

# GRACE COMMUNITY

*Presbyterian Church, PCA*

**ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD**

**November 17, 2024**

**10:30am**

**Reflection:** “The parables of the sower and the weeds describe the mystery of the kingdom: it has arrived but has not uprooted evil or come in its full power. The parable of the weeds adds that while God’s kingdom grows, Satan’s does too, as he sows bad seed in God’s field. Further, if the parable of the sower teaches that some respond to the word with superficial enthusiasm, so that it is not clear who believes, the parable of the weeds adds that good and evil will *never* be entirely separated in this age.”

*Dan Doriani*

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

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## WORSHIP IN PRAISE

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**Silent Preparation**

**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.*

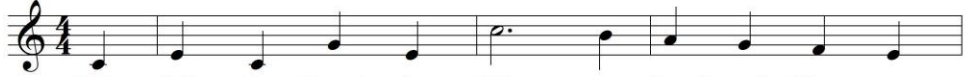
**Call to Worship**.....*from Psalm 67*

**Minister:** May god be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us

**People:** **That your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations.**

**ALL:** **Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!**

**Hymn of Adoration.....***Rejoice, the Lord is King (#310)*



1. Re - joice, the Lord is King: your Lord and King a -  
2. Je - sus the Sav - ior reigns, the God of truth and  
3. His king - dom can - not fail, he rules o'er earth and  
4. He sits at God's right hand till all his foes sub -  
5. Re - joice in glo - rious hope! Our Lord, the Judge, shall



dore! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing and tri - umph ev - er - more.  
love; when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove.  
heav'n; the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus giv'n.  
mit, and bow to his com - mand, and fall be - neath his feet.  
come, and take his ser - vants up to their e - ter - nal home.

**REFRAIN**



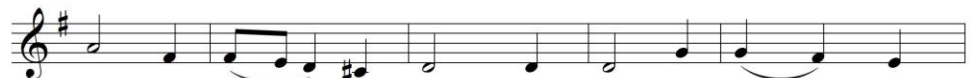
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re-joice, a-gain I say re - joice!

**Prayer of Adoration**

**Hymn of Preparation.....***Jesus Thy Blood and Righteousness (#520)*



1. Je - sus, thy blood and righ - teous-ness my beau - ty  
2. Bold shall I stand in thy great day, for who aught  
3. When from the dust of death I rise to claim my  
4. Je - sus, be end - less praise to thee, whose bound - less



are, my glo - rious dress; 'midst flam - ing worlds, in  
to my charge shall lay? Ful - ly ab - solved through  
man - sion in the skies, ev'n then this shall be  
mer - cy hath for me, for me a full a -



these ar - rayed, with joy shall I lift up my head.  
these I am from sin and fear, from guilt and shame.  
all my plea, Je - sus hath lived, hath died, for me.  
tone - ment made, an ev - er - last - ing ran - som paid.

—WORSHIP IN CONFESSION AND PARDON—

**Call to Confession**.....*Psalm 142*

With my voice I cry out to the Lord; with my voice  
I plead for mercy to the Lord.

**Responsive Words of Comfort and Promise**.....*Psalm 142*

I say, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living." The  
righteous will surround me, for you will deal bountifully with me.

**Hymn of Response**.....*Christ is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed*



1. How can it be? The One who died has  
2. For joy a-wakes as dawn-ing light when  
3. Where doubt and dark-ness once had been, they  
4. Once bound by fear, now bold in faith, they  
5. The pow'r that raised him from the grave now



borne our sin through sac - ri - fice, to con - quer ev - 'ry  
Christ's dis - ci - ples lift their eyes; a-live he stands, their  
saw him and their hearts be-lieved; but blessed are those who  
preached the truth and pow'r of grace; and pour - ing out their  
works in us to pow'r-fully save; he frees our hearts to



sting of death; sing, sing hal-le - lu - jah!  
Friend and King; Christ, Christ, he is ris - en.  
have not seen, yet sing hal-le - lu - jah.  
lives they gained life, live ev - er - last - ing.  
live his grace; go tell of his good - ness.



Christ is ris - en, he is ris - en in - deed! Oh, sing hal - le -



lu - jah. Join the chor - us sing with the re - deemed.



Christ is ris - en, he is ris - en in - deed.

**Confession of Faith.....***Westminster Shorter Catechism Q&A 60-63*  
Ruling Elder, Brain Nelson

Elder: How is the Sabbath to be sanctified?

