

# GRACE COMMUNITY

*Presbyterian Church, PCA*

## ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

December 29, 2024

10:30am

**Reflection:** “Jesus notes, ‘It is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but what comes out of the mouth; this defiles a person’ (v. 11). This had to be startling to Jesus’ first hearers, since Mosaic law says it *is* possible to be defiled by touching an unclean person or eating unclean food (Leviticus 11). But the principle is true: accidents of touching or eating do not make humans unclean. Slanderous speech defiles lips more than eating the wrong food does.”

*Ian Duguid*

### 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 66

Minister: Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man.

People: **Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise!**

Minister: Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard!

# Hymn of Adoration.....*Bless the Lord, O My Soul*

## CHORUS

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;  
wor-ship His ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be-fore,  
O my soul; I'll wor-ship Your ho - ly name.

## VERSE

1. The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn-ing,  
2. You're rich in love and You're slow to an - ger.  
3. And on that day, when my strength is fail - ing  
it's time to sing Your song a - gain. What-  
Your name is great and your heart is kind. For  
the end draws near, and my time has come;  
ev - er may pass, and what - ev - er lies be-fore me,  
all Your good-ness I will keep on sing-ing;  
still, my soul will sing Your praise un - end - ing  
let me be sing - ing when the ev - 'ning comes.  
ten thou - sand rea - sons for my heart to find.  
ten thou - sand years, and then for - ev - er - more!

## Prayer of Adoration

Hymn of Preparation.....*From Depths of Woe (Psalm 130)*



1.From depths of woe I raise to Thee, the voice  
 2.To wash a-way the crim - son stain, grace, grace  
 3.There - fore my trust is in the Lord, and not  
 4.What though I wait the live - long night and till  
 5.Though great our sins and sore our woes, His grace



of lam - en - ta - tion; Lord turn a gra - cious ear  
 a - lone a - vail - eth; Our works, a - las! are all  
 in my own mer - it; On Him my soul shall rest,  
 the dawn ap - pear - eth, My heart still trust - eth in  
 much more a - bound - eth; His help - ing love no lim -



to me and hear my sup - pli - ca - tion; If  
 in vain; in much the best life fail - eth; No  
 His word up - holds my faint - ing spir - it; His  
 His might; it doubt - eth not nor fear - eth; Do  
 - it knows, our ut - most need it sound - eth; Our



thou in - i - qui - ties dost mark, our se - cret sins and mis -  
 man can glo - ry in thy sight, all must a - like con - fess  
 prom - ised mer - cy is my fort, my com - fort and my sweet  
 thus, O ye of Is - rael's seed, ye of the Spir - it born  
 Shep - herd good and true is He, who will at last His Is -



- deeds dark. Oh who shall stand be - fore Thee? (echo)  
 thy might, And live a - lone by mer - cy, (echo)  
 sup - port; I wait for it with pa - tience, (echo)  
 in - deed; And wait till God ap - pear - eth (echo)  
 - rael free From all their sin and sor - row, (echo)



Oh who shall stand be - fore Thee? (echo)  
 And live a - lone by mer - cy. (echo)  
 I wait for it with pa - tience. (echo)  
 And wait till God ap - pear - eth. (echo)  
 From all their sin and sor - row. (echo)

—WORSHIP IN CONFESSION AND PARDON—

**Call to Confession**.....*Psalm 51*

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

**Words of Comfort and Promise**.....*2 Chronicles*

For the Lord your God is gracious and compassionate. He will not turn his face from you if you return to Him.

**Hymn of Response**.....*Before the Throne of God*



1. Be - fore the throne of God a - bove I have a  
2. When Sa - tan tempts me to de - spair and tells me  
3. Be - hold Him there, the ris-en Lamb, my per - fect



strong and per - fect plea. A great high priest whose name is  
of the guilt with - in, up - ward I look and see Him  
spot - less right-eous-ness, the great un - change - a - ble I



love Who ev - er lives and pleads for me. My name is  
there Who made an end to all my sin. Be - cause the  
AM, the King of glo - ry and of grace. One with Him -



gra - ven on His hands, my name is writ - ten on His  
sin - less Sa - vior died my sin - ful soul is coun - ted  
self I can - not die. My soul is pur - chased with His



heart. I know that while in heaven He stands no tongue can  
free. For God the just is sat - is - fied to look on  
blood. My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my



bid me thence de - part. No tongue can bid me thence de - part.  
Him and par - don me, to look on Him and par - don me.  
Sav - ior and my God, with Christ my Sav - ior and my God.

**Confession of Faith.....Westminster Shorter Catechism Q&A 79-81**

Ruling Elder, Andrew Caudal

Elder: Which is the tenth commandment?

**People: The tenth commandment is, Thou shalt not covet thy neighbors house, thou shalt not covet thou neighbors wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbor's.**

Elder: What is required in the tenth commandment?

**People: The tenth commandment requires full contentment with our own condition, with a right and charitable frame of spirit toward our neighbor and all that is his.**

Elder: What is forbidden in the tenth commandment?

**People: The tenth commandment forbids all discontentment with our own estate, envying or grieving at the good of our neighbor, and all inordinate motions and affections to anything that is his.**

**The First Reading of God's Word.....Isaiah 29:13-16**  
*p 590*

**The Second Reading of God's Word.....Matthew 15:1-20**  
*pp 820-821*

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 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.

**Hymn of Response.....Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus (#679)**



1.'Tis so sweet to trust in Je-sus, just to take him at his word;  
 2.O how sweet to trust in Je-sus, just to trust his cleans-ing blood;



just to rest up - on his prom-ise; just to know, "Thus saith the Lord."  
 just in sim-ple faith to plunge me 'neath the heal - ing, cleans-ing flood!

