

GRACE COMMUNITY

Presbyterian Church, PCA

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

January 19, 2025

10:30am

Reflection: “The demand for a sign is, ironically, itself a sign of this generation’s wickedness.”

Daniel Doriani

“The only sign these will receive is the sign of Jonah. This seems to have a double significance. First, Jonah was a prophet specifically sent to the Gentiles, which is clearly a dominant theme in this part of the Gospel. Second, it is a sign of resurrection, and Jesus is teaching that faith ultimately rests not on his miracles but on his dying and rising again.”

David Jackman

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 84*

Minister: Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in tents of the wicked.

People: **For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless. O Lord Almighty, blessed is the man who trusts in you.**

Hymn of Adoration.....*Praise the Lord, Ye Heavens Adore Him*
 [Tune: *Come, Thou Long expected Jesus*]



1. Praise the Lord, ye heav'ns a - dore him; praise him,
 2. Praise the Lord, for he is glo - rious; nev - er
 3. Wor - ship, hon - or, glo - ry, bless - ing, Lord, we



an - gels in the height; sun and moon, re - joice be -
 shall his prom - ise fail: God hath made his saints vic -
 of - fer un - to thee; young and old, thy praise ex -



fore him; praise him all ye stars and light.
 to - rious; sin and death shall not pre - vail.
 press - ing, in glad hom - age bend the knee.



Praise the Lord, for he hath spo - ken; worlds his
 Praise the God of our sal - va - tion; hosts on
 All the saints in heav'n a - dore thee; we would



might - y voice o - beyed: laws which nev - er
 high, his pow'r pro - claim; heav'n and earth and
 bow be - fore thy throne: as thine an - gels



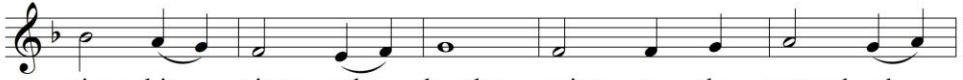
shall be bro - ken for their guid - ance hath he made.
 all cre - a - tion, laud and mag - ni - fy his name.
 serve be - fore thee, so on earth thy will be done.

Prayer of Adoration

Hymn of Preparation.....*Amidst Us Our Beloved Stands*
[Tune: *When I Survey*]



1. A - midst us our Be - lov - ed stands, and bids us
2. What food lux - u - rious loads the board, when at his
3. If now, with eyes de - filed and dim, we see the
4. O glo - rious Bride-groom of our hearts, your present



view his pierc - ed hands; points to the wound-ed
ta - ble sits the Lord! The wine how rich, the
signs, but see not him; O may his love the
smile a heav'n im - parts! O lift the veil, if



feet and side, blest em-blems of the Cru - ci - fied.
bread how sweet, when Je - sus deigns the guests to meet.
scales dis - place, and bid us see him face to face.
veil there be, let ev - ery saint your glo - ry see!

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

Call to Confession.....*1 John 1*
If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

Lord Jesus Christ, though being in very nature God, when You came to redeem us You humbled Yourself and made Yourself nothing. Though You were rich, for our sakes You became poor, so that through Your poverty we might become rich. We confess how unlike You we are in our attitudes and actions. We strive for recognition and acclaim from others, and we sulk and become bitter if we do not get it. We look out for our own needs and concerns, failing to care for others. Forgive us the sin we now silently confess to you... Grant us to realize that we only achieve greatness and gain our lives by giving them away. Work in us by the power of Your Spirit so that we become more like You and bring glory to our Father in heaven. Amen.

Words of Comfort and Promise.....*1 John 2*
But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

Hymn of Response.....*I Know That My Redeemer Lives*
 [Tune: Amazing Grace]

1. I know that my Re - deem - er lives, and
 2. I find him lift - ing up my head; he
 3. He wills that I should ho - ly be: who
 4. Je - sus, I hang up - on your Word: I
 ev - er prays for me; a
 brings sal - va - tion near; his
 can with - stand his will? The
 stead - fast - ly be - lieve you
 to - ken of his love he gives, a
 pres - ence makes me free in - deed and
 coun - sel of his grace in me he
 will re - turn and claim, me, Lord, and
 pledge of lib - er - ty.
 he will soon ap - pear.
 sure - ly shall ful - fil.
 to your - self re - ceive.

