

GRACE COMMUNITY

Presbyterian Church, PCA

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

January 5, 2025

10:30am

Reflection: “Jesus encounters a Syrophenician woman who is, by Jesus’ standards, more pure than scribe or Pharisee. Israel’s teachers had accused Jesus, but this woman calls him “Lord” and “Son of David” and demonstrates resolute faith.”

Daniel Doriani

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 4 & John 15*

Minister: Know that the Lord has set apart the godly for himself;
the Lord hears when I call to him.
And Jesus said:

People: **You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.**

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn of Adoration.....All Creatures of Our God and King (#115)



1.All crea - tures of our God and King, lift
2.Thou rush - ing wind that art so strong, ye
3.Thou flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make
4.And all ye men of ten - der heart, for -
5.Let all things their Cre - a - tor bless, and



up your voice and with us sing al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
clouds that sail in heav'n a - long, O praise him, al - le -
mu - sic for thy Lord to hear, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
giv - ing oth - ers, take your part, O sing ye, al - le -
wor - ship him in hum - ble - ness, O praise him, al - le -



lu - ia! Thou burn - ing sun with gold - en beam, thou
lu - ia! Thou ris - ing morn in praise re - joice, ye
lu - ia! Thou fire so mas - ter - ful and bright, that
lu - ia! Ye who long pain and sor - row bear, praise
lu - ia! Praise, praise the Fa - ther, praise the Son, and



sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam,
lights of eve - ning, find a voice,
giv - est man both warmth and light,
God and on him cast your care,
praise the Spir - it, three in one,

REFRAIN



O praise him, O praise him, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Hymn of Preparation.....Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul



1. Dear re - fuge of my wear - y soul, on
2. But oh! When gloo - my doubts pre - vail, I
3. Hast thou not bid me seek thy face, and
4. Thy mer - cy seat is o - pen still, here



thee when sor - rows rise, on thee when waves of trou - ble roll,
fear to call thee mine. The springs of com - fort seem to fail,
shall I seek in vain? And can the ear of sov - ereign grace
let my soul re - treat with hum - ble hope at - tend thy will,



my faint - ing hope re - lies. To thee I tell each
and all my hopes de - cline. Yet gra - cious God, where
be deaf when I com - plain? No, still the ear of
and wait be - neath thy feet. Thy mer - cy seat is



ri - sing grief, for thou a - lone canst heal. Thy
shall I flee? Thou art my on - ly trust, and
sov - ereign grace at - tends the mourn - er's prayer. Oh
o - pen still, here let my soul re - treat with



Word can bring a sweet re - lief, for ev - 'ry pain I feel.
still my soul would cleave to thee, though pro - strate in the dust.
may I ev - er find ac - cess to breathe my sor - rows there.
hum - ble hope at - tend thy will, and wait be - neath thy feet.

— WORSHIP IN CONFESSION AND PARDON —

Call to Confession.....Matthew 11

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in
heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Words of Comfort and Promise.....Hebrews 4

Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts. Let us therefore
strive to enter that rest:

Hymn of Response.....*Jesus, I am Resting, Resting*



1. Je - sus, I am rest - ting, rest - ing in the
 2. O how great thy lov - ing kind - ness, vast - er,
 3. Sim - ply trust - ing thee, Lord Je - sus, I be -
 4. Ev - er lift thy face up - on me as I



joy of what thou art; I am find - ing out the great -
 broad - er than the sea! O, how mar - vel - ous thy good -
 hold thee as thou art, and thy love, so pure, so change -
 work and wait for thee; rest - ing 'neath thy smile, Lord Je -



- ness of thy lov - ing heart. Thou hast bid me gaze up - on
 - ness, lav - ished all on me! Yes, I rest in thee, be - lov -
 - less, sat - is - fies my heart; Sat - is - fies its deep - est long -
 - sus, earth's dark shad - ows flee. Bright - ness of my Fa - ther's glo -



thee, and thy beat - y fills my soul, for by
 - ed, know what wealth of grace is thine, know thy
 - ings, meets, sup - plies its ev - 'ry need, com - pass -
 - ry, sun - shine of my Fa - ther's face, keep me



thy trans - form - ing pow - er thou hast made me whole.
 cer - tain - ty of prom - ise, and have made it mine.
 eth me round with bless - ings; thine is love in - deed!
 ev - er trust - ing, rest - ing, fill me with thy grace.

REFRAIN



Je - sus, I am rest - ing, rest - ing in the joy of what thou art; I am



find - ing out the great - ness of thy lov - ing heart.

—————**WORSHIP AND THE MEANS OF GRACE**—————

Confession of Faith.....*Westminster Shorter Catechism Q&A 82-84*
Ruling Elder, Brian Nelson

Elder: Is any man able perfectly to keep the commandments of God?

People: No mere man since the fall is able in this life perfectly to keep the commandments of God, but does daily break them in thought, word and deed.

Elder: Are all transgressions of the law equally heinous?

People: Some sins in themselves, and by reason of several aggravations, are more heinous in the sight of God than others.

Elder: What does every sin deserve?

People: Every sin deserves God’s wrath and curse, both in this life, and that which is to come.

The First Reading of God’s Word.....*Deuteronomy 7:1-11*
pp 151-152

The Second Reading of God’s Word.....*Matthew 15:21-28*
p 821

Reader: This is the Word of God.

People: Amen!

Prayer of Consecration and Illumination

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.

Hymn of Response.....*Ye Servants of God (#165)*



1. Ye ser-vants of God, your Mas-ter pro-claim, and pub-lish a -
2. Then let us a - dore, and give him his right, all glo - ry and



broad his won - der - ful name; the name, all vic - to - rious, of
pow'r, and wis - dom and might, all hon - or and bless - ing, with



Je - sus ex - tol; his king - dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all.
an - gels a - bove, and thanks nev - er ceas - ing for in - fi - nite love.

