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WELCOME TO GRACE UNION

WHAT'S HAPPENING TODAY
SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2017

- ➔ Praise & Worship
- ➔ Welcome/Announcements
- ➔ Offering
- ➔ Message: Pastor Bob Poley



Thank you for joining us today! If this is your first time with us, please stop by the Welcome table in the lobby for a free gift. We'd love to meet you.

NEWS & EVENTS



GU Elementary Christmas Play tryouts are **TODAY RIGHT AFTER SERVICE!** Lunch will be provided. **Parents must commit to bringing their child(ren) to all practices to participate.** We would also appreciate any volunteers who can help with the play. Contact Karen with any questions or if you can help at karenmomma@live.com.



Our Labor Day Cookout is quickly approaching! We're going to have a special guest, Da Mac, performing that day, as well as fun, family-friendly activities out on the lawn! **We need A LOT of volunteers to make this event a success.** We need help with set-up, clean-up, food prep, activity monitors, and more. **SIGN UP IN THE LOBBY TODAY!**

child dedication

Sunday, September 17

Contact Crystal Myers at crystaldawnmyers@gmail.com.

We will be having a baby and child dedication on Sunday, September 17th. If you are interested in having your child dedicated, please contact Crystal Myers by September 10th. This dedication is:

- A time for Parents to make a public commitment to God to raise their children in His ways.
- A time for Grace Union Church to join with the parents in prayers for and celebration of these children.

water BAPTISM

09.24.17

Contact Pastor Bob at
bobpoley78@gmail.com

Water Baptism is a public declaration of ones' faith and newness of life in Christ. If you would like to be baptized, or have any questions, please email Pastor Bob. We invite you stay with us after service September 24th to celebrate with those who are taking this important step of faith!



OUR MISSION

We are helping people to live in union with Christ by grace.

- Union with God through a relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Union with Others through investing in people through Biblical community.
- Union with Ourselves with a wholeness found in a new identity in Christ.
- Union with our Broken World by being an agent of change in our society by caring for and serving those who are poor, oppressed or marginalized.

We value sharing the love, life and power of God to our communities and world, joining Christ in his mission to rescue fallen humanity.

WAYS TO CONNECT



For any special needs, please email our Prayer Team at gucprayer@gmail.com.

WAYS TO GIVE



ENVELOPE

Offering or Giving Box



TEXT TO GIVE

Text GIVE to 314.888.5188



ONLINE

graceunionstl.org

MAILING ADDRESS

3900 Union Road, St. Louis, MO 63125

Visit us online to learn more about Grace Union at graceunionstl.org.

All of our message recordings can also be found on our website.



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PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-11

This then is how you should pray: Our Father in Heaven hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one.

I. “Give us today our daily bread,” is a request for God to provide for today, in sustenance, situations, and spirituality.

- People have daily requirements, things we need to live and be healthy.
 - Jesus was teaching us to daily spend time wrestling with God in prayer, making requests for these things.
- In the desert God completely provided for Israel's sustenance.
- Later when they reached the promised land, God's provision worked differently.
 - God gave them land, the knowledge for what to do with it, and the physical ability to carry out what he instructed them to do.
 - Deuteronomy 8:18 says that it is God who gives us the ability to make wealth.
- Either way God is responsible for our Daily Bread.

A. Something we need to see: In the wilderness God never provided more than for that day.

- If they tried to stock up or hoard it, it spoiled.
- God was not interested in meeting their needs “Once and For All.” He was interested in the relationship that would be built by daily seeking and trusting him.

B. Another thing we need to see: The order in which Jesus prayed was not arbitrary.

- Jesus prayed first that God's kingdom would come and God's will be done, and then prayed for our daily bread.

Matthew 6:33-34

- 33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.
- 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

- Focused, repeated prayers, over the course of time, shape our priorities and affections.

II. There are Roadblocks to having our prayers answered.

Isaiah 59:2

But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

- A. Deliberate Rebellion against God will impact the effectiveness of your prayers.

1 John 5:14

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.

- B. One definite roadblock to our prayers is that we often want things that are not in agreement with God's will for us.

James 4:2-3

2 You do not have because you do not ask God.

3 When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

- C. Sometimes the simple reason we don't get prayers answered is that we don't actually pray them!
- D. James also tells us, sometimes prayers are not answered because we ask with wrong motives.

III. Keys to praying prayers that God answers.

A. God answers persistent prayer.

B. God also responds to prayers made in Faith.

James 1:5

If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

C. Faith is about setting your expectations on the character and promises of God rather than how circumstances look.

Luke 18:1-8

- 1 Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.
- 2 He said: "In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought.
- 3 And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.'
- 4 "For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care what people think,
- 5 yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually come and attack me!'"
- 6 And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says.
- 7 And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off?
- 8 I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly.

Summation

God tells you to ask, "Give us this day our daily bread," because He wants to answer that prayer.

- Persistence in prayer is key.
- Faith that God will respond to our prayer is key.

Question: What might just be hanging out there that God is willing and wanting to do for you (or for your loved ones) that you just need to ask him for?

THIS WEEK

Visit us online for information about these events and more.
graceunionstl.org or [facebook.com/graceunionstl](https://www.facebook.com/graceunionstl)

MONDAY (8/21)

Alcoholics Anonymous (GU Family Room) - 7 pm
(Led by Jeff Hall - 314.620.6635)

TUESDAY (8/22)

WEDNESDAY (8/23)

Drive-By Prayer (Main Auditorium) - 4-7 pm
GU Students (Youth Auditorium) - 6:30 pm

THURSDAY (8/24)

FRIDAY (8/25)

SATURDAY (8/26)

SUNDAY (8/27) - WEEK OF FASTING & PRAYER

GU Small Groups - 9 am

Women's Group (Conf. Room B)

Men's Group (Conf. Room C)

Adults/Students Service (Main Aud.) - 10 am
GU Kids (Early Childhood-Elementary) - 10 am

SAVE THE DATES

9/3 - Elementary Back to School Party

9/3 - Labor Day Picnic

9/13 - Fall Small Group Semester Begins

9/17 - Child Dedication

9/24 - Water Baptisms

9/27 - Youth Prayer Rally

10/6-7 - Youth Lock-in

OUR STAFF IS HERE TO SERVE YOU

OFFICE: 314.892.2757

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