“Oh that my words were written! Oh that they were inscribed in a book! Oh that with an iron pen and lead they were engraved in the rock forever! **For I know that my Redeemer lives**, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. My heart faints within me!”

Job 19:23-27

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

Confession of Faith.....*Westminster Shorter Catechism Q&A 85-87*

Ruling Elder, Brian Nelson

Elder: What does God require of us, that we may escape his wrath and curse due to us for sin?

People: **To escape the wrath and curse of God due to us for sin, God requires of us faith in Jesus Christ, repentance unto life, with the diligent use of all the outward means whereby Christ communicates to us the benefits of redemption.**

Elder: What is faith in Jesus Christ?

People: **Faith in Jesus Christ is a saving grace, whereby we receive and rest upon him alone for salvation as he is offered to us in the gospel.**

Elder: What is repentance unto life?

People: **Repentance unto life is a saving grace, whereby a sinner, out of a true sense of his sin, and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ, does, with grief and hatred of his sin, turn from it unto God, with full purpose of, and endeavor after, new obedience.**

The First Reading of God’s Word.....*Jonah 1:17-2:10*
pp 774-775

The Second Reading of God’s Word.....*Matthew 16:1-12*
pp 821-822

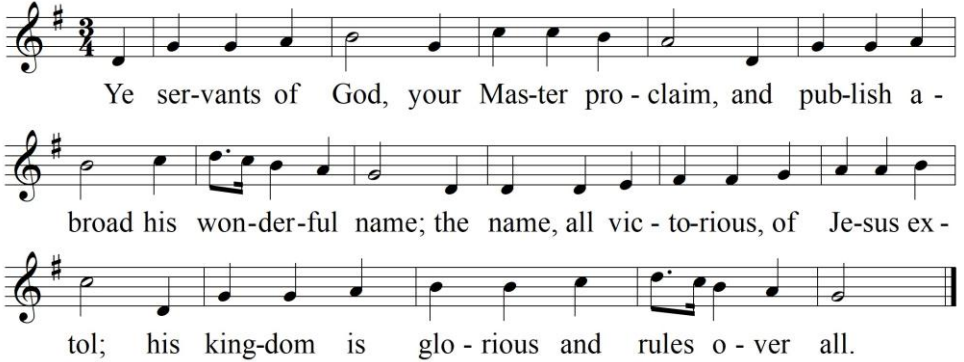
Reader: This is the Word of God.

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*



Ye ser-vants of God, your Mas-ter pro - claim, and pub-lish a -
broad his won-der-ful name; the name, all vic - to-rious, of Je-sus ex -
tol; his king-dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all.

Hearing from God's Word.....Matthew 16:1-12
Rev. Kyle Oliphint *Blind*

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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

“The central and simple message of the New Testament is that the promised age to come has dawned, the promised victory over what has emptied life of meaning and filled it with confusion and dismay has been won. . . . Were it not for the resurrection, Paul suggests, abandoning ourselves to a life of empty party-making and a fatalistic sense of doom would be quite logical. There is no hope in ‘this age.’ It lies under the judgment of God. It is all, despite its brilliance, now dying. It has no future. It can offer many pleasurable experiences, many momentary distractions, but it is doomed. It has no long-term future and can offer no meaning besides what it manufactures for the moment, which is as fleeting as the morning mist.” *David Wells*

Communion Hymns

There is a Redeemer –*Melody Green*

1. There is a Redeemer,
Jesus, God's own Son,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
Holy One.

2. Jesus my Redeemer,
Name above all names,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
Hope for sinners slain. *Refrain*

*Refrain: Thank you oh my Father,
For giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit,
'Til the work on Earth is done.*

3. When I stand in Glory,
I will see His face,
There I'll serve my King forever,
In that Holy Place. *Refrain*

Jesus, Lover of My Soul – *Charles Wesley/Greg Thompson*

1. Jesus, lover of my soul,
Let me to Thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll,
While the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Savior, hide,
'Til life's storm is past;
Safe into the haven guide;
Receive my soul at last.

