

# GRACE COMMUNITY

*Presbyterian Church, PCA*

**ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD**

**March 9, 2025**

**10:30am**

## **Reflection:**

“As Jesus forms the community in chapters 14–17, he justly accents humility, righteousness, and forgiveness as marks of community life. Matthew 18:1–14 then develops the first two themes.”

*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 91*

**Minister:** He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

**People:** **I will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my fortress, my God in whom I trust.”**

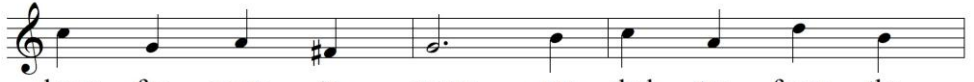
**Minister:** For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence.

**People:** **Under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler**

## Hymn of Adoration and Preparation.....*Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*



1. Our God, our help in a - ges past, our  
2. Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your  
3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or  
4. A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are  
5. Our God, our help in a - ges past, our



hope for years to come, our shel - ter from the  
saints have dwelt se - cure; suf - fi - cient is your  
earth re - ceived her frame, from ev - er - last - ing  
like an eve - ning gone; short as the watch that  
hope for years to come: O be our guard while



storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
you are God, to end - less years the same.  
ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.  
trou - bles last, and our e - ter - nal home.

Considered one of the finest paraphrases written by Isaac Watts, ‘O God, Our Help in Ages Past’ expresses a strong note of assurance, promise, and hope in the LORD as recorded in the first part of Psalm 90, even though the entire psalm has a recurring theme of lament.

## Prayer of Adoration and Confession

### —————WORSHIP IN CONFESSION AND PARDON—————

## Words of Comfort and Promise.....*Colossians 3*

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

**Hymn of Response**.....*Arise, my Soul, Arise*



1. A - rise my soul, a - rise, shake off your guilt - y fears;
2. He ev - er lives a - bove for me to in - ter - cede,
3. Five bleed - ing wounds he bears, re - ceived on Cal - va - ry.
4. My God is re - con - ciled, his pard - ning voice I hear;



the bleed - ing sac - ri - fice on my be - half ap - pears.  
his all - re - deem - ing love his pre - cious blood to plead.  
They pour ef - fec - tual prayers. They strong - ly plead for me.  
he owns me for his child. I can no lon - ger fear



Be - fore the throne my sure - ty stands, be - fore the throne  
His blood a - toned for ev - 'ry race, his blood a - toned  
"For - give him, O for - give," they cry. "For - give him, O  
With con - fi - dence I now draw nigh, with con - fi - dence



my sure - ty stands my name is writ - ten on his hands  
for ev - 'ry race, and sprin - kles now the throne of grace.  
for - give," they cry. "Don't let that ran - somed sin - ner die!"  
I now draw nigh, and "Fa - ther, Ab - ba, Fa - ther!" cry.



A-rise, a-rise, a-rise, a-rise, my soul, a-rise.



A-rise, a-rise, a-rise, a-rise, my soul, a-rise,



shake off your guilt - y fears and rise.

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## WORSHIP AND THE MEANS OF GRACE

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### **The Public Reception of Michael and Alexandra Amidon**

#### Membership Vows: BCO\* 57-5

1. Do you acknowledge yourself to be a sinner in the sight of God, justly deserving his displeasure and without hope except through his sovereign mercy?
2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon him alone for salvation as he is offered in the gospel?
3. Do you resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes a follower of Christ?
4. Do you promise to support the church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?
5. Do you submit yourself to the government and discipline of the church, promising to promote its purity and peace?

### **The Sacrament of Covenant Baptism**

#### **Esther Lynn and Evelyn Grace Amidon**

#### **Covenant Daughters of Michael and Alexandra Amidon**

Teaching Elder, Kyle Oliphint

#### Baptism Vows: BCO\* 56-5

1. Do you acknowledge Esther's and Evelyn's need for the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
2. Do you claim God's covenant promises on their behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for their salvation, as you do for your own?
3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate Esther and Evelyn to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before them a godly example, that you will pray with and for them, that you will teach them the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

#### To the Congregation

Do you, members of Grace Community Presbyterian Church, undertake the responsibility of assisting Michael and Alexandra in the Christian nurture of Esther and Evelyn, do you?