**People: The Sabbath is to be sanctified by a holy resting all that day, even from such worldly employment and recreations as are lawful on other days; and spending the whole time in the public and private exercises of God’s worship, except so much as is to be taken up in the works of necessity and mercy.**

Elder: What is forbidden in the fourth commandment?

**People: The fourth commandment forbids the omission or careless performance of the duties required, and the profaning the day by idleness, or doing that which is in itself sinful, or by unnecessary thoughts, words, about worldly employments or recreations.**

Elder: What are the reasons annexed to the fourth commandment?

**People: The reasons annexed to the fourth commandment are, God’s allowing us six days of the week for our employments, his challenging a special propriety in the seventh, his own example, and his blessing the Sabbath Day.**

**The First Reading of God’s Word.....**Psalm 78:1-4  
*p 48*

**The Second Reading of God’s Word.....**Matthew 13:24-43  
*pp 818-819*

Reader: This is the Word of God.

**People: Amen!**

We offer an optional **Children’s Lesson** 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.

**Prayer of Consecration and Illumination**

**Hymn of Response**.....*Behold the Throne of Grace*

1. My soul, ask what thou wilt; thou  
 2. Teach me to live by faith; con -  
 canst not be too bold; since his own blood for  
 form my will to thine; let me vic - to - rious  
 thee he spilt, what else can he with - hold?  
 be in death, and then in glo - ry shine.

**Hearing from God’s Word**.....*Matthew 13:24-43*  
 Rev. Kyle Oliphint *Kingdom Parables*

**THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**

Please see instructions on the inside back cover of your bulletin.

“There is no such ‘thing’ as grace! Grace is not some appendage to Christ’s being. All there is is the Lord Jesus Himself. And so when Jesus speaks about us abiding in Him and He abiding in us – however mysterious it may be, mystical in that sense – it is a personal union. Christianity is Christ because there isn’t anything else. There is no atonement that somehow can be detached from who the Lord Jesus is. There is no grace that can be attached to you transferred from Him. All there is is Christ and your soul.”  
*Sinclair Ferguson*

“Ah! believer, it is safer always for you to be led of the Spirit into gospel liberty than to wear legal fetters. Judge yourself at what Christ is rather than what you are. Satan will try to mar your peace by reminding you of your sinfulness and imperfections: you can only meet his accusations by faithfully adhering to the Gospel and refusing to wear the yoke of bondage.”  
*Charles Spurgeon*

# Communion Hymns

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## **Jesus, I Come** – *William Sleeper/Greg Thompson*

1. Out of my bondage, sorrow and night,  
Jesus, I come, Jesus, I come;  
Into Thy freedom, gladness, and light,  
Jesus, I come to Thee;  
Out of my sickness, into Thy health,  
Out of my want and into Thy wealth,  
Out of my sin and into Thyself,  
Jesus, I come to Thee.

2. Out of my shameful failure and loss,  
Jesus, I come, Jesus, I come;  
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross,  
Jesus, I come to Thee;  
Out of earth's sorrows, into Thy balm,  
Out of life's storms and into Thy calm,  
Out of distress into jubilant psalm,  
Jesus, I come to Thee.

3. Out of unrest and arrogant pride,  
Jesus, I come, Jesus, I come;  
Into Thy blessed will to abide,  
Jesus, I come to Thee;  
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love,  
Out of despair, into raptures above,  
Upward forever on wings like a dove,  
Jesus, I come to Thee.

4. Out of the fear and dread of the tomb,  
Jesus, I come, Jesus, I come;  
Into the joy and light of Thy home,  
Jesus, I come to Thee;  
Out of the depths of ruin untold,  
Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,  
Ever Thy glorious face to behold,  
Jesus, I come to Thee.

## **Beneath the Cross of Jesus (#251)** – *Elizabeth Clephane/Frederick Maker*

1. Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I fain would take my stand,  
The Shadow of a mighty Rock  
Within a weary land;  
A home within the wilderness,  
A rest upon the way,  
From the burning of the noontide heat  
And the burden of the day.

2. Upon the cross of Jesus  
Mine eye at times can see  
The very dying form of one  
Who suffered there for me;

And from my stricken hear with tears  
Two wonders I confess,  
The wonders of redeeming love  
And my unworthiness.

3. I take, O cross, thy shadow  
For my abiding place;  
I ask no other sunshine  
Than the sunshine of his face;  
Content to let the world go by,  
To know no gain nor loss;  
My sinful self my only shame,  
My glory all the cross..

