



THIS IS HOW WE KNOW

God's Grace

1 John 4:7-21



TRINITY
Presbyterian Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP | Sunday, August 23, 2020

Listening devices are available for the hearing impaired.

Please speak with a greeter or visit the sound booth upstairs for a listening device.

SONG OF GATHERING & PREPARATION

The people of God always sang as they ascended the hill in Jerusalem up to the temple to worship (see Psalms 120-134). We, as well, prepare our hearts, minds, and bodies for worship by singing about the God we serve.

God With Us

CALL TO WORSHIP | Ephesians 5:6, 8-11, 14-16 (ESV)

We read God's Word, the Bible, together. It reveals to us who God is and what He expects of us.

Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ... for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ... for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.

PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION

We pray together praising God for who He really is (Adoration) and admitting our inability to live up to what He expects of us (Confession).

ASSURANCE OF PARDON | Ephesians 2:4-5, 8-10 (ESV)

We read God's Word together and are reminded that mercy and grace are freely given to all who have faith in Jesus Christ.

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ... For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace for us in Jesus by giving generously to the work of this church and the kingdom of God.

Abide With Me

PRAISE & CELEBRATION

Our response to God's free grace is celebratory worship. We express our praise to God for who He is and what He has done for us.

Worthy Of Your Name

How Great Is Your Love

CONFESSION OF FAITH

As an expression of our faith in Jesus Christ in solidarity with his people, we declare the substance of what we believe.

From the New City Catechism:

- Q. 34. Since we are redeemed by grace alone, through Christ alone, must we still do good works and obey God's Word?
- A. Yes, because Christ, having redeemed us by his blood, also renews us by his Spirit; so that our lives may show love and gratitude to God; so that we may be assured of our faith by the fruits; and so that by our godly behavior others may be won to Christ.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSION

We express in prayer our gratitude to God for what He has done and ask Him to continue to act for our good and the good of others in our community and world.

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD | *Tim Rice, Lead Pastor & Director of Church Planting*

A small portion of God's Word is explained to us and applied to our lives and circumstances.

SONG OF RESPONSE

We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace by singing again of His goodness and greatness.

Graves Into Gardens

BENEDICTION

Because the hand of God's wrath was raised against Jesus, we now receive the hand of God's blessing as we are sent out to live our lives to the glory of God.

May the LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the LORD turn His face toward you and give you His peace,
both now and forevermore. Amen.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE & SERMON OUTLINE

Proclamation of God's Word

Text: 1 John 4:7-21 (ESV)

Title: This is How We Know: God's Grace

Teacher: Tim Rice

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. ¹³ By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴ And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶ So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷ By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. ¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. ²¹ And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

Intro: How old were you when you got your first payday?

GRACE = GOD'S WORK

Why do we believe that everything is undergirded by God and His actions?

SELF-RELIANCE & PROUD PAYCHECKS

How do we twist God's grace into a system of performance?

THIS IS HOW WE KNOW

Why is our faith in God's Sovereign Grace so comforting?

YOU CAN PRAY WITH US ...

1. Worship the LORD for His love, splendor and grace. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, that He has shone the light of His grace into the darkness of this world, especially our hearts!
2. How have you lived in the darkness of this world, insistent on your own will? Confess your pride and folly to Jesus, asking Him to forgive you and heal your heart by His work where you were guilty and helpless.
3. Give thanks to Jesus for His work to come rescue us where our rebellion left us poor, ashamed and helpless. *Thank Him for giving us what we could never earn, and acting to save us from what we could never repair or escape.*
4. Who do you know that lives like they are in darkness? Ask the Lord to show Himself to them and flood their heart with the light of His love and forgiveness.
5. Ask the Spirit to bear in you His fruit of love to conquer all of your fears. Pray for a sense of assurance by His Grace that you would live sure of His work against everything wrong in you, and that you would love others as He has loved you.

