
We are a family, building Christ-centered homes who impact their world.

GraceFirst Worship Service

Preparation for Worship

Announcements

Call to Worship: Psalm 138

Offering

Hymns of Praise

Pre-K to 1st grade kids participating in Children's Church dismissed

Scripture: Colossians 1:3-12

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon: Psalm 107, "The Pilgrims' Psalm"

Hymn of Commission - #55

Benediction

"President George Washington proclaimed the nation's first Thanksgiving Day on October 3, 1789, and it was to be a "day of public thanksgiving and prayer." But it was irregularly celebrated. In 1863 President Lincoln made it an annual holiday and noted that Americans were to give "praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens." Americans have observed this day every year since Lincoln's proclamation." Alvin Schmidt, *How Christianity Changed the World*, 381.

If this is your first time at GraceFirst, we hope you'll give us the chance to get to know you better by filling out a Connection Card from the pew rack in front of you, then drop it off at the Welcome Center as you leave and pick up a small gift!

Wireless access: Username = GraceFirstGuest; Password = Psalm145:9

Looking ahead

Nov

26 No Wednesday evening activities

27 Church office closed in observance of Thanksgiving

30 NO Children's Church - 5th Sunday

DEC

9 Men's Lunch Out

11:30 am | Old Chicago, E. Kellogg (Towne East parking lot)

9 Women's Christmas Dinner

6:00 pm | There will be beautiful special music, a devotion, plenty of time to visit, and good food: Chicken Cordon Bleu casserole, salad, vegetable, rolls and dessert. | Cost: \$5 | Sign up in the Lobby.

11 Men's Ministry

6:30 pm | fellowship bowling at Round 1, Towne East Square

13 Adults w/ Special Needs event

3-6 pm | here @ GraceFirst

14 Christmas Gift Exchange

9 am | Share your gift of music, a special poem, reading or skit, *as long as it pertains to Christmas and most importantly honors Christ.* | You're also invited to share gifts of paintings, drawings, quilts, or something you've created. We will set up the displays in the Lobby.

21 & NO Sunday Studies

28

Next Sunday

Sunday School, 9:00 am

Worship, 10:15 am

NO Children's Church

*Pastor Tim begins the
Advent series*

Giving Report

| | |
|-------------|------------|
| Nov. 16: | \$ 18,174 |
| 4-wk avg: | \$ 11,753 |
| YTD Giving: | \$ 527,841 |

Our Elders

Kevin Angell, Chairman
Dave Sitz, Vice-Chairman
Sean Jahansooz, Secretary
Mike Kuss, Stewardship
Lowell Bergen
Marlin Penner
Pastor Tim Cho

Visit our website

www.gracefirst.church

“The Pilgrims’ Psalm”

Psalm 107

Pastor Mike Andrus

Nov. 23, 2025

Introduction: William Bradford, the Governor of Plymouth Colony, had a favorite Psalm which he referenced many times in his journal. Psalm 107 serves as a great focus for Thanksgiving.

The theme of Psalm 107: *“Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever;”* therefore, *“Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story.”* (1-3)

Four groups of witnesses tell their story. (4-32)

1. Those who are homeless, hungry and thirsty (4-9)
2. Those imprisoned because they rebelled and despised God’s plan (10-16)
3. Those suffering because of their rebellious ways and iniquities (17-22)
4. Those at their wit’s end due to life-threatening storms (23-32)

In each of these stories we find the following:

- A severe trial
- A cry for help
- God’s deliverance
- A call to thank and praise God

Two concluding observations (33-42)

God can turn a garden into a desert or a desert into a garden, depending upon the hearts of the people who live there. (33-38)

God’s blessings should never be taken for granted, for He disciplines His people when they need it; yet His mercy is always available to the needy. (39-42)

A final exhortation (43): A wise person will pay attention to the message of this Psalm and ponder the great love of the Lord.

Pray for our Church Family

Mary Werner
Janet Hunter
Mark Goldberg

**For additional prayer needs,
pick up the prayer sheet at
the Welcome Desk by the
main entrance.**

Recommended Reading for Nov '25 - Jan '26:

(All books listed are in the library)

1. Jesus the Man, the Messiah, and the Mission:
 - a. Wayne Grudem, Systematic Theology 2nd Ed., Ch. 26: The Person of Christ, 663-700.
 - b. Donald MacLeod, Christ Crucified: Understanding the Atonement, Ch. 4: Substitution – the Man for Others, 79-100.
 - c. J. I. Packer, Knowing God, Ch. 18: The Heart of the Gospel, 161-180.
 - d. John Piper, Let the Nations Be Glad, Ch. 1: The Supremacy of God in Missions Through Worship, 3-32.
 - e. Alvin Schmidt, How Christianity Changed the World, Ch. 15: Additional Influence – Holidays, Words, Symbols, and Expressions, 374-402.
 - f. Lee Strobel, The Case for Christ, Ch. 10-11: The Fingerprint Evidence and the Evidence of the Missing Body, 171-204.

GraceFirst Sermon Plans

| Date | Sermon | Preacher |
|-------------|---|-----------------|
| 11/30/25 | Hebrews 1:2-3, "The Word Revealed" | Pastor Tim |
| 12/7/25 | Philippians 2:5-8, "Humility Displayed" | Pastor Tim |
| 12/14/25 | Galatians 4:4-7, "Sinners Adopted" | Pastor Tim |
| 12/21/25 | Titus 2:11-14, "God's Love Given" | Pastor Krahn |
| 12/28/25 | Acts 4:1-12, "The Consequences..." | Pr. McCollum |
| 1/4/2026 | Acts 4:13-21, "The Necessity..." | Pastor Jake |
| 1/11/26 | Jeremiah 1:1-3, "The Prophet's Call" | Pastor Tim |