

***"You have taught
many people and
given strength to
feeble hands."***

Job 4: 3

The purpose of Groce United Methodist Church is to build the family of God through praising God, bringing others to Christ, teaching the faith, strengthening the fellowship, and sending forth in service.

Groce United Methodist Church
954 Tunnel Road
Asheville, NC, 28805
(828) 298-7647
Fax: (828) 299-8780
Email: gumcadmin@groceumc.org
Website: www.groceumc.org

Jill Rhinehart - Pastor
Joel Matthews - Music Director/Organist
Debbie Ross - Handbell Director
Gayle Decker - Administrator
Veronica Bagwell - Secretary
Tammy Peek - Custodian

Sunday Worship Service

July 28, 2024

*** Where indicated, stand if you are able.**

CHIMES OF THE HOLY TRINITY

PRELUDE

"My Hope is Built"
Arr. Harold Decou

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jill Rhinehart

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rocky Redd

Leader: Children of God, you are welcome here. All of who you are—even your regrets and failings—is welcome here.

People: We come to tell the truth about who we are in relationship with God.

Leader: Many of us find it easy to recognize our goodness and difficult to notice our sins.

People: We come to tell the truth about who we are in relationship with God.

Leader: Others of us live under a shroud of guilt and shame, believing we can never be good enough to receive the fullness of God's love.

People: We come to tell the truth about who we are in relationship with God.

Leader: However you enter this place, know this: you are loved, accepted, and called. May God's love draw us to honest confession; God's acceptance assures us of the work of grace in our lives, and God's call compels us to live in grace.

People: We come to tell the truth about who we are in relationship with God who loves us, accepts us, and calls us. AMEN.

Leader: Let us pray. Holy God, joy of the universe, it is your awesome love that brings us here. You awaken within us a loving response, which hungers and thirsts for your truth and beauty. As we worship you, please do not give us the blessings we want but the ones we most need. Satisfy us with the truth that we may need, though such truth might be most uncomfortable, and confront us with your holy beauty, that brings us healing. Through Christ Jesus your joyful Son. AMEN!

*OPENING HYMN 79

"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name" Vs. 1, 4, 5

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jill Rhinehart

Leader: Merciful God, we hear the story of David and wonder how he could so abuse his power—serving his own interests in such a selfish way. How different from the way Jesus used his power—serving, healing, and nurturing others.

People: Forgive us when our actions reflect those of David more than those of Jesus.

Leader: The account of David shows someone yielding to temptation by feeding his own particular hunger with disastrous results, whilst Jesus took time to feed the crowds with miraculous results.

People: Forgive us the times when we have yielded to the temptation of feeding our own interests to the detriment of others around us.

Leader: David demonstrated how things can get out of control when God's rules are not followed, while Jesus demonstrates how God's power can bring peace even into the stormiest situations.

People: We confess that the way of the world does reflect more the way of David than the way of Jesus, and we pray that we may be powerfully strengthened by the Holy Spirit to witness to Jesus' love and compassion in and through all we do and say. This we pray in Jesus' name. AMEN.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Jill Rhinehart

Through the power of the Holy Spirit within us, God is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine. So, hear and believe the good news that in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

CHILDREN'S CHANGE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rocky Redd

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.

ANTHEM

"Spirit Song"

Summer Breeze Choir

SCRIPTURE

2 Samuel 11: 1 - 15
(NRSV Old Testament page 284)

MESSAGE

"Call to Confession"

RECEIVING GOD'S GIFTS

Ushers will come forward

OFFERTORY

"Something Beautiful/Because He Lives" Medley
Arr. J. Matthews

*DOXOLOGY

*CLOSING HYMN 98

"To God Be the Glory"

*SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION

CHIMES OF THE HOLY TRINITY

POSTLUDE

"How Great Thou Art" (chorus)

Arr. J. Matthews

*Our service of worship has ended.
Now, our worship through service begins.*

Announcements

The first four pews on both sides are fragrance-free.

The Flowers on the Altar - are dedicated to the glory of God and given by **Pam Budd** in honor of our Groce staff: **Jill Rhinehart, Tammy Peek, Debbie Ross, Veronica Bagwell, Joel Matthews, and Gayle Decker.**

Sunday's Ushers - Thank you to our Ushers! (8:30) **Tim Kilmer (steward), Stan Boyd (11:00) Bob & Tracey Briggs, Fred Bailey (steward), Joe Early**

Nursery Volunteers Wanted! - The children are back! As we continue to grow our ministry of God, our Nursery is once again in use. We are looking for **two, Safe Sanctuary Certified, volunteers** to be with our children during the 11 o'clock worship services. Anyone who is interested in becoming Safe Sanctuary Certified, please contact Veronica in the church office.

Meeting Reminders:

- **Outreach** - will meet **tomorrow, July 29, at 3:30pm** in the Jack Bass Classroom.
- **UMMen** - will meet **this Thursday, August 1, at 6:30pm** in the Jack Bass Classroom.

Welcome Table Desserts - The weekly Welcome Table is in need of **two volunteers a week** to make desserts for their meal. If you are interested, please see the **signup sheet** located on the bulletin board outside the front office. **We are in need of two volunteers for August 1.**

Guest Preacher - On **Sunday, August 11**, we will have a guest preacher with us for both worship services. **Rob Hutchinson's** sermon about the church is not one to be missed!

Bus Driver Orientation - Interested in being a Groce UMC Bus Driver? Join us on **Saturday, August 17, at 11am** in the front parking lot to get a crash course in learning all about our bus! This ministry is a great way to connect with our community as we begin to provide transportation to our worship services. See you there!

School Supplies - the Family 2 Family group for Bell Elementary is collecting school/classroom supplies for students/teachers who cannot afford them. You can pick up the supply list in the front office **during regular work hours**. Please, only purchase the items on the list as this has been prepared by the teachers and is very specific. Thank you for your generosity! **Deadline: Tuesday, August 20.**