

# Grace Devotion

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**Week of June 16, 2024**

Pastor Fred Young

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He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

**Mark 4:30-32**

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"*We Plant a Grain of Mustard Seed*" is a favorite to sing in worship. Mary Bryan Mantney and Sally Ann Morris wrote this hymn in 1990 to be used during the wedding of close friends. How appropriate, for I cannot think of a better analogy for planting seed than blossoming love. Here are a few of the verses:

We plant a grain of mustard see, and in our faith we find  
The proof of God is love, indeed, which blossoms from its kind;  
The proof of God is love, indeed, which blossoms from its kind.

So may our new beginnings prove, like living bread and wine,  
That through our common human love we taste what is divine;  
That through our common human love we taste what is divine.

Our lives will be fulfilled and blessed, if through the seeds we've sown  
And by the love that we profess the love of Christ is known;  
And by the love that we profess the love of Christ is known.

I love this hymn because it provides an opportunity for us to corporately sing about living out our faith. Even when faced with challenges, change, doubt, worry, or

celebration, love and hope, our faith in God's presence, Christ's love and the Spirit's guidance, provide new beginnings. How will you plant such faith?

**PRAYER:** Be with me God, even when all hope seems lost. Remind me that even the smallest things can make the biggest difference. Amen.

Blessings! Pastor Fred



**June 16, 2024**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Welcome/Announcements  
Westminster Chimes and Prelude “O Worship the King”

\*\* Song: “May the Peoples Praise You”  
~Keith and Kristyn Getty

\*\* Call to Worship

Lector: When the storms of life surround us,

**Congregation: We know you are there, God.**

Lector: When the waters threaten to sink our boat,

**Congregation: We know you are there to tell the waters to be silent, and be still.**

Lector: With our hearts full of trust,

**Congregation: We come to worship you, our strength and our refuge.**

\*\* Opening Prayer: (pray silently or aloud)  
**Good and gracious God,**

**It’s good to give thanks to You and sing praises in your name. You are always with us during the times we sing for joy and the times the waters threaten us. In Your steadfast love, we find our peace and our strength. Amen**

\*\* Sharing the Peace of Christ

\*\* Hymn: “Come Ye Thankful People Come” #559

Joys and Concerns

Praying for Others

Lord’s Prayer

Prayer of Confession/Silent Reflection/Assurance of Grace

Thank you for sharing your tithes and offerings

\*\* Doxology #625

\*\* Prayer of Dedication

Time for the Young at Heart

Hymn: “We’ve a Story to Tell All the Nations” #296

Scripture Readings:

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

Mark 4:35-41

Message: “Faith Amid the Storm”

\*\* Song: “Eye of the Storm” ~Ryan Stevenson

\*\* Final Blessing

Please remain standing to sing “A Choral Benediction”

Postlude “Faith of Our Fathers”

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\*On the screen

\*\* Please stand, if you are able.

### Announcements

- Koins for Kinny raised \$1322.
- We will collect for the Deacon's Fund during the month of June.
- Consider donating to the CWS School Kits. Information by the elevator.

### Upcoming Events

- Town Hall Meeting: June 23<sup>rd</sup> during worship
- Potluck and Crooners: June 23<sup>rd</sup> immediately following worship

### Volunteer Opportunities—Sign ups in Gathering Place

- Volunteer counters after church
- Lectors
- Snack providers

### Upcoming Meetings

- Choir begins June 16<sup>th</sup>
- Worship and Music: June 24<sup>th</sup>



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# “Faith in Uncertainty”

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# How to deal with rejection

*The Lord will not reject his people; he will not abandon his special possession.—Psalm 94:14*

There were around 150 young preachers who sought entrance to the Wesleyan ministry in 1888 – and Campbell Morgan was one of them. He passed intense doctrinal examinations, but then faced the trial sermon, where he would preach to three ministers who would determine his fitness for ministry.

Morgan stepped into the pulpit, and the pressure was just too much. He came up short on his sermon, and was rejected from the ministry that year. He sent a wire to his father that contained only one word: “Rejected.”

His father quickly wired back the words, “*Rejected on earth. Accepted in heaven. Dad.*”

In later years, Morgan said, “*God said to me, in the weeks of loneliness and darkness that followed, ‘I want you to cease making plans for yourself, and let Me plan your life.’*”

Every one of us encounters rejection at some point. Perhaps you were let go from a job. Or maybe you’re estranged from a friend or family member. **But even in those dark days, remember that God will never reject you if you’re in Christ. You are precious in His eyes!**

## ***Prayer Challenge***

Ask God to remind you that no matter what, He’ll never reject you if you’re in Christ.

## ***Questions for thought***

What kinds of feelings do you experience when you’ve been rejected? Why?

How does God’s unconditional acceptance of you in Christ Jesus turn those feelings of rejection around?





Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Mark 4:26-34

C	O	M	P	A	R	E	R	H	P	M	B
X	X	O	R	E	E	E	S	R	A	D	R
N	Y	J	D	H	T	P	C	T	K	M	A
E	T	A	E	T	S	R	I	F	I	H	N
A	L	Q	A	L	P	O	S	S	N	A	C
B	U	C	M	K	R	D	E	C	G	R	H
H	S	Z	U	F	O	U	E	B	D	V	E
D	F	T	S	B	U	C	D	Y	O	E	S
G	V	I	T	O	T	E	G	A	M	S	O
L	L	K	A	P	I	S	H	R	K	T	Q
Z	E	T	R	E	A	R	T	H	O	W	J
B	E	W	D	S	X	J	R	R	M	W	V

Kingdom  
Grow  
Compare

Scatter  
Produces  
Branches

Seed  
Blade  
Earth

Sprout  
Harvest  
Mustard

# June Word Search

K H J U Q B N X T O X C I F A H Z F O M V D H  
L V V Z W Q I U X U I C E C R E A M K S G H Y  
F Z A U V O J Y P D J X Y L Y U W R C T X L V  
L H J P B Z I R A M R J G U E Z H K T V Q M S  
I M R K C T R I P D A X W N W B D Q V Q T K V  
Y P B P T I P D V D T Q N M I D R T C V Z U B  
R F C D A I G L U T J S Y Y U E S A J R Y F P  
Z G N I M M I W S U M M E R G C O M T B I W Q  
J F Y I Q G O G S A O J V G Y D A N C E X R S  
E K K E T K R G G F B Y C I N C I P A A C Q P  
S R S F O S J A A V A P A J T O J M G C M A R  
Y Y X D N P J L D R D T L U O E L B G H E P A  
V K B N O J W J Z U A O H N L O O H C S F N X  
P H B E O V L E D X A B H E F F U S P X X M U  
L W V J C I E L D Y Z T I V R I M J H K R U K  
F N U R V G T I W D B K I F I S K B Y C E J I  
F G J L K H H A Y C I L K O E H D O G U I X I  
D V T K R K C J C C L N S R N I Q A H B Z I U  
J V W U U Y A D G A L F G H D N K S Y Z Z T U  
K F X I Y X Y Z W F V S J S S G E S T T C A Z

Swimming

Camp

Father's Day

Vacation

Picnic

Longest Day

Summer

Flag Day

Graduation

Friends

Canoeing

Ice Cream

Beach

Weddings

Fishing

June

Celebrate

School