\*The Book of Church Order

**The First Reading of God’s Word**.....Psalm 91:1-16  
p 497

**The Second Reading of God’s Word**.....Matthew 18:1-14  
p 823

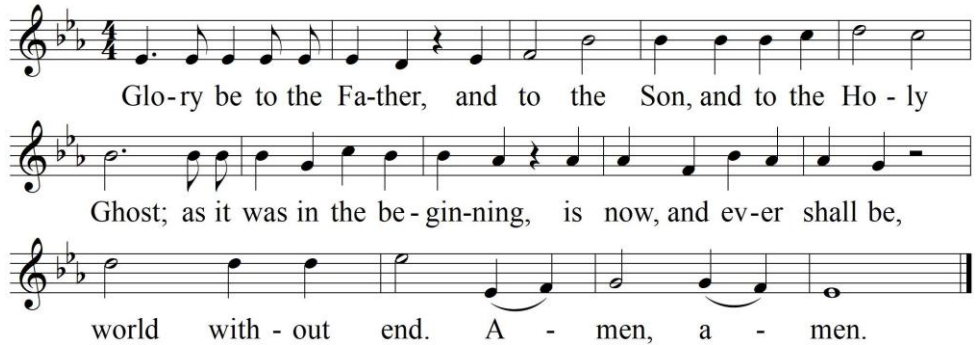
**Reader:** This is the Word of God.

**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 and Preparation**.....*Gloria Patri* (#735)



Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly  
Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,  
world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

**Hearing from God’s Word**.....Matthew 18:1-14  
Rev. Kyle Oliphint *Kingdom Life*

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

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

**“Do not rely on your own efforts, but on the grace of Christ. ‘You are,’ says the apostle, ‘saved by grace.’ Therefore it is not a matter of arrogance here but faith when we celebrate: we are accepted! This is not pride but devotion.”**  
*St. Ambrose*

# Communion Hymns

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## **Who is This?** – *William Walsham How/Christopher Miner*

1. Who is this, so weak and helpless,  
Child of lowly Hebrew maid,  
Rudely in a stable sheltered,  
Coldly in a manger laid?  
Tis the Lord of all creation,  
Who this wondrous path has trod;  
He is Lord from everlasting,  
And to everlasting God.

3. Who is this? Behold him shedding  
Drops of blood upon the ground!  
Who is this, despised, rejected,  
Mocked, insulted, beaten, bound?  
Tis our God, Who gifts and graces  
On His church is pouring down;  
Who shall smite in holy vengeance  
All His foes beneath His throne.

2. Who is this, a Man of Sorrows,  
Walking sadly life's hard way,  
Homeless, weary, sighing, weeping  
Over sin and Satan's sway?  
Tis our God, our glorious Savior,  
Who above the starry sky  
Is for us a place preparing,  
Where no tear can dim the eye.

4. Who is this that hangs there dying  
While the rude world scoffs and scorns,  
Numbered with the malefactors,  
Torn with nails, and crowned with  
thorns? Tis our God Who lives forever  
Mid the shining ones on high,  
In the glorious golden city,  
Reigning everlastingly.

## **The King in All His Beauty** – *Matt Boswell/Matt Papa*

1. O lift your eyes to heaven, see  
The Holy One eternal  
Behold the Lord of majesty  
Exalted in His temple  
As symphonies of angels praise  
Now strain to sound His glory  
Come worship, fall before His grace  
The King in all His beauty

### *Chorus*

*How worthy, how worthy, how worthy  
The King in all His beauty*

2. Now see the King who wears a crown  
One made of shame and splinters

The sacrifice for ruined man  
The substitute for sinners  
As earth is stained with royal blood  
And quakes with love and fury  
He breathes His last and bows His head  
The King in all His beauty. *Chorus*

3. Now see the Savior lifted up  
The Lamb who reigns in splendor  
The hope of every tribe and tongue  
His kingdom is forever!  
Bring praise and honor to His courts  
Bring wisdom, power, blessing  
For endless ages we'll adore  
The King in all His beauty. *Chorus*

## **My Jesus, I Love Thee (#648)** – *William Featherstone/Adoniram Gordan*

1. My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art  
mine; for Thee all the follies of sin I  
resign. My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art  
Thou; if ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis  
now.

2. I love Thee because Thou hast first loved  
me, and purchased my pardon  
on Calvary's tree. I love Thee for wearing the  
thorns on Thy brow;  
if ever I loved Thee, my Jesus 'tis now.

3. I'll love Thee in life, and I'll love Thee in  
death. I'll praise Thee as long as Thou lendest  
me breath; and say when the death dew lies  
cold on my brow, if ever I loved Thee, my  
Jesus 'tis now.

