GRACE COMMUNITY

Presbyterian Church, PCA

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD January 21, 2024 10:30am

Reflection: "Matthew 1–2 established Jesus' identity. Chapter 3 recounted the preparation for his ministry, as John prepared the people and the Spirit prepared Jesus. Next, Jesus' temptation demonstrated his loyalty and holiness. Thus all is in place for the beginning of Jesus' ministry."

Prelude

People:

Minister:

People:

Dan Doriani

vv eicome	
_	WORSHIP IN PRAISE
Silent Prepar	ration
Doxology	
	Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
	Praise Him all creatures here below,
	Praise Him above ye heavenly host,
	Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Amen.
Call to Wors	hip from Psalm 29
Minister:	Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

LORD in the splendor of holiness.

enthroned as king forever.

bless his people with peace!

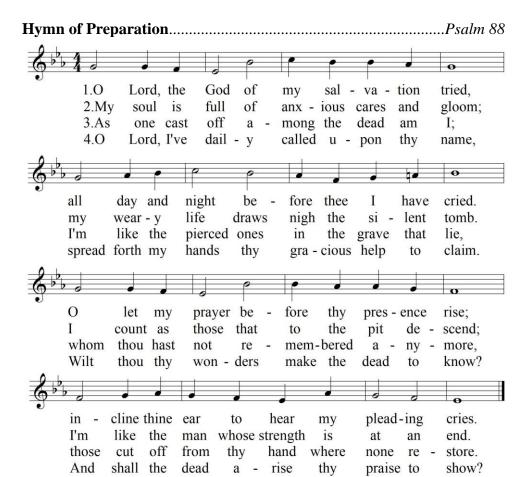
Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the

May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD

The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits



Prayer of Adoration



-----WORSHIP IN CONFESSION AND PARDON-

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

Prayer of Confession



Intern: What does the sixth petition mean?

People:

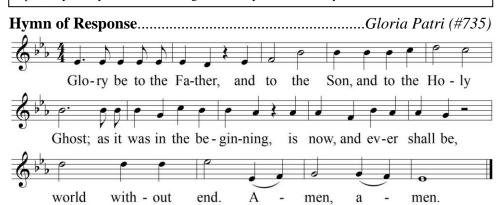
"And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one" means: By ourselves we are too weak to hold our own even for a moment. And our sworn enemies—the devil, the world, and our own flesh—never stop attacking us. And so, Lord, uphold us and make us strong with the strength of your Holy Spirit, so that we may not go down to defeat in this spiritual struggle, but may firmly resist our enemies until we finally win the complete victory.

Reader: This is the Word of God.

People: Amen!

Prayer of Consecration

We offer an optional **Children's Lesson** for children 4 years old through 1st grade. If you choose to have your children participate, you may dismiss them for CL as we sing the hymn of response. Please know we welcome and encourage your children to remain with you during the sermon. However, in the CL they will be hearing from the same text that the sermon is based upon, so you may discuss the message as a family after church if you wish to do so.



THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Please see instructions on the inside back cover of your bulletin

"For we always seem to ourselves righteous and upright and wise and holy-this pride is innate in all of us-unless by clear proofs we stand convinced of our own unrighteousness, foulness, folly, and impurity. Moreover, we not thus convinced if we look merely to ourselves and not also to the Lord, who is the sole standard by which this judgment must be measured. For, because all of us are inclined by nature to hypocrisy, a kind of empty image of righteousness in place of righteousness itself abundantly satisfies us. And because nothing appears within or around us that has not been contaminated by great immorality, what is a little less vile pleases us as a thing most pure-so long as we confine our minds within the limits of human corruption."

John Calvin

"Their being discouraged by their sins will cost them many a prayer, many a tear, and many a groan; and that because their discouragements under sin flow from ignorance and unbelief. It springs from their ignorance of the richness, freeness, fullness, and everlastingness of God's love; and from their ignorance of the power, glory, sufficiency, and efficacy of the death and sufferings of the Lord Jesus Christ; and from their ignorance of the worth, glory, fullness, largeness, and completeness of the righteousness of Jesus Christ; and from their ignorance of that real, close, spiritual, glorious, and inseparable union that is between Christ and their precious souls. Ah! Did precious souls know and believe the truth of these things as they should, they would not sit down dejected and overwhelmed under the sense and operation of sin. God never gave a believer a new heart that it should always lie a-bleeding, and that it should always be rent and torn in pieces with discouragements."

Thomas Brooks

"If I may speak my own experience, I find that to keep my eye simply on Christ, as my peace and my life, is by far the hardest part of my calling... It seems easier to deny self in a thousand instances of outward conduct, than in its ceaseless endeavors to act as a principle of righteousness and power."

John Newton

Communion Hymns

The King of Love My Shepherd Is – Henry Baker/Irish Hymn

- 1. The King of love my shepherd is, Whose goodness faileth never. I nothing lack if I am his, And he is mine forever.
- 2. Where streams of living water flow, My ransomed soul he leadeth; And where the verdant pastures grow, With food celestial feedeth.
- 3. Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed, But yet in love he sought me; And on his shoulder gently laid, And home, rejoicing, brought me.

- 4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill, With thee, dear Lord, beside me; Thy rod and staff my comfort still, Thy cross before to guide me.
- 5. Thou spreadst a table in my sight; Thy unction grace bestoweth; And oh, what transport of delight From thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6. And so through all the length of days, Thy goodness faileth never; Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise Within thy house forever.

