

September 13, 2026

16th Sunday after Pentecost



Lessons in
Leadership

Grace

September 13, 2026 | Exodus 14:19-31; Matthew 18:21-35



High Street United Methodist Church
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Today's Worship Leaders
Rev. Teri Crouse, Senior Pastor
Jim Carr, Worship Leader
Dr. Andrew Crow, Director of Music
Dr. Sally Kang, Organist
Joy Bricker, Director of
Children's, Youth, and Family Ministries

WE GATHER

Announcements

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Storer Memorial Carillon

Prelude

Amazing Grace, arr. Clay Christiansen

Jenny Donnelly, organ

*Processional Hymn

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Hymn #66

*Call to Worship

Jim Carr

Leader: Followers of Christ, we live in a world where we hurt one another, where sin divides us and makes us enemies instead of neighbors.

All: Yet we are a people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the conflicts between us.

Leader: Divisions in our world seem too much to overcome, and we wonder if the forgiveness Jesus taught really works anymore.

All: Yet we are a people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the conflicts between us.

Leader: We are tempted by easy answers and quick solutions, reluctant to do the slow and difficult work of reconciliation.

All: Yet we are a people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the conflicts between us.

Leader: May we encounter Christ, who meets us when we want to give up and when we despair that life-giving change is even possible, with abundant grace to sustain us on the journey.

All: God, form us today as people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the conflicts between us.

*Welcome & Greeting

*Passing of the Peace

WE PROCLAIM

Children's Moment

Children are invited forward for a lesson with Pastor Teri. After the children's moment, the children are invited to Children's Church with Ms. Joy. Please pick up your children from G1 immediately following the service.

Anthem

The Grace Divine, by Roger Price

Sanctuary Choir

*The Apostles' Creed

Hymn #882

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,

** Indicates congregation should stand in body or spirit*

was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic** church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*** universal*

***Gloria Patri**

Hymn #70

Prayer for Illumination

Jim Carr

Scripture & *Gospel Readings (NRSV - updated edition)

Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and turned the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord, in the pillar of fire and cloud, looked down on the Egyptian army and threw the Egyptian army into a panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

*Matthew 18:21-35

Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Lessons in Leadership: Grace

Pastor Teri

WE RESPOND

Prayer Concerns & Community Life

Jim Carr

Choral Call to Prayer

Let Us Pray for Peace, music by Thomas Keesecker

Sanctuary Choir

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

All: O God, we seek your mercy ... yet we ourselves look for payback when we are wronged. We think it “only fair” and “what is right” when we retaliate and use harsh words and withdraw from relationship. The forgiveness you offer to us is larger than we can comprehend; still, we withhold forgiveness and carry grudges over petty items. We are eager to judge on your behalf. And the worst: we pray to secure your forgiveness while avoiding honest repentance. Forgive us, Lord, for the sins we know in our hearts. Save us, Lord, from the sins we hide. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Leader: Through the power of the Holy Spirit, God’s gift of forgiveness enables us to choose to forgive, renew, and live again in right relationship with each other and with our God. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

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

Brief Time of Silent Prayer

Morning Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Hymn #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.

Congregational Response to Prayer

Let Us Pray for Peace, text by Nancy Kraft

Lord we pray for peace,
for the healing of creation.
May your truth and justice mend ev'ry breach;
may we learn to live as one.

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Call to the Giving Life

Pastor Teri

Offertory

O Love that Will Not Let Me Go, arr. Mark Hayes

Dr. Sally Kang, piano

*Doxology

Hymn #95

*Offertory Prayer of Thanksgiving

WE ARE SENT FORTH

*Closing Hymn

Amazing Grace

Hymn #378

*Dismissal with Blessing

Choral Benediction

Sanctuary Choir

Postlude

A Shelter in the Time of Storm, arr. Harold DeCou

Dr. Sally Kang, organ

Thank you for worshiping with us today.

Sydney Wulff provided the altar flowers in loving memory of her daughter, Cheryl Kaye Manlove.

The pink rose on the altar celebrates the birth of Alma River Remington, daughter of Ryan and Stephanie Remington.

Church Announcements

Announcements - Announcements may be submitted at bit.ly/announcementsmunciehighstreet. They must be in by Tuesday morning.

Movie Night - Our first movie night of the season will be Friday, September 18, at 6 pm in Parish Hall. We'll show *The Sheep Detectives*, and ask for a donation of \$5/person (no more than \$20/family) to cover the pizza, popcorn, treat, and soda served during the evening. Come, and invite a friend!

"Bon-Appetite" - Our new fall fellowship event will be two weeks from today, September 27, after the 10 am service in Parish Hall. Join us to celebrate all things "apple." Please bring an apple-themed side dish to share.

Project 219 (Youth Group) - We're starting back up again this evening! Please see Ms. Joy for more information about our planned activities.

Organ Concert - Dr. Jan Bokszczanin, a Polish organist, professor, and scholar, will give a concert on Sunday, September 20, at 4 pm here in the sanctuary. Please invite friends and family to this free event.

Call to Generosity - There are many ways to respond to God's love through your giving:

- In-person, by placing offerings in plates as ushers come through
- Text 765/222-5007
- Online: highstreetumc.breezechms.com/give/online (or scan the QR code below)
- Set up an automatic bank withdrawal through Diana (church office)
- Drop off in person during church office hours (and say Hi! while you're here)

SNAPSHOT for Giving/Missions as of 9/6/26

Budget: \$544,554 (\$45,380/mo). Pledged: \$330,134 (\$27,511/mo).

Weekly Giving	\$4,217.00
September Income:	\$4,217.00
September Expenses as of 9/6:	\$3,697.97
Inc. YTD 2026 // Exp. YTD 2026:	\$370,708.10*// \$345,648.92
YTD Mission Pantry:	\$4,560.00
YTD Mission Samaritan:	\$3,028.00

Attendance for September 6, 2026:

In-person worship: 128
Social Media views online: 48
Grand Total for Worship: 176

**Includes \$3,127.52 from a grant for the church from the Gladys Hendricks Trust,
plus a one-time extravagant gift in February*



Scan to Give

Sunday Schedule

Coffee Bar	8:30 - 11:30 am
Sing in the Sanctuary Study	9:00 am
Children's Sunday School	9:00 am
Traditional Worship Service	10:00 am
It's All About Jesus (Adult Sunday School)	11:15 am
Project 219	4:30 pm

Food Pantry Needs

Beans #1 bags
Rice #1 bags
Peanut Butter 16 oz
Diced tomatoes 16 oz
Vegetables canned 16 oz