3. Thou, O Christ, are all I want,
Here more than all I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
Heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is Thy Name,
I am all unrighteousness;
False and full of sin I am;
Thou art full of truth and grace.

2. Other refuge have I none,
I helpless, hang on Thee;
Leave, oh leave me not alone,
Support and comfort me.
All my trust on Thee is stayed,
All help from Thee I bring;
Cover my defenseless head
In the shadow of Thy wing.

4. Plenteous grace with Thee is found,
Grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound;
Make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art,
Let me take of Thee;
Spring Thou up within my heart;
For all eternity.

Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It! (#701) – *Fanny Crosby/A.L. Butler*

1. Redeemed--how I love to proclaim it!
Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;
Redeemed through His infinite mercy,
His child, and forever, I am.

2. Redeemed and so happy in Jesus,
No language my rapture can tell;
I know that the light of His presence
With me doth continually dwell. *Refrain*

*Refrain: Redeemed, redeemed,
Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;
Redeemed, through his infinite mercy
His child, and forever, I am.*

3. I think of my blessed Redeemer,
I think of Him all the day long;
I sing, for I cannot be silent;
His love is the theme of my song. *Refrain*

—————**WORSHIP IN GRATITUDE**—————

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

Offertory.....*O Jesus, We Adore Thee*

*O Jesus, we adore thee,
upon the cross, our King!
We bow our hearts before thee,
thy gracious name we sing.
That name hath brought salvation,
that name in life our stay,
our peace, our consolation,
when life shall fade away.*

*O glorious King, we bless thee,
no longer pass thee by;
O Jesus, we confess thee,
the Son enthroned on high.
Lord, grant to us remission;
life through thy death restore;
yea, grant us the fruition
of life forevermore.*

Closing Hymn.....*Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*



1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry,
2. All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re -
3. Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing,
4. Mor - tals, join the hap - py cho - rus, which the morn - ing



Lord of love; hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee,
flect thy rays, stars and an - gels sing a - round thee,
ev - er blest, well - spring of the joy of liv - ing,
stars be - gan; fath - er love is reign - ing o'er us,



op - 'ning to the sun - a - bove. Melt the clouds of
cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise. Field and for - est,
o - cean depth of hap - py rest! Thou our Fath - er,
broth - er love binds man to man. Ev - er sing - ing,



sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mea - dow, flash - ing sea,
Christ our Broth - er, all who live in love are thine;
march we on - ward, vic - tors in the midst of strife,



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
sing - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each - oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine.
joy - ful mu - sic leads us Sun - ward in the tri - umph song of life.

Benediction

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Week's Sermon Passage

Matthew 16:13-20

Financials

Total giving for 2024: \$807,747

Please make plans to join us on **Sunday, February 2nd**, to hear from Deacon Darren Pettitt our annual report on 2024 and how we plan to steward our funds for 2025.

Upcoming Events

- **Monthly Potluck Lunch: Sunday, February 2nd after worship**

Set-up/Clean-up Coordinator: Kathy Hall

Please bring the following:

ALL: main dish

By Last Name:

A-J: side

K-O: dessert

P-Z: salad

Mission Spotlight: TBD

Please check your email, the LoG Facebook page, or look for a text from Remind to sign-up to help with set-up and/or clean-up this month. Thank you for your help with this ministry!

- **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 newest members so far who will be publicly received April 6th, 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

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 this Friday, **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 meet **again Wednesday, January 29th 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 this Tuesday, 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 15th.

- **Greystone at Grace:** Please join us this semester to discuss Abraham Kuyper's Lectures on Calvinism. We will meet every **2nd and 4th Wednesday** night in Calvin from February to April. If you would like to join us, please pick up a copy of the book and contact Jared: Jrbrown50@yahoo.com or (817) 965-2550. We will meet from 7-8p pm/ All are welcome! Schedule:
2/12: Calvinism as a Life-system
2/26: Calvinism and Religion
3/12: Calvinism and Politics
3/26: Calvinism and Science
4/9: Calvinism and Art
4/23: Calvinism and the Future

