



The logo for Grace Presbyterian Church is centered in a white rectangular box with a thin blue border. On the left is a stylized grey cross icon. To its right, the word "GRACE" is written in a large, bold, blue, sans-serif font. Below "GRACE", the words "PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH" are written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. The background of the box features a decorative geometric pattern of white lines on a dark background.



# WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, May 25, 2025

Sing praises to God, sing praises!  
Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

**Psalm 47:6**

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

## ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

**Greeting and Blessing\***

**Responsive Reading\***

Psalm 130 (p. 833 in the *Trinity Hymnal*)

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;  
O Lord, hear my voice.

**Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.**

If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins,  
O Lord, who could stand?

**But with you there is forgiveness;  
therefore you are feared.**

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,  
and in his word I put my hope.

**My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen wait  
for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning.**

O Israel, put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD  
is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.

**He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.**

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

*The pastor will read the plain text; the congregation will read the bold text.*

***Amidst Us Our Beloved Stands***

Amidst us our Beloved stands, and bids us view his pierced hands;  
Points to the wounded feet and side, blest emblems of the Crucified.

What food luxurious loads the board, when at his table sits the Lord!  
The wine how rich, the bread how sweet, when Jesus deigns the guests to meet!

If now, with eyes defiled and dim, we see the signs, but see not him;  
O may his love the scales displace, and bid us see him face to face!

O glorious Bridegroom of our hearts, your present smile a heav'n imparts!  
O lift the veil, if veil there be, let every saint your glory see! Amen.

**Congregational Confession of Sin**

**Leader:** Heavenly Father, we come before you with guilt and shame as we consider how we have offended you by our sinful actions, our hurtful words, and our disgraceful thoughts.

**All:** You know us even better than we know ourselves; none of our sins are hidden from your sight. It grieves us that we continually fall short of what your Word commands.

**Leader:** Forgive us, we pray, and grant us repentant hearts. Enable us to lay aside every weight and sin which clings so closely, and strengthen us to run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at your right hand.

**All:** All praise, honor, glory, and power be to you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Private Confession of Our Sins**

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

1 Timothy 1:15-17

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

## ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading\*

Genesis 9:1-7

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

Hymn 610

### *“Take Up Your Cross,” the Savior Said*

“Take up your cross,” the Savior said,  
“If you would my disciple be;  
Take up your cross with willing heart,  
And humbly follow after me.”

Take up your cross; let not its weight  
Fill your weak soul with vain alarm;  
His strength shall bear your spirit up,  
And brace your heart, and nerve your arm.

Take up your cross; nor heed the shame,  
And let your foolish pride be still;  
Your Lord refused not e’en to die  
Upon a cross, on Calv’ry’s hill.

Take up your cross, then, in his strength,  
And calmly sin’s wild deluge brave;  
’Twill guide you to a better home,  
It points to glory o’er the grave.

Take up your cross, and follow on,  
Nor think till death to lay it down;  
For only he who bears the cross  
May hope to wear the glorious crown. Amen.

## Confession of Faith

*The Nicene Creed (p. 846)*

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,  
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;  
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;  
whose kingdom shall have no end.  
And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;  
who spoke by the prophets;  
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;  
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;  
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship ❖

### Gloria Patri\*

Hymn 735

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

### Lord's Prayer\*

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy Name.  
Thy Kingdom come.  
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

❖ *Tithes and offerings may be placed in the box at the entrance to the sanctuary or given online through our church's website.*

# THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

Second Reading\*

Matthew 5:21-26

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [Psalm 32])

Hymn 551

## *How Blest Is He Whose Trespass*

How blest is he whose trespass has freely been forgiv'n,  
Whose sin is wholly covered before the sight of heav'n.

Blest he to whom Jehovah will not impute his sin,  
Who has a guileless spirit, whose heart is true within.

While I kept guilty silence my strength was spent with grief,  
Thy hand was heavy on me, my soul found no relief;  
But when I owned my trespass, my sin hid not from thee,  
When I confessed transgression, then thou forgavest me.

So let the godly seek thee in times when thou art near;  
No whelming floods shall reach them, nor cause their hearts to fear.  
In thee, O Lord, I hide me, thou savest me from ill,  
And songs of thy salvation my heart with rapture thrill.

I graciously will teach thee the way that thou shalt go,  
And with mine eye upon thee my counsel make thee know.  
But be ye not unruly, or slow to understand;  
Be not perverse, but willing to heed my wise command.

The sorrows of the wicked in number shall abound,  
But those that trust Jehovah, his mercy shall surround.  
Then in the Lord be joyful, in song lift up your voice.  
Be glad in God, ye righteous, rejoice, ye saints, rejoice. Amen.

## Prayer for the Manriques and The Shepherd's Church

### Pastoral Prayer

### Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“The Sixth Commandment: Be Pro-Life”  
Exodus 20:13

### Celebration of the Lord's Supper

## **GOD'S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE**

### Hymn of Thanksgiving\*

#### *Here Is Love*

Here is love, vast as the ocean, loving-kindness as a flood,  
When the Prince of life, our Ransom, shed for us his precious blood.  
Who his love will not remember? Who can cease to sing his praise?  
He can never be forgotten, throughout heav'n's eternal days.