## **Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us (#599)** – *Dorothy Thrupp/William Bradbury*

1. Savior, like a shepherd lead us,  
Much we need Thy tender care;  
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us,  
For our use Thy folds prepare.  
Blesséd Jesus, blesséd Jesus!  
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are. (2x)

2. We are Thine, Thou dost befriend us,  
Be the guardian of our way;  
Keep Thy flock, from sin defend us,  
Seek us when we go astray.  
Blesséd Jesus, blesséd Jesus!  
Hear, O hear us when we pray. (2x)

3. Thou hast promised to receive us,  
Poor and sinful though we be;  
Thou hast mercy to relieve us,  
Grace to cleanse and power to free.  
Blesséd Jesus, blesséd Jesus!  
Let us early turn to Thee. (2x)

4. Early let us seek Thy favor,  
Early let us do Thy will;  
Blessed Lord and only Savior,  
With Thy love our bosoms fill.  
Blesséd Jesus, blesséd Jesus!  
Thou hast loved us, love us still. (2x)

WORSHIP IN GRATITUDE

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

Offertory.....I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

I love thy kingdom, Lord,  
the house of thine abode,  
the church our blest Redeemer saved  
with his own precious blood.

dear as the apple of thine eye  
and graven on thy hand.

Jesus, thou Friend divine,  
our Savior and our King,  
thy hand from ev'ry snare and foe  
shall great deliv'rance bring.

I love thy church, O God:  
her walls before thee stand,

Closing Hymn.....Jesus is Lord



1. "Je-sus is Lord" the cry that ech - oes through cre -  
2. "Je-sus is Lord" whose voice sus - tains the stars and  
3. "Je-sus is Lord" the tomb is glo - ri - ous - ly  
4. "Je-sus is Lord" a shout of joy, a cry of



a - tion; re - splen - dent pow'r, e - ter - nal Word, our  
pla - nets, yet in His wis - dom laid a - side His  
emp - ty! Not e - ven death could crush this King of  
an - guish, as He re - turns and ev - ery knee bows



Rock. The Son of God, the King whose  
crown. Je - sus the Man, who washed our  
love! The price is paid, the chains are  
low. Then ev - ery eye and ev - ery



glo - ry fills the hea - vens, yet bids us  
feet, who bore our suff - 'ring, be - came a  
loosed, and we're for - gi - ven, and we can  
heart will see His glo - ry; the Judge of



come to taste this Liv - ing Bread.  
curse to bring sal - va - tion's plan.  
run in - to the arms of God.  
all will take His chil - dren home.

Benediction

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Next Week's Sermon Passage

Matthew 13:44-52

### Financials

First Three Quarters of 2024: \$599,354.51

### Upcoming Events

- **GCPC Progressive Dinner:** Make plans to attend one of our church's most beloved holiday traditions (get your babysitter locked down now!) on **Saturday, December 7, 5:30-10 pm**. We will gather in medium-sized groups to share appetizers, then move to smaller dinner groups, and then gather all together at the church for dessert. To sign up, email your name(s), address, and phone number, AND if you would like to host a dinner group, OR if you can bring an appetizer, side item, or dessert to [amylutz2@gmail.com](mailto:amylutz2@gmail.com). **Deadline to sign up is Wednesday, November 27.**
- **Lessons and Carols Service:** Sunday, December 15 at 6:00 PM
- **Christmas Choir:** Elizabeth is putting together two choirs to sing for our **Lessons and Carols** service. Please email [hames.elizabeth@gmail.com](mailto:hames.elizabeth@gmail.com) if you plan to participate.
  - **Children's Choir:** 4-year-olds through 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Rehearsals will be right after church (12:00-12:45) on Dec. 1, Dec. 8, and Dec. 15.
  - **Adult/Youth Choir:** Middle school/high school students and adults. Rehearsals will be 7:00-8:30 on Thursday Nov. 21, Dec. 5, and Dec. 12. *The first rehearsal is **THIS** week!*
- **Griefshare:** With the holidays approaching, we're planning to show the Griefshare ministry presentation, "Surviving the Holidays" on the evening of **November 24th, beginning at 5:00PM**. This encouraging video and discussion will focus on the additional grief that the holiday season can bring after having lost a loved one. For questions and additional information please contact either Brian Nelson ([brian\\_w\\_nelson@outlook.com](mailto:brian_w_nelson@outlook.com), 405-650-4969) or Anne Nelson ([annenelsonok@gmail.com](mailto:annenelsonok@gmail.com), 405-250-6680). To register for



this meeting, please go to [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org) and search for the Surviving the Holidays group created for this event.

