

WELCOME.

Thank you for joining us in the worship of our Triune God at Grace Presbyterian Church.

Our mission at Grace is to glorify our Triune God by worshiping him in Spirit and Truth according to Scripture and our Reformed faith, growing together in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ, and spreading the Gospel of his Kingdom to our neighbors and the world.

We are glad you are with us, and we invite you to join us after the service for a time of fellowship and refreshments.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Q. 1. *What is your only comfort in life and death?*

A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

(The Heidelberg Catechism [1563])

EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, October 29, 2023

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive
power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!

Revelation 5:12

Prelude

Greeting and Call to Worship*

Psalm 100

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!

All: Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Hymn*

Hymn 92

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

***A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
Our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.***

For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and pow'r are great; and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;
Were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he,
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever. Amen.

* *Congregation is requested to stand, if able.*

Congregational Confession of Sin

Gracious God, we acknowledge and confess that we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have walked in darkness rather than living according to what you have revealed to us in your holy Word. Forgive us, we pray. Enable us by your Holy Spirit to put off sin and to put on Christ. Strengthen us in our fight against sin, and empower us to act, speak, and think in ways that glorify you, for we ask in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Romans 5:6-9

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

Hymn

Yet Not I, but Through Christ in Me

What gift of grace is Jesus, my Redeemer; there is no more for heaven now to give.
He is my joy, my righteousness and freedom, my steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.

To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus, for my life is wholly bound to His.
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing: all is mine! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The night is dark, but I am not forsaken, for by my side, the Savior, He will stay.

I labor on in weakness and rejoicing, for in my need His power is displayed.

To this I hold: my Shepherd will defend me; through the deepest valley He will lead.
Oh the night has been won, and I shall overcome! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread; I know I am forgiven; the future sure, the price, it has been paid.
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon, and He was raised to overthrow the grave.

To this I hold: my sin has been defeated; Jesus now and ever is my plea.
Oh the chains are released, I can sing: I am free! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With every breath I long to follow Jesus, for He has said that He will bring me home.

And day by day I know He will renew me until I stand with joy before the throne.

To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus; all the glory evermore to Him.
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat: yet not I, but through Christ in me. Amen.

The Church's One Foundation

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is his new creation by water and the Word:
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder men see her sore oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping, their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

The church shall never perish! Her dear Lord to defend,
To guide, sustain, and cherish, is with her to the end;
Though there be those that hate her, and false sons in her pale,
Against or foe or traitor she ever shall prevail.

'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
And the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee. Amen.

Prayer

Sermon

“The Lamb on His Throne”
Revelation 5

Rev. Dr. Michael Horton

Outline

1. The Scroll
2. The Lamb
3. The New Song

Hymn*

Hymn 295

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;
Hark! how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own:
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified:
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of peace; whose pow'r a scepter sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise:
His reign shall know no end; and round his pierced feet
Fair flow'rs of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time;
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime:
All hail, Redeemer, hail! for thou hast died for me:
Thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity. Amen.

Benediction*

Congregational Benediction Response*

(Sung to STUTTGART [Hymn 5])

Honor, glory, might, and merit, be to God and God alone!
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, One in Three and Three in One. Amen.