

GRACE COMMUNITY

Presbyterian Church, PCA

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

April 13, 2025

10:30am

Reflection:

“Jesus resumes his teaching, now on family. It begins when certain Pharisees *test* him, asking, “Is it lawful to divorce one’s wife for any cause?” (v. 3). That is, may a man divorce his wife for any reason whatsoever? But that is the wrong question. Instead of seeking conditions for divorce, the Pharisees should remember the Creator’s intent: lifelong fidelity.”

Dan 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 19

Minister: The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands.

People: **Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they acknowledge His glory.**

Minister: There is no land or nation where their voice is not heard.

People: **Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.**

Hymn of Adoration.....God, All Nature Sings Thy Glory (#122)



1. God, all na - ture sings thy glo - ry, and thy works pro -
 2. Clear - er still we see thy hand in man whom thou hast
 3. But our sins have spoiled thine im - age; na - ture, con - science
 4. God of glo - ry, pow - er, mer - cy, all cre - a - tion



claim thy might; or - dered vast - ness in the heav - ens,
 made for thee; ru - ler of cre a - tion's glo - ry,
 on - ly serve as un - ceas - ing, grim re - mind - ers
 prais - es thee; we, thy crea - tures, would a - dore thee



or - dered course of day and night; beau - ty in the chang - ing sea - sons,
 im age of thy maj - es - ty. Mu - sic, art, the fruit - ful gar - den,
 of the wrath which we de - serve. Yet thy grace and sav - ing mer - cy
 now and through e - ter - ni - ty. Saved to mag - ni - fy thy good - ness



beau - ty in the storm - ing sea; all the chang - ing
 all the la - bor of his days, are the call - ing
 in thy Word of truth re - vealed claim the praise of
 grant us strength to do thy will; with our acts as



moods of na - ture praise the change - less Trin - i - ty.
 of his Mak - er to the har - vest feast of praise.
 all who know thee, in the blood of Je - sus sealed.
 with our voic - es thy com - mand - ments to ful - fil.

Prayer of Adoration

Hymn of Preparation.....*Beneath the Cross of Jesus* (#251)



1.Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I fain would take my stand,
2.Up - on the cross of Je - sus mine eyes at times can see
3.I take, O cross, thy shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place:



the shad - ow of a might - y Rock with - in a wea - ry land;
the ver - y dy - ing form of One who suf - fered there for me;
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with - in the wild - er - ness, a rest up - on the way,
and from my strick - en heart with tears two won - ders I con - fess,
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss;



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and the bur - den of the day.
the won - ders of re - deem - ing love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
my sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all the cross.

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

Call to Confession.....*Hebrews 12*

Let us...lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us
run with endurance the race that is set before us.

Prayer of Confession of Sin

Words of Comfort and Promise.....*Hebrews 12*

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for
the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and
is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hymn of Response.....*Christ is Made the Sure Foundation* (#342)



1.Christ is made the sure foun-da-tion, Christ the head and
 2.All that ded - i - ca - ted cit - y, dear - ly loved of
 3.To this tem-ple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of
 4.Here vouch-safe to all thy ser-vants what they ask of
 5.Laud and hon - or to the Fa-ther, laud and hon - or



cor - ner-stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
 God on high, in ex - ul - tant ju - bi - la - tion
 hosts, to - day: with thy won - ted lov - ing-kind - ness
 thee to gain, what they gain from thee for - ev - er
 to the Son, laud and hon - or to the Spir - it,



bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
 pours per - pet - ual mel - o - dy; God the One in
 hear thy peo - ple as they pray; and thy full - est
 with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter
 ev - er Three and ev - er One, One in might, and



help for-ev - er, and her con - fi - dence a - lone.
 Three a - dor - ing in glad hymns e - ter - nal - ly.
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in its walls al - way.
 in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.
 One in glo - ry, while un - end - ing a - ges run.

WORSHIP AND THE MEANS OF GRACE

Confession of Faith.....*Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 12&13*
Ruling Elder Sean Henry

- Elder: According to God’s righteous judgment we deserve punishment both now and in eternity: how then can we escape this punishment and return to God’s favor?
- People: **God requires that his justice be satisfied. Therefore the claims of this justice must be paid in full, either by ourselves or by another.**
- Elder: Can we make this payment ourselves?
- People: **Certainly not. Actually, we increase our debt every day.**

The First Reading of God’s Word.....Deuteronomy 24:1-4
pp 165-166

The Second Reading of God’s Word.....Matthew 19:1-12
p 824

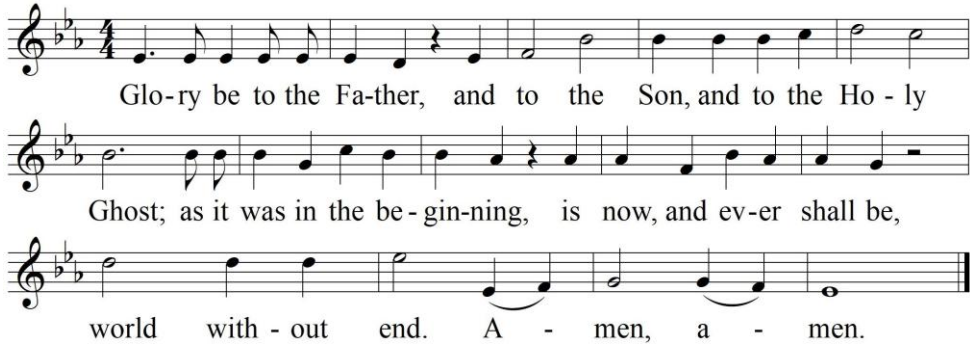
Reader: This is the Word of God.

