## GRACE COMMUNITY

Presbyterian Church, PCA

## ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD March 31, 2024 10:30am

**Reflection:** "Believers do not pray, with the view of informing God about things unknown to him, or of exciting him to do his duty, or of urging him as though he were reluctant. On the contrary, they pray, in order that they may arouse themselves to seek him, that they may exercise their faith in meditating on his promises."

John Calvin

6	The promises
Prelude	
Welcome	
-	WORSHIP IN PRAISE
Silent Prepa	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	ship
Minister:	Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!
People:	The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This is the LORD's doing, it is marvelous in our eyes.
Minister:	This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
People:	You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you.

1."Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day," Al le - lu - ia! le - lu - ia! the A1 2. Vain the stone. watch. the seal: 3.Lives glo - rious King; le - lu - ia! a - gain our A1 4.Soar we now where Christ A1 le - lu - ia! has led. of earth and heav'n! A1 le - lu - ia! 5.Hail. the Lord sons of men and an - gels say; A1 le - lu ia! Christ has burst the gates of hell: A1 le - lu ia! O now thy sting? A1 le - lu where, death, is fol - I'wing ex - alt - ed Head: A1 le - lu our Praise thee both be giv'n: Al le - lu to by ia! and tri - umphs high; Al le - lu raise your joys ia! vain for - bids death in his rise; A1 le - lu ia! he died. souls A1 le - lu ia! Once our to save: made like him, like him we rise; A1 le - lu ia! thee greet tri - um - phant now; Al le - lu ia! we ve heav'ns and sing earth, Al lu - ia! Christ has o - pened par - a - dise. Al le - lu - ia! Al thv vic - to - rv. O grave? le - lu - ia! where le - lu - ia! the cross. the grave, the skies, Al ours hail the Res - ur - rec - tion, thou! A1 le - lu - ia!

For many in the English-speaking world, Easter Day is inextricably associated with singing "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" by Charles Wesley (1707–1788). Of the original eleven stanzas published under the title "Hymn for Easter Day" in *Hymns and Sacred Poems* (1739), most hymnals use only four, or sometimes as many as seven. This hymn is a *tour de force* of exuberant, expressive, and ecstatic language on the Resurrection... Wesley will not allow us to relegate the Resurrection to a mere historical recollection. Rather, it is a seismic occurrence at one time for all times.

## **Prayer of Adoration**



### -WORSHIP IN CONFESSION AND PARDON-

Call to Confession......Psalm 25:16-18

Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. The troubles of my heart are enlarged; bring me out of my distresses. Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.

## **Prayer of Confession**



I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church\* the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

\*holy catholic church means the whole Christian church

-WORSHIP AND THE MEANS OF GRACE-

# 

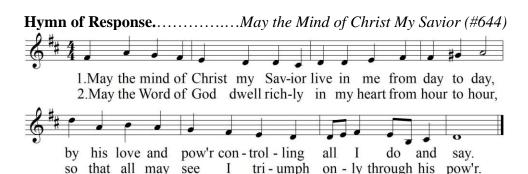
p 811

Reader: This is the Word of God.

People: Amen!

## **Prayer of Consecration**

We offer an optional <u>Children's Lesson</u> for children 4 years old through 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

"Let us ever remember that Christ on the cross is of no value to us, apart from the Holy Spirit in us. In vain that blood is flowing, unless the finger of the Spirit applies the blood to our conscience; in vain is that garment of righteousness wrought out, unless the Holy Spirit wraps it around us and arrays us in its costly folds. The river of the water of life cannot quench our thirst, till the Spirit presents the goblet and lifts it to our lips. All the things which are in the paradise of God could never be blissful to us, so long as we are dead souls — and dead we are, until that heavenly wind comes and breathes upon us, that we may live. We do not hesitate to say that we owe as much to God the Holy Spirit as we do to God the Son." *Charles Spurgeon* 

"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."

## **Communion Hymns**

#### I Glory in Christ - Horatius Bonar/Sandra McCracken

- 1. God forbid that I should glory, Save in the Redeemer's cross. Counting shame for Him but honor, Counting earthly gain but loss. All the love of God is here, Oh, love that casteth out all fear.
- 2. God forbid that I should glory, Save in Christ, my Lord alone. Him I lean on; Him I follow,

Him, before the world, I own. All the love of God is here, Oh, love that casteth out all fear.