- **Membership at GCPC:** If you are interested in becoming a member of GCPC, please contact our Ministry Coordinator, Sherrie Hamby ([officgcpcfw@gmail.com](mailto:officgcpcfw@gmail.com)). She will coordinate a meeting with the elders and those interested in becoming members of our church. We will publicly receive our newest members during our worship service on **Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. But those who meet with the elders and are received into membership will be full members from that point on. The public reception is for our congregation to see our newest members.
  - **Our new members in 2024 and who were received in April, 2024:** Sara Sims; Stephen and Courtney Woods (Garrett, Hannah, Aaron), Jacob Edgar\*, Lucy Hames\*, Emma Richie
  - **Our new members in 2024 and who were publicly received in October, 2024:** Ron and Patti Hendricks; Jeff and Ginger Knutson; Jane Leuty; Ben, Lisbeth and Sylvana Urena; \*Christine and Fynn Bentson\*, Albert Harrelson\*, Ella Herman\*
  - **Our new members in 2024 who will be publicly received in April 2025:** Gabriel and Kathryn Ingram, Kevin and Kelly Proffit, Bonnie Saunders, Sam and Dorinda Wetselaar (Jeffery and Benjamin), Andrew White, Nora Fickle\*

\*Children becoming communing members (coming to the Lord's Table for the first time)

- We now have a **search committee** tasked with finding the person God has for us. Please pray for them as they undertake this work: Phil Bassett, Christine Bassett, Dan Bent, Rhett Bentson, Bethany Brooks, Jerry Hames, Sean Henry, Bob James, Ryan Lutz and Kathy Sheffield

**Guys of Grace (GoG)** (text @guysofgr to the number 81010 for periodic updates on all things GoG related)

- **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 January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025 **at 6:00pm** at the church. Contact Jordan Sims for more information jorsim613@gmail.com.

- **Men's Group:** The Guys of Grace study will be meeting the **1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays each month**. They will meet **again this Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 7pm**. The guys have been studying the books Esther and Ruth this year and meet in the conference room. Please contact Sean Henry for more information: seanph10@yahoo.com.
- **Tuesday Morning Men's Prayer Meeting:** 6:15am every Tuesday in the Conference Room.

### Greystone at Grace

- This semester Jared Brown is offering a **free course on the theology of Paul**. They meet at GCPC on the **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month** from 7 PM to 8:30 PM. The next class will be **Wednesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>**. Please contact Jared for more information: j.brown@greystoneinstitute.org or (817) 965-2550.

**Ladies of Grace (LoG)** (text @loggr to the number 81010 for periodic updates on all things LoG related)

- **Ladies' Winter/Spring Bible Study:** Our new study begins on **January 21**. We will read *What a Royal Mess: A Study of 1 and 2 Kings* by Susan Tyner (\$13). Sign-ups will begin in December in the church foyer.  
**Tuesday morning in-person (with childcare): January 21-April 1**  
**Thursday evening Zoom: January 23 - April 3**
- **Ladies' Prayer Meeting:** Thursdays at 10:00am Please contact Robbi Parker for Zoom link: oarsinsailsup@gmail.com.
- **Ladies of Grace Christmas Party: Friday, December 13, 6-9 pm** at Kathy Sheffield's home. Bring an appetizer, dessert, or bottle of wine to share, and a gift (\$20 or less, something you would want- not

a gag gift!) for a white elephant gift exchange. Sign up in the foyer or on Facebook.

- **Deck the Halls:** Join the Ladies of Grace on **Monday, December 2 from 6:30-8:30 pm** in decorating the church for Christmas and sharing some festive holiday cookies. MS and HS girls welcome! Sign up in the foyer or on Facebook.

### Missions of Grace (MoG)

- **Save the Date:** GCPC Missions Conference **March 1-2**.
- **Missions of Grace Spotlight for November** is the work of **Mission to the World**, our denominational mission agency. They are promoting 4 mobilization initiatives in 2025:
  1. Equipping churches to highlight and engage in missions
  2. Praying for the nations
  3. Mission trips and internships for seminary students and RUF students
  4. Catalyst Teams to create a smooth pathway for new missionaries to find their calling.Please pray that through these initiatives God would raise up new missionaries.

**Student Ministries of Grace (SMoG)** (text @smogrem to 81010 for periodic reminders of all things SMoG related)

- **All Events Listed:** Please see SMoG page on our website: <https://gcpcfw.org/resources/student-ministries-of-grace/> or scan the QR code for a full calendar of events for SMoG through December 2024.



- **SMoG meets this Wednesday night, November 20<sup>th</sup>.**

*Text @gcpcr to the number 81010 for periodic reminders of all things, generally, GCPC related.*