O Great God - Bob Kauflin

- 1. O great God of highest heav'n,
 Occupy my lowly heart.
 Own it all and reign supreme,
 Conquer every rebel power.
 Let no vice or sin remain
 That resists Your holy war.
 You have loved and purchased me,
 Make me Yours forevermore.
- 2. I was blinded by my sin, Had no ears to hear Your voice, Did not know Your love within, Had no taste for heaven's joys.

- Then Your Spirit gave me life, Opened up Your Word to me Through the gospel of Your Son, Gave me endless hope and peace.
- 3. Help me now to live a life That's dependent on Your grace. Keep my heart and guard my soul From the evils that I face. You are worthy to be praised With my every thought and deed. O great God of highest heav'n, Glorify Your Name through me.

There is a Redeemer -Melody Green

- 1. There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son, Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.
- Refrain: Thank you oh my Father, For giving us Your Son, And leaving Your Spirit, 'Til the work on Earth is done.
- 2. Jesus my Redeemer, Name above all names, Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Hope for sinners slain. *Refrain*
- 3. When I stand in Glory, I will see His face, There I'll serve my King forever, In that Holy Place. *Refrain*

-WORSHIP IN GRATITUDE-

(Please consider filling out your prayer request **now** and dropping it in the offering plate.)



Benediction

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

Next Week's Sermon Passage

Matthew 5:1-6

Financials

2023 Adjusted Budget: \$729,000

1st Quarter Giving: \$163,077

2nd Quarter Giving: \$187,926

3rd Quarter Giving: \$192,523

Upcoming Events

General:

- Greeter Team: We need Greeters! If you have any interest in joining our team of faithful volunteers who are there every Sunday to hand out bulletins and greet existing GCPC attendees AND first time visitors, please let us know. It is a simple but important job which requires minimal time (15-20 minutes) and only requires you to participate about one Sunday per month. If you have any interest in becoming part of our team, please see John Rohde before or after service, or contact him at john.rohde63@gmail.com for more information.
- **Griefshare:** We're having our next Griefshare group here at GCPC beginning February 4th. We'll meet in the Calvin classroom from 5:00-7:00PM. These 13-week group sessions are designed to help you walk through your grief process and heal from the pain of the loss of a loved one. If this is something you sense you need in your life, please consider joining us. Or if you know of someone who has recently lost a loved one and is needing help in their grief recovery, please invite them to

attend. For questions or more information, please contact Brian or Anne Nelson. To sign up for the group, please go to Griefshare.org, select "Find a Group" to locate the group under our church name, and register.

Student Ministries of Grace (SMoG):

- **Fellowship Events:** We have two fellowship events this month. **Middle school** will have a home fellowship at the Hames' home on Saturday, 1/27, from 5:00-8:00. Dinner will be provided. **High school** will have an open question night at the church, followed by a movie night together on Friday, 1/26 from 6:00-9:00. Dinner and snacks will be provided. Please sign up through the links that were sent out on Facebook and Remind.
- Youth Group Study: We offer a study for our middle and high school students on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month (except the month of June) from 7:00-8:30pm here at the church. We enjoy fellowship, time in Scripture, and discuss select chapters from books pertaining to the particular Christian-living topics we are discussing that year.
- **Discipleship Groups:** We have intentional discipleship groups for both our middle and high school students. These groups typically meet the 2nd Wednesdays of each month. Please reach out to Andrew Sarnicki (andrewgcpcfw@gmail.com), if you're interested in having your student be a part of one of these groups.

Guys of Grace (GoG):

• GoG Fellowship Nights: These bi-monthly fellowship nights are meant as an informal time for our guys to get together and discuss/do the things that interest them—theological discussion, sports, fire pit, pipe smoking, etc. These events are BYOB (Beef,

Brew), and we will have the grills running. Our next fellowship night will be **Friday**, **February 9**th at **6:00pm** at the church.

- **Men's Group:** The Guys of Grace study meets the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Contact Sean Henry for more information: seanph10@yahoo.com.
- Tuesday Morning Men's Prayer Meeting: 6:15am every Tuesday in the Conference Room.

Ladies of Grace (LoG):

- Ladies' Prayer Meeting: Thursdays at 10:00am and 3:30pm on the second Sunday of every month. Please contact Robbi Parker for Zoom link: oarsinsailsup@gmail.com.
- Ladies Winter Bible Study: 1 Peter, 2 Peter and Jude by Sarah Ivill. This week we will discuss Lesson 3: Submitting as Servants, Sufferers, and Spouses.

Two different groups will be meeting during the week:

Tuesday: 9:30-11:00am, in person **Thursday:** 7:00-8:30pm ZOOM

Contact Jen Smith for more information: jenswope@hotmail.com or 817-627-7655.

• Questions? LoG news and events are communicated via email, Remind, and our LoG Facebook page. If you aren't receiving updates, please contact Melissa Brown: 817-899-0369.

Missions of Grace (MoG)

January Spotlight: RUF ministers Justin Smith (UNT) &
 Shaynor Newsome (UTA)
 Most RUF ministers lead a large group meeting each week with singing and preaching. They organize small group Bible studies

and other evangelistic or apologetic meetings to gather interested students. They pastor and counsel Christian students, our covenant children included. Pray that they would be filled with the Holy Spirit to reach many seekers for Christ. Pray for their families who live an unusual and demanding lifestyle and welcome many young people into their home.

_	NOTES—	•