3. God forbid that I should glory,
Save in Christ the Son of God.
Him who sought me Him who bought me,
Him who washed me in his blood.
All the love of God is here,
Oh, love that casteth out all fear.

#### **Beautiful Savior** – Stuart Townend

1. All my days I will sing this song of gladness, Give my praise to the Fountain of delights; For in my helplessness You heard my cry, And waves of mercy poured down on my life.

#### Refrain:

Beautiful Savior, Wonderful Counselor, Clothed in majesty, Lord of history, You're the Way, the Truth, the Life. Star of the Morning, glorious in holiness, You're the Risen One, heaven's Champion And You reign, You reign over all.

- 2. I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer, I will sing of the blood that never fails; Of sins forgiven, of conscience cleansed, Of death defeated and life without end. *Refrain*
- 3. I long to be where the praise is neverending, Yearn to dwell where the glory never fades; Where countless worshippers will share one song, And cries of 'worthy' will honor the Lamb. *Refrain*

### **Blessed Assurance** (#693) – Fanny Crosby/Phoebe Knapp

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
 What a foretaste of glory divine!
 Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
 Born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

#### Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long; This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.

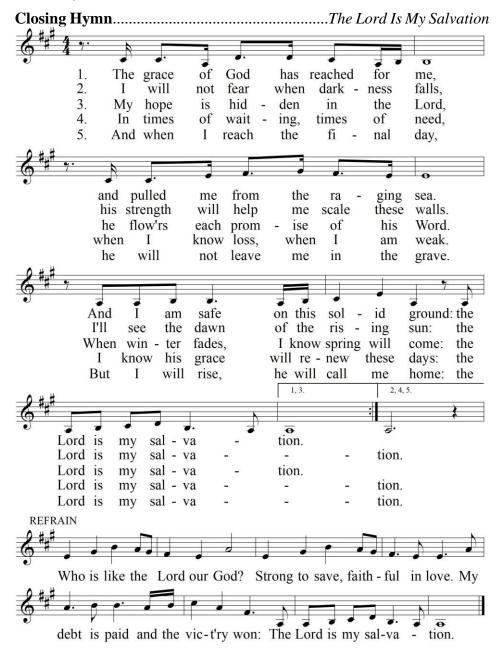
2. Perfect submission, perfect delight, Visions of rapture

Now burst on my sight; Angels descending, Bring from above Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *Refrain* 

3. Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest; Watching and waiting, looking above, Filled with his goodness, Lost in his love. *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 6:16-24

## **Financials**

2023 Total Giving: \$795,788

## **Upcoming Events**

#### General:

• Monthly Potluck Lunch: April 7 after worship

Nelson Flock: Set-up and/or clean-up

Please bring the following:

ALL: main dish By Last Name:

A-J: side

K-O: dessert P-Z: salad

Missions Spotlight: Burkempers

## **Student Ministries of Grace (SMoG):**

- Service Project Opportunity: We hope you and your students are able to join us for our service project with Cornerstone (1628 Sixth Ave., Fort Worth 76104) on Saturday, 4/13 from 10:00-12:00pm. We will be doing landscaping work to serve our neighbors for God's glory. Please sign up through the links available on Facebook or Remind.
- Youth Group Study: We offer a study for our middle and high school students on the 1<sup>st</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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, April 12<sup>th</sup> 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 of Grace Spring Brunch: Saturday, April 13 from 10 am 12 pm in Westminster Hall. Come enjoy fellowship, food, music, and stories of God's faithfulness to sisters in Christ through different seasons of life. Sign up in the church foyer or on Facebook by Sunday, April 7.
- 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 Spring/Summer Bible Study: More information, including dates and sign-up information will be available soon.
- 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)**

- Good Neighbor Team: Interested in joining a Good Neighbor Team for ministry to a refugee family? Please contact Samantha Rohde with any questions: Samantha.rohde@gmail.com OR 480-399-5656) The March 2nd training is postponed. Look for our new training date soon!
- Variety Show & Nacho Bar Dinner: April 14, 5:30pm We need all the variety of talents and abilities you have to make a fun night of fellowship! Contact Ann Geer at 930-393-3524 with your entry.

Notes	

NOTES-	•