On the mount of crucifixion, fountains opened deep and wide;  
Through the floodgates of God's mercy flowed a vast and gracious tide.  
Grace and love, like mighty rivers, poured incessant from above,  
Heaven's peace and perfect justice kissed a guilty world in love.

Here is love that conquered evil: Christ, the firstborn from the grave;  
Death has failed to be found equal to the life of him who saves.  
In the valley of our darkness dawned his everlasting light;  
Perfect love in glorious radiance has repelled death's hellish night.

That same love beyond all measure, mocked and slain by hateful men,  
Lives and reigns in resurrection and can never die again.  
Here is love for all the ages, radiant Son of heav'n he stands,  
Calling home his Father's children, holding forth his wounded hands.

Here is love, vast as the heavens; countless as the stars above  
Are the souls that he has ransomed, precious daughters, treasured sons.  
We are called to feast forever on a love beyond our time;  
Glorious Father, Son, and Spirit now with man are intertwined. Amen.

## Benediction\*

### Congregational Benediction Response\*

May the peace of God, our heav'nly Father,  
And the grace of Christ, the risen Son,  
And the fellowship of God, the Spirit  
Keep our hearts and minds within his love.

*And to him be praise for his glorious reign;  
From the depths of earth to the heights of heaven  
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain—  
Christ eternal, the King of kings.*

May this peace which passes understanding,  
And this grace which makes us what we are,  
And this fellowship of his communion,  
Make us one in spirit and in heart.

*And to him be praise for his glorious reign;  
From the depths of earth to the heights of heaven  
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain—  
Christ eternal, the King of kings. Amen.*





# HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

*The daily reading schedule follows the One Year Bible Reading Plan.*

## **Monday, May 26**

Scripture: 2 Samuel 9:1 - 11:27; John 15:1-27; Psalm 119:49-64; Proverbs 16:1-3

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 1

Pray for: Our federal, state, and local government leaders.

## **Tuesday, May 27**

Scripture: 2 Samuel 12:1-31; John 16:1-33; Psalm 119:65-80; Proverbs 16:4-5

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 70

Pray for: Our military, police, fire, and medical personnel.

## **Wednesday, May 28**

Scripture: 2 Samuel 13:1-39; John 17:1-26; Psalm 119:81-96; Proverbs 16:6-7

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 71

Pray for: Our covenant children and Christian military chaplains.  
The churches in Venezuela and persecuted Christians.

## **Thursday, May 29**

Scripture: 2 Samuel 14:1 - 15:22; John 18:1-24; Psalm 119:97-112; Proverbs 16:8-9

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 72

Pray for: Our Elders, Deacons, Women's Ministry, & the PCA.

## **Friday, May 30**

Scripture: 2 Sam. 15:23 - 16:23; John 18:25 - 19:22; Ps. 119:113-128; Prov. 16:10-11

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 73

Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health care needs.  
The Shepherd's Church Plant in Riverside and the Manrique Family.

## **Saturday, May 31**

Scripture: 2 Samuel 17:1-29; John 19:23-42; Psalm 119:129-152; Proverbs 16:12-13

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 74

Pray for: The preaching and for our Sunday School teachers.

## **Sunday, June 1**

Scripture: 2 Samuel 18:1 - 19:10; John 20:1-31; Psalm 119:153-176; Proverbs 16:14-15

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 75

Pray for: Our worship this morning.

## **MISSIONS CORNER**

*Pray for our missionaries. Their prayer requests are sent out through the Prayer Chain and their newsletters are published in Grace Notes as they become available.*

**Ray & Michele Call in Belize**

**Dave Eby in Uganda**

**Christ Bible Institute in Japan**

**The Shepherd's Church in Riverside**

## LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

The Sixth Commandment reveals the sanctity of human life and the requirement God places upon us to preserve human life. Ever since man's fall into sin, human life has been treated with disregard by many. Cain murdered his brother, Abel (Genesis 4:8). Lamech boasted about killing a man who wounded him (Genesis 4:23). And in Genesis 6:13, we read God's determination to judge the earth because of mankind's violence. This pattern of disregard for human life continues today through murder, suicide, unjust wars, and all manner of senseless violence. While unbelievers have such a low view of the sanctity of human life, as Christians we are called to live and think differently because we know Christ and his Word. Christ took on our flesh and submitted himself to a violent death at the hands of sinful men in order to redeem us from our sins. Now, as redeemed sinners saved by grace, he calls us to protect human life—both our own and our neighbor's—for his glory. We do this by loving others and, most especially, by pointing them to Christ for salvation.

Go to [www.opc.org/lc.html](http://www.opc.org/lc.html) to access a copy of the Westminster Larger Catechism:

1. For review, read the first five commandments. Based on what you can recall from the sermons on these commandments, how did Christ keep them during his earthly ministry?
2. Read Larger Catechism Q/A 135. How do you seek to keep this commandment in your life? What are some of the changes you need to make in your life so that you can be more consistent in doing what this commandment requires?
3. Read Larger Catechism Q/A 136. As you consider what this commandment forbids, how does the Catechism help you understand what Jesus teaches in Matthew 5:21-26?
4. How did Christ keep the Sixth Commandment during his earthly ministry? What do you learn from his example, and how does his example help you better understand how to love yourself and your neighbor?



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