

# GRACE COMMUNITY

*Presbyterian Church, PCA*

**ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD**

**November 24, 2024**

**10:30am**

**Reflection:** “The parables of the treasure and of the pearl explore the kingdom’s hiddenness and growth. The treasure and the yeast are both “hidden,” and both pearls and mustard seeds are small. The parables of the treasure and the pearl both feature something valuable, which a person finds and acquires, whatever the cost.” *Ian Duguid*

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

—————**WORSHIP IN PRAISE**—————

**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 29*

**Minister:** The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders.

**People:** **The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

**Minister:** The LORD sits enthroned as king forever. May the LORD give strength to His people!

**People:** **Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name; worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.**

## Hymn of Adoration.....Come Thou Almighty King (#101)



1. Come, thou Al - might - y King, help us thy  
2. Come, thou In - car - nate Word, gird on thy  
3. Come, Ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred  
4. To the great One in Three e - ter - nal



name to sing, help us to praise.  
might - y sword, our prayer at - tend.  
wit - ness bear in this glad hour.  
prais - es be, hence ev - er - more.



Fa - ther, all glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic - to - ri - ous,  
Come, and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy Word suc - cess;  
Thou who al - might - y art, now rule in ev - ery heart,  
His sov - ereign maj - es - ty may we in glo - ry see,



come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.  
Spir - it of ho - li - ness, on us de - scend.  
and ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.  
and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

The anonymous text of this hymn dates from before 1757, when it was published in a leaflet and bound into the 1757 edition of George Whitefield's Collection of Hymns for Social Worship. The text appears to be patterned after the British national anthem, "God Save the King." Filled with names for members of the Godhead, this song exhibits a common trinitarian structure, addressing God the Father (st. 1), God the Son (st. 2), and God the Holy Spirit (st. 3), concluding with a doxology to the Trinity (st. 4). The text has often been attributed to Charles Wesley, since the leaflet also included a hymn text from his pen ("Jesus, Let Thy Pitying Eye"); however, "Come, Thou Almighty King" was never printed in any of the Wesley hymnals, and no other Wesley text is written in such an unusual meter.

## Prayer of Adoration

**Hymn of Preparation.....My Sins, My Sins, My Savior (#553)**



1. My sins, my sins, my Sav - ior! They take such hold on  
2. My sins, my sins, my Sav - ior! Their guilt I nev - er  
3. There - fore my songs, my Sav - ior, e'en in this time of



me, I am not a - ble to look up, save  
knew till with thee in the des - ert I  
woe, shall tell of all thy good - ness to



on - ly Christ, to thee; in thee is all for -  
near thy pas - sion drew; till with thee in the  
suf - fring man be - low; thy good-ness and thy



give - ness, in thee a - bun - dant grace, my  
gar - den I heard thy plead - ing pray'r, and  
fa - vor, whose pres - ence from a - bove re -



shad - ow and my sun - shine the bright-ness of thy face.  
saw the sweat-drops blood - y that told thy sor-row there.  
joice those hearts, my Sav - ior, that live in thee and love.

**—————WORSHIP IN CONFESSION AND PARDON—————**

**Call to Confession.....I John**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**Words of Comfort and Promise.....I John**

But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation\* for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

**\*Propitiation** communicates the biblical truth that Jesus appeased God's wrath for *our* sin as God judged Him on our behalf, and we received the righteousness of Christ in return.

Hymn of Response.....*O Church, Arise*



1. O Church, a-rise, and put your ar - mour on; hear the  
 2. Our call to war, to love the cap - tive soul, but to  
 3. Come see the cross, where love and mer - cy meet, as the  
 4. So Spir - it, come, put strength in ev - 'ry stride, give



call of Christ our Cap - tain. For now the weak can say that  
 rage a - gainst the cap - tor; and with the sword that makes the  
 Son of God is strick - en; then see his foes lie crushed be -  
 grace for ev - 'ry hur - dle; that we may run with faith to



they are strong in the strength that God has giv -  
 wound-ed whole, we will fight with faith and val -  
 neath his feet, for the Con - quer - or has ris -  
 win the prize of a ser - vant, good and faith -



en. With shield of faith and belt of truth, we'll stand a -  
 our. When faced with trials on ev - 'ry side, we know the  
 en. And as the stone is rolled a - way and Christ e -  
 ful. As saints of old still line the way, re - tell - ing



gainst the dev - ils lies; an ar - my bold, whose bat - tle  
 out - come is se - cure. And Christ will have the prize for  
 mer - ges from the grave, this vic - 'try march con - tin - ues  
 tri - umphs of his grace, we hear their calls, and hun - ger



cry is Love, reach - ing out to those in dark - ness.  
 which he died, an in - her - i - tance of na - tions.  
 till the day ev - 'ry eye and heart shall see him.  
 for the day when, with Christ, we stand in glo - ry.

**Confession of Faith.....***Westminster Shorter Catechism Q&A 63-66*  
Teaching Elder, Kyle Oliphint

Elder: Which is the fifth commandment?

**People: The fifth commandment is, Honor your father your and your mother; that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God gives you.**

Elder: What is required in the fifth commandment?

**People: The fifth commandment requires the preserving the honor, and performing the duties, belonging to every one in their several places and relations, as superiors, inferiors, or equals.**

Elder: What is forbidden in the fifth commandment?

**People: The fifth commandment forbids the neglecting of, or doing any thing against, the honor and duty which belongs to every one in their several places and relations.**

Elder: What is the reason annexed to the fifth commandment?

**People: The reason annexed to the fifth commandment, is a promise of long life and prosperity (as far as it shall serve for God's glory and their own good) to all such as keeps this commandment.**

**The First Reading of God's Word.....***Proverbs 2:1-8*  
*p 528*

**The Second Reading of God's Word.....***Matthew 13:44-52*  
*p 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.....*Show us Christ*

Pre-prepare our hearts, O God, help us to re - ceive.

