GRACE COMMUNITY

Presbyterian Church, PCA

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD March 30, 2025 10:30am

Reflection:

Prelude

Welcome

ALL:

"Here a professing believer refuses to repent after verifiable sin. Since Jesus has just said that humility, which leads to ready repentance, is a mark of kingdom life (Matt. 18:4), the impenitent define themselves as outsiders."

Jay Sklar

	————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 Wo	rship
Minister:	You are not a God who takes pleasure in evil; with you the wicked cannot dwell. But I, by your great mercy, will come into your house; in reverence I will bow down toward you.
People:	Let all who take refuge in you be glad: let them ever sing

may rejoice in you.

for joy. Shelter them, that those who love your name

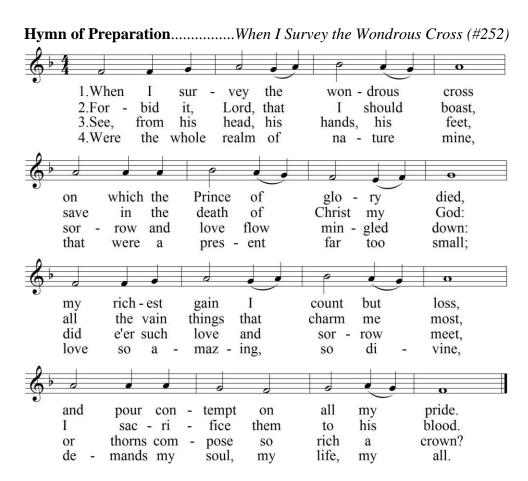
For surely, O Lord, you bless the righteous; you

surround them with your favor as with a shield.



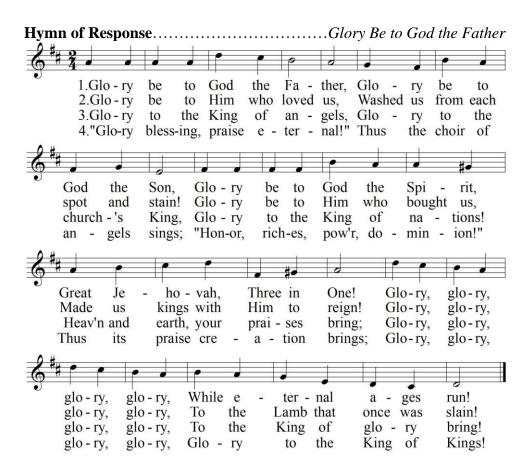
Katherine K Davis wrote this text for the tune ASH GROVE in the 1920s. The text was first published as an anthem and descant setting in 1939. She also wrote The Little Drummer Boy, originally called The Carol of the Drum. Both this hymn and the Little Drummer Boy she wrote under the pseudonym "John Cowley".

Prayer of Adoration



-WORSHIP IN CONFESSION AND PARDON-

Prayer of Confession of Sin



Horatius Bonar, the writer of this hymn, was born at Edinburgh, in 1808. His education was obtained at the High School, and the University of his native city. He was ordained to the ministry, in 1837, and since then has been pastor at Kelso. In 1843, he joined the Free Church of Scotland. His reputation as a religious writer was first gained on the publication of the "Kelso Tracts," of which he was the author. He has also written many other prose works, some of which have had a very large circulation. Nor is he less favorably known as a religious poet and hymn-writer.

John Goss wrote the tune, known as LAUDA ANIMA (the tune of Praise My Soul the King of Heaven). As a boy Goss was a chorister at the Chapel Royal and later sang in the opera chorus of the Covent Garden Theater. He was a professor of music at the Royal Academy of Music (1827-1874) and organist of St. Paul Cathedral, London (1838-1872); in both positions he exerted significant influence on the reform of British cathedral music.

Elder: Does God permit such disobedience and rebellion

to go unpunished?