4. In mansions of glory and endless  
delight, I'll ever adore Thee in Heaven so  
bright; and sing with the glittering crown on  
my brow; if ever I loved Thee, my Jesus 'tis  
now.

—————**WORSHIP IN GRATITUDE**—————

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

**Offertory**.....*O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus*

**Closing Hymn**.....*Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken (#345)*



1. Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken,  
2. See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters,  
3. Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - 'ring,  
4. Sav - ior, if of Zi - on's cit - y



Zi - on, cit - y of our God; he whose word can -  
spring - ing from e - ter - nal love, well sup - ply thy  
see the cloud and fire ap - pear for a glo - ry  
I, through grace, a mem - ber am, let the world de -



not be bro - ken formed thee for his own a - bode:  
sons and daugh - ters, and all fear of want re - move:  
and a cov - 'ring, show - ing that the Lord is near:  
ride or pit - y, I will glo - ry in thy name:



on the Rock of A - ges found - ed,  
who can faint, while such a riv - er  
thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner  
fad - ing is the world - ling's plea - sure,



what can shake thy sure re - pose? With sal - va - tion's  
ev - er flows their thirst 'as - suage? Grace which, like the  
light by night and shade by day, safe they feed up -  
all his boast - ed pomp and show; sol - id joys and



walls sur - round - ed, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.  
Lord, the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.  
on the man - na which he gives them when they pray.  
last - ing trea - sure none but Zi - on's chil - dren know.

**Benediction**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Next Week's Sermon Passage

Romans 11:33-35

### Financials

Total giving for 2024: \$807,747

### Upcoming Events

- **Monthly Potluck Lunch: April 6 after worship**  
Set-up/Clean-up Coordinator: Melinda Timpf (timpf@sbcglobal.net)  
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 in April. Thank you for your help with this ministry!  
Please bring the following:  
ALL: main dish  
By Last Name:  
A-J: dessert  
K-O: salad  
P-Z: side  
**Missions Spotlight: Foists**
- **VBS 2025!** Mark your calendars **June 23-27**
- **Membership at GCPC:** If you are interested in becoming a member of GCPC, please contact our Ministry Coordinator, Sherrie Hamby (officgpcfw@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 newest members so far who will be publicly received April 6<sup>th</sup>, 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, Luke Wilkerson, Seth Wilkerson, Nora Fickle\*, Mia Lutz\*, Lilly Thacker\*

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



- **Pastoral Search Committee Update:** Thank you for your prayers over our search for the man God has planned to serve alongside Kyle at GCPC! Over the last few months we have received applications for the position and are now arranging to interview candidates. Please continue to pray that the Lord would give us wisdom and unity. Please also pray for the candidates as they seek to discern God's calling for their lives and ministry. The members of the committee are: Phil and Christine Bassett, Dan Bent, Rhett Bentson, Bethany Brooks, Jerry Hames, Sean Henry, Bob James, Ryan Lutz and Kathy Sheffield. Any of them will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

**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 on Friday, **March 21st, 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, March 19<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 of grace Spring Brunch:** Join us for a spring brunch on **Saturday, April 26** from 10 am to 12 pm in Westminster Hall. High School girls are also welcome to attend. RSVP by **Sunday, April 20** in the church foyer or on Facebook!

- **Ladies' Winter/Spring Bible Study:** Our new study has **begun**. They meet again **this Tuesday morning, March 11<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30**. The book is *What a Royal Mess: A Study of 1 and 2 Kings* by Susan Tyner (\$13).  
**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)

- **Missions of Grace Spotlight for March 2025**

### **Opportunities for Mission Trips with GCPC**

#### **1. Local: Fort Worth refugees (April 17-19)**

We will be connecting with refugee families in our city, playing games with the children, planting flowers to brighten their lives, engaging in Gospel conversations and praying with them. Contact Ann Geer (jageer2@yahoo.com; 940.393.3524) if interested. **There will be an interest meeting for the Fort Worth trip on Sunday, March 23 directly after worship in Westminster Hall.**

#### **2. Reynosa, Mexico (July 5-11)**

We will be spending a week with Isaiah 55 to do practical projects for them and engage with the kids. Contact John Rohde (john.rohde63@gmail; 480.398.5538) if interested. More information to come.

**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 May, 2025.



**SMoG will meet this Wednesday night, March 11<sup>th</sup>.**

- **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:  
 3/12: Calvinism and Politics  
 3/26: Calvinism and Science  
 4/9: Calvinism and Art  
 4/23: Calvinism and the Future

## ***NOTES***

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