the upcoming arrival of Baby Girl Hornsby, daughter of Meg and Luke Hornsby, **today** at 2::00 p.m. here at the church. Please join us as we celebrate the upcoming arrival of this sweet little girl!

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

The AA Group will hold their regional meeting here on the afternoon of Saturday, August 15th.

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

Family of Ricky Ware, Family of Benny Kay, Christy Credille, Leah Houston, Tammy Corbett, Barbara Anglin, Marcell Bethany, David Beard, Ricky Brown and Sons, 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 cherylfarrgbq@gmail.com

Grace United Methodist Church

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost



205 E Eastport Street

P.O. Box 446

Iuka, Mississippi

Sunday, August 9, 2026

The Reverend Cheryl Farr, Pastor

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