People: Certainly not. God is terribly angry with the sin we are

born with as well as the sins we personally commit. As a just judge, God will punish them both now and in eternity, having declared: "Cursed is everyone who does not observe and obey all the things written in the book of

the law."

Elder: But isn't God also merciful?

People: God is certainly merciful, but also just. God's justice

demands that sin, committed against his supreme majesty, be punished with the supreme penalty—

eternal punishment of body and soul.

The First Reading of God's Word......Deuteronomy 19:15-21

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p 823

Reader: This is the Word of God.

People: Amen!

We offer an optional <u>Children's Lesson</u> 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.

Prayer of Consecration and Illumination



THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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

"When I come to the Lord after I've blown it, I've only one argument to make. It's not the argument of the difficulty of the environment that I am in. It's not the argument of the difficult people that I'm near. It's not the argument of good intentions that were thwarted in some way.

I come to the Lord with only one appeal; his mercy. I've no other defense. I've no other standing. I've no other hope. I can't escape the reality of my biggest problem; me! So I appeal to the one thing in my life that's sure and will never fail. I appeal to the one thing that guaranteed not only my acceptance with God, but the hope of new beginnings and fresh starts. I appeal on the basis of the greatest gift I ever have or ever will be given.

I leave the courtroom of my own defense, I come out of hiding and I admit who I am. But I'm not afraid, because I've been personally and eternally blessed. Because of what Jesus has done, God looks on me with mercy. It's my only appeal, it's the source of my hope, it's my life. Mercy, mercy me!"

Paul David Tripp

"Your Redeemer traverses the rugged path of suffering, along which He went with heaving heart and heavy footsteps, that He might pave a royal road of mercy for His enemies."

Charles Spurgeon

Communion Hymns

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 Lift high the cross.

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. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, as thou hast promised, draw men unto thee.
- 3. Thy kingdom come, that earth's despair may cease beneath the shadow of its healing peace.

Chorus

4. 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......Not What My Hands Have Done

Not what these hands have done can save this guilty soul; not what this 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.

Thy grace alone, O God, to me can pardon speak;
Thy pow'r alone, O Son of God, can this sore bondage break.
I bless the Christ of God;
I rest on love divine;
and with unfalt'ring lip and heart,
I call this Savior mine.



Benediction

-ANNOUNCEMENTS----

Next Week's Sermon Passage

Matthew 18:21-35

Financials

Total giving for 2024: \$807,747

Upcoming Events

 Monthly Potluck Lunch: <u>Next Sunday</u>, April 6, after Worship Set-up/Clean-up Coordinator: Chyrese Thacker (chyrese@thacker.com)

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 (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 next Sunday, April 6th, 2025. 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, Kirk and Susan Bentson, Lynn DeMoss, Gabriel and Kathryn Ingram, Kelly Proffit, Kevin and Bonnie Saunders, Sam and Dorinda Wetselaar (Jeffery and Benjamin), Andrew White, Luke Wilkerson, Seth Wilkerson, Christine

Bentson*, Fynn Bentson*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 have interviewed a number of potential prospective 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.

<u>Guys of Grace (GoG)</u> (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, May 23rd, 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 this Wednesday, April 2nd, 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.

<u>Ladies of Grace (LoG)</u> (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: They meet for their final meeting this spring this Tuesday morning, April 1st, 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)

• Please take this survey from **Missions of Grace** following our Missions Conference:



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.

2. Reynosa, Mexico

Our Reynosa Missions Trip will be from **July 5-11, 2025**! This year, our space is extremely limited, so if you are planning to go you need to contact John Rohde as soon as possible to have your slot reserved and to receive updated and needed documents for this year. Contact John Rohde today if you are planning on going at john.rohde63@gmail.com. There will be a short informational meeting on **Sunday, April 13** for first-timers, but don't wait until then to reserve your slot! Please contact John with any questions.

<u>Student Ministries of Grace (SMoG)</u> (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, April 2nd.

• 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:

4/9: Calvinism and Art

4/23: Calvinism and the Future

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