People: Amen!

<p>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.</p>

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 19:1-12

Rev. Kyle Oliphint *Marriage and Divorce*

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

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

“The key difference between a Pharisee and a believer in Jesus is inner heart motivation. Pharisees are being good but out of a fearful need to control God. They don’t really trust him or love him. To them God is an exacting boss, not a loving father. Christians have seen something that has transformed their hearts toward God so they can finally love and rest in the Father. . . . Jesus Christ, who had all the power in the world, saw us enslaved by the very things we thought would free us. So he emptied himself of his glory and became a servant (Philippians 2). He laid aside the infinities and the immensities of his being and, at the cost of his life paid the debt for our sins, purchasing us the only place our hearts can rest, in his Father’s house.”

Timothy Keller

“The only way to come to God is by taking off any spiritual mask. The real you has to meet the real God. He is a person.

Your heart could be, and often is, askew. That’s okay. You have to begin with what is real. Jesus didn’t come for the righteous. He came for sinners. All of us qualify. The very things we try to get rid of—our weariness, our distractedness, our messiness—are what get us in the front door! That’s how the gospel works. That’s how prayer works.

In bringing your real self to Jesus, you give him the opportunity to work on the real you, and you will slowly change. The kingdom comes when Jesus becomes king of your life. But is has to be your life. You can’t create a kingdom that doesn’t exist, where you try to be better than you really are. Jesus calls that hypocrisy—putting on a mask to cover the real you.

So instead of being paralyzed by who you are, begin with who you are. That’s how the gospel works. God begins with you.”

Paul Miller

Communion Hymns

Whate'er My God Ordains is Right –*Samuel Rodigast/David Braud*

1. Whate'er my God ordains is right,
Holy His will abideth.
I will be still whate'er He does,
And follow where He guideth.
He is my God, though dark my road.
He holds me that I shall not fall
Wherefore to Him I leave it all.

2. Whate'er my God ordains is right,
He never will deceive me.
He leads me by the proper path,
I know He will not leave me.
I take, content, what He hath sent.
His hand can turn my griefs away,
And patiently I wait His day.

3. Whate'er my God ordains is right,
Though now this cup in drinking
May bitter seem to my faint heart,
I take it all unshrinking.
My God is true, each morn anew.
Sweet comfort yet shall fill my heart,
And pain and sorrow shall depart.

4. Whate'er my God ordains is right,
Here shall my stand be taken.
Though sorrow, need, or death be mine, Yet
I am not forsaken.
My Father's care Is round me there.
He holds me that I shall not fall,
And so to Him I leave it all.

To Christ the Lord –*Laura Taylor/Samuel Stennett*

1. To Christ the Lord let every tongue
Its noblest tribute bring.
When He's the subject of the song,
Who can refuse to sing?
Survey the beauties of His face,
And on His glories dwell.
Think of the wonder of His grace,
And all His triumphs tell.

3. He saw me plunged in deep distress;
He fled to my relief.
For me He bore the shameful cross
And carried all my grief.
His hand a thousand blessings pours
Upon my guilty head.
His presence gilds my darkest hours
And guards my sleeping bed.

3. To Him I owe my life and breath
And all the joys I have.
He makes me triumph over death
And saves me from the grave.
To Heaven the place of His abode
He brings my weary feet.
Shows me the glories of my God
And makes my joy complete.

4. Since from His bounty I receive
Such proofs of love divine
Had I a thousand hearts to give,
Lord, they should all be Thine.
A thousand men could not compose
A worthy song to bring,
Yet Your love is a melody
Our hearts can't help but sing.

What a Friend We Have in Jesus (#629) –*Joseph Scriven/Charles Converse*

1. What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit,
Oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!

2. Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Can we find a friend so faithful,
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

3. Are we weak and heavy-laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,
Thou wilt find a solace there

WORSHIP IN GRATITUDE

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

Offertory.....All Things Bright and Beautiful

All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.

He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well.

Closing Hymn.....Great is Thy Faithfulness (#32)



1. Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
2. Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,
3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee;
sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove,
thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,



thou chang - est not, thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;
join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



as thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

REFRAIN



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see:



all I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.



Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

Benediction

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Week's Sermon Passage

Matthew 19:13-30

Financials

Total giving for 2024: \$807,747

Upcoming Events

- **Monthly Potluck Lunch: May 4 after worship**

Set-up/Clean-up Coordinator: Melinda Timpf (timpf@sbcglobal.net)

Please bring the following:

ALL: main dish

By Last Name:

A-J: side

K-O: dessert

P-Z: salad

Missions Spotlight: Metanoia

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!

- **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 **Sunday, October 5th, 2025.**
- **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.

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, **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 16th, 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' Bible Study:** We have finished *What a Royal Mess: A Study of 1 and 2 Kings*. Our next study will begin in **June**. More information will come in May.

- **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:



Opportunities for Mission Trips with GCPC

1. One Day Local Ministry: Fort Worth Refugees (Friday, April 18 only).

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.

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, April 16th.

- **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:

4/23: Calvinism and the Future

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

NOTES