Hearing from God's Word.....*Matthew 15:21-28*

Rev. Kyle Oliphint

Heartfelt Quest

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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

"Every time we look at the cross Christ seems to say to us, 'I am here because of you. It is your sin I am bearing, your curse I am suffering, your debt I am paying, your death I am dying.' Nothing in history or in the universe cuts down to size like the cross. All of us have inflated views of ourselves, especially in self-righteousness, until we have visited a place called Calvary. It is there, at the foot of the cross, that we shrink to our true size."

John R. W. Stott

"When you retire your souls from all secular confidences, and repose all your trust in him, you will be instant in prayer, and earnestly beg his relief; you see all things subsist by him, and it is in vain to expect any real assistance from the creature, but what God will communicate to us by it."

Thomas Manton

"Christ is our best friend, and ere long will be our only friend. I pray God with all my heart that I may be weary of everything else but converse and communion with him."

John Owen

Communion Hymns

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (#252) – Isaac Watts/Gregorian Chant

1. When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

3. See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

4. Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small:
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Not What My Hands Have Done – Horatius Bonar/Kevin Twit

1. Not what my hands have done
Can save my guilty soul;
Not what my toiling flesh has borne
Can make my spirit whole.
Not what I feel or do
Can give me peace with God;
Not all my prayers, and sighs and tears
Can bear my awful load.

3. Thy grace alone, O God,
To me can pardon speak;
Thy power alone O Son of God,
Can this sore bondage break.
No other work, save Thine,
No other blood will do,
No strength save that,
Which is divine,
Can bear me safely through.

2. Thy work alone, O Christ,
Can ease this weight of sin
Thy blood alone O Lamb of God,
Can give me peace within.
Thy love to me O God,
Not mine, O Lord, to Thee
Can rid me of this dark unrest,
And set my spirit free!

4. I praise the God of grace,
I trust His truth and might
He calls me His, I call Him mine,
My God, my joy, my light
'Tis He Who saveth me,
And freely pardon gives
I love because He loveth me,
I live because He lives.

What Wondrous Love is This (#261) –Folk Hymn

1. What wondrous love is this,
O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
That caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse
For my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

Who is the great I Am;
While millions join the theme,
I will sing, I will sing;
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

2. To God and to the Lamb,
I will sing, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb

3. And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing and joyful be, And through
eternity
I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And through eternity I'll sing on.

WORSHIP IN GRATITUDE

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

Offertory.....Faith of Our Fathers

Closing Hymn.....Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending
[Tune: Praise My Soul the King of Heaven]



1.Lo! he comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
2.Ev - 'ry eye shall now be - hold him,
3.Ev - 'ry is - land, sea, and moun - tain,
4.Now Re - demp - tion, long ex - pect - ed,
5.Yea, a - men! Let all a - dore thee,



once for fa - vored sin - ners slain; thou - sand
robed in dread - ful maj - es - ty; those who
heav'n and earth, shall flee a - way; all who
see in sol - emn pomp ap - pear! All his
high on thine e - ter - nal throne; Sav - ior,



thou - sand saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph
set at naught and sold him, pierced, and nailed him
hate him must, con - found - ed, hear the trump pro -
saints, by man re - ject - ed, now shall meet him
take the pow'r and glo - ry, claim the king - dom



of his train. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
to the tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly
claim the day: Come to judg - ment! Come to
in the air. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
for thine own: O Come quick - ly, O come



lu - ia! God ap - pears on earth to reign.
wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
judg - ment! Come to judg - ment, come a - way!
lu - ia! See the day of God ap - pear!
quick - ly; al - le - lu - ia! Come, Lord, come.

Benediction

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Week's Sermon Passage

Matthew 15:29-39

Financials

First Three Quarters of 2024: \$599,354.51

Upcoming Events

- **Monthly Potluck Lunch: This morning after worship**
Set-up/Clean-up Coordinator: Melissa Brown
Please bring the following:
ALL: main dish
By Last Name:
A-J: side
K-O: dessert
P-Z: salad
Mission Spotlight: Isaiah 55
- **The GCPC Christmas Card Distribution** folders have been well used. Some people have requested that the folders be available a bit longer, so **Sunday January 12th** will be the last day to use them until next December.
- **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 6th, 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:** Jess and Judy Alonso, Michael and Alexandra Amidon (Esther and Evelyn), Gabriel and Kathryn Ingram, Kelly Proffit, Kevin and Bonnie Saunders, Sam and Dorinda Wetselaar (Jeffery and Benjamin), Andrew White, Nora Fickle*, Mia Lutz*, 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
- **Members of GCPC:** We are now in the process of nominating men for ordained office. Our nominations close **a week from today, January 12**. Ballots and booklets that explain the process are available in the foyer. Please pray for this process, for the minds and hearts of our members and for the clarity and wisdom of the men who may give permission to be nominated. Finally, begin to pray now for the many months of the training process that will begin in early 2025.

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 24th, 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 **1st and 3rd Wednesdays each month**. They will take New Year's Day off so they will meet **again Wednesday, January 15th 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.

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 have begun 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.

Missions of Grace (MoG)

- **Save the date: GCPC Missions conference March 1-2**
- **Missions of Grace Spotlight for January is Isaiah 55:** Isaiah 55 is a ministry in Reynosa, Mexico. They run a school for deaf children and outreach activities in the local community, and are beginning a church plant. Praise God for the growth of their ministry which reflects growing trust from the community. Pray for the funds to pursue their goals, and for more qualified teachers for the school.

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 meet this Wednesday night, January 8th.

NOTES

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