**REFRAIN**



Je-sus, Je-sus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er!



Je - sus, Je - sus, pre - cious Je - sus! O for grace to trust him more!

**Hearing from God's Word.....Matthew 15:1-20**  
 Rev. Kyle Oliphint *Heartless Obedience*

**THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

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

"I have never known a man who has thought upon, and taken a view of the cross, who has not found that it beget 'repentance,' and beget faith. We look at Jesus Christ if we would be saved, and we then say. 'Amazing sacrifice! that Jesus thus died to save sinners.' If you want faith, remember he gives it, if you want repentance, he gives it! if you want everlasting life, he gives it liberally. He can force you to feel your great sin, and cause you to repent by the sight of Calvary's cross, and the sound of the greatest, deepest death shriek, 'Eloi! Eloi! lama sabachthani?' 'My God! my God! why hast thou forsaken me?' That will beget 'repentance;' it will make you weep and say, 'Alas! and did my Saviour bleed; and did my Sovereign die for me?' Then beloved, if you would have 'repentance,' this is my best advice to you—look to Jesus."

*Charles Spurgeon*

# Communion Hymns

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## **Jesus Cast a Look on Me** – *John Berridge/Matthew Perryman Jones*

1. Jesus cast a look on me,  
Give me sweet simplicity.  
Make me poor and keep me low,  
Seeking only Thee to know.

2. All that feeds my busy pride,  
Cast it evermore aside.  
Bid my will to Thine submit,  
Lay me humbly at Thy feet.

3. Make me like a little child,  
Of my strength and wisdom spoiled,

Seeing only in Thy light,  
Walking only in Thy might.

4. Leaning on Thy loving breast,  
Where a weary soul can rest,  
Feeling well the peace of God,  
Flowing from His precious blood.

5. In this posture let me live,  
And hosannas daily give.  
In this temper let me die,  
And hosannas ever cry.

## **By Thy Mercy** – *James John Cummings/Greg Thompson*

1. Jesus, Lord of life and glory,  
Bend from heaven thy gracious ear;  
While our waiting souls adore thee,  
Friend of helpless sinners, hear:

2. From the depth of nature's blindness,  
From the hardening power of sin,  
From all malice and unkindness,  
From the pride that lurks within,

*Refrain:*

*By thy mercy, O deliver us, Good Lord  
By thy mercy, O deliver us, Good Lord,  
Good Lord.*

3. When temptation sorely presses,  
In the day of Satan's power,

In our times of deep distresses,  
In each dark and trying hour.

4. When the world around is smiling,  
In the time of wealth and ease,  
Earthly joys our hearts beguiling,  
In the day of health and peace. *Refrain*

5. In the weary hours of sickness,  
In the times of grief and pain,  
When we feel our mortal weakness,  
When all human help is vain.

6. In the solemn hour of dying,  
In the awful judgment day,  
May our souls, on thee relying,  
Find thee still our Rock and Stay. *Refrain*

## **Jesus Paid It All (#308)** – *Elvina Hall/John Grape*

1. I hear the Savior say,  
"Your strength indeed is small;  
Child of weakness, watch and pray,  
Find in Me your all in all."

*Refrain:*

*Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe;  
Sin had left a crimson stain,  
He washed it white as snow.*

2. Lord, now indeed I find  
Your power and yours alone,

Can change the leper's spots  
And melt the heart of stone. *Refrain*

3. For nothing good have I  
Whereby your grace to claim  
I'll wash my garments white  
In the blood of Calvary's Lamb. *Refrain*

4. And when before the throne  
I stand in Him complete,  
"Jesus died my soul to save,"  
My lips shall still repeat. *Refrain*



WORSHIP IN GRATITUDE

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

Offertory.....Create in Me a Clean Heart

Create in me a clean heart, oh God
And renew a right spirit within me
Create in me a clean heart, oh God
And renew a right spirit within me

Cast me not away from Thy presence,
Oh Lord
And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation
And renew a right spirit within me

Closing Hymn.....All Glory Be to Christ



1.Should noth - ing of our ef - forts stand, no
2.To you who boast to - mor - row's gain, tell
-- 3.His will be done, his king - dom come, on
4.Let liv - ing wa - ter sat - is - fy the
5.When on the day the great I Am, the
6.Be - hold, our God shall live with us and



leg - a - cy sur - vive; un - less the Lord does
me what is your life? A mist that van - ish -
-- earth as is a - bove, who is him - self our
thirst - y with - out price; we'll take a cup of
faith - ful and the true, the Lamb who was for
be our stead - fast light. And we shall e'er his



raise the house, in vain its build - ers strive.
es at dawn; all glo - ry be to Christ.
-- dai - ly bread; praise him the Lord of love. Christ.
kind - ness yet; all glo - ry be to Christ.
sin - ners slain, is mak - ing all things new.
peo - ple be; all glo - ry be to Christ.

REFRAIN



All glo - ry be to Christ our King! All glo - ry be to Christ! His



rule and reign we'll ev - er sing, all glo - ry be to Christ!

Benediction



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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Next Week's Sermon Passage

Matthew 15:21-28

### Financials

First Three Quarters of 2024: \$599,354.51

### Sunday School

Sunday School classes resume next week, Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup>.

### Upcoming Events

- **Monthly Potluck Lunch: Next Sunday, January 5 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
- **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:** 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 **in two weeks, 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 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 take New Year's Day off so they will meet **again Wednesday, January 15<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.

**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.