Break the hard and ston - y ground, help our un - be - lief.

Plant your Word down deep in us, cause it to bear fruit,

o - pen up our ears to hear, lead us in your truth. Show us Christ,

show us Christ, O God, re - veal your glo -

- ry through the preach - ing of your Word un - til ev -

- 'ry heart con - fess - es Christ is Lord.

### Hearing from God's Word.....Matthew 13:44-52 Rev. Kyle Oliphint *More Kingdom Parables*

## THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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

"All is of God; the only thing of my very own which I contribute to my redemption is the sin from which I need to be redeemed." *William Temple*

# Communion Hymns

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## **My Faith Has Found a Resting Place** – E.E. Hewitt/Greg Thompson

1. My faith has found a resting place,  
From guilt my soul is free.  
I trust the Ever-living One,  
His wounds shall plead for me.

*Chorus: I need no other argument,  
I need no other plea,  
It is enough that Jesus died,  
And that He died for me.*

2. My great physician heals the sick,  
The lost He came to save;

For me His precious blood He shed,  
For me His life He gave. *Chorus*

3. My heart is leaning on the Word,  
The written Word of God,  
Salvation by my Savior's name,  
Salvation through His blood. *Chorus*

4. Enough for me that Jesus saves,  
This ends my fear and doubt;  
A sinful soul I come to Him,  
He'll never cast me out. *Chorus*

## **Behold the Lamb** – Stuart Townend/Keith and Kristyn Getty

1. Behold the Lamb who bears our sins  
away, slain for us: and we remember:  
The promise made that all who come in  
faith find forgiveness at the cross.  
So we share in this Bread of life,  
And we drink of His sacrifice,  
As a sign of our bonds of peace  
Around the table of the King.

2. The body of our Savior, Jesus Christ,  
Torn for you: eat and remember  
The wounds that heal, the death that  
brings us life, paid the price to make us  
one. So we share in this Bread of Life,  
And we drink of His sacrifice  
As a sign of our bonds of love  
Around the table of the King.

3. The blood that cleanses every stain of  
sin, shed for you: drink and remember  
He drained death's cup that all may enter  
in to receive the life of God.  
So we share in this Bread of Life,  
And we drink of His sacrifice,  
As a sign of our bonds of grace  
Around the table of the King.

4. And so with thankfulness and faith  
We rise to respond: and to remember  
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ  
As His body here on earth.  
As we share in His suffering,  
We proclaim: Christ will come again!  
And we'll join in the feast of heaven  
Around the table of the King.

## **Lift High the Cross (#263)** –George W. Kitchin/Sydney H. Nicholson

*Chorus: Lift high the cross,  
The love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore His sacred Name.*

1. Come, brethren, follow where our Savior  
trod, our King victorious,  
Christ the Son of God. *Chorus*

2. Led on their way by this triumphant sign,  
the hosts of God in conquering ranks  
combine. *Chorus*

3. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
as thou hast promised, draw men unto thee.  
*Chorus*

4. Thy kingdom come, that earth's despair  
may cease beneath the shadow of its healing  
peace. *Chorus*

5. For thy blest Cross which doth for us  
atone creation's praises rise before thy  
throne. *Chorus*

—————**WORSHIP IN GRATITUDE**—————

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

**Offertory**.....*Jesus, Priceless Treasure*

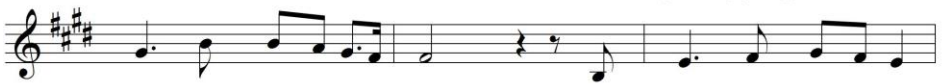
*Jesus, priceless Treasure,  
Source of purest pleasure,  
Truest Friend to me.  
Ah, how long in anguish  
Shall my spirit languish,*

*Yearning, Lord, for Thee?  
Thine I am,  
O spotless Lamb!  
I will suffer naught to hide Thee,  
Naught I ask beside Thee.*

**Closing Hymn**.....*On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand*



1. On Jor-dan's storm - y banks I stand, and  
2. All o'er those wide ex - tend - ed plains, shines  
3. No chill - ing winds nor pois - 'nous breath can  
4. When shall I reach that hap - py place and



cast a wish - ful eye to Can - aan's fair and  
one e - ter - nal day. There God, the Son, for -  
reach that health - ful shore. Sick - ness, sor - row,  
be for - ev - er blessed? When shall I see my



hap - py land, where my pos - sess - ions lie.  
ev - er reigns, and scat - ters night a - way.  
pain, and death are felt and feared no more.  
Fa - ther's face, and in His bos - om rest?

**CHORUS**



I am bound, (echo) I am bound, (echo) I am



bound for the Prom-ised Land. I am bound, (echo) I am



bound, (echo) I am bound for the Prom-ised Land.

**Benediction**



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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Next Week's Sermon Passage

Matthew 13:53-58

### 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. 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).
- **Lessons and Carols Service:** Sunday, December 15 at 6:00 PM
- **Christmas Chords:** Email [hames.elizabeth@gmail.com](mailto:hames.elizabeth@gmail.com) with questions.
  - **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. Remaining rehearsals will be 7:00-8:30 on Thursday Dec. 5, and Dec. 12.
- **Griefshare:** With the holidays approaching, we're planning to show the Griefshare ministry presentation, "Surviving the Holidays" **tonight, 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). 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\*, Lilly Thacker\*

\*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 Wednesday, December 4<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, December 11**. 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 will not meet this Wednesday, due to Thanksgiving. Their next meeting will be Wednesday night, December 4th.**

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