



February 5, 2023—8:30 am and 9:45 am
Sanctuary

"When Christians experience Christ's radical grace through repentance and faith, it becomes the most intense, foundational event of our lives. When we meet someone from a sharply different culture, race, or social class but who has experienced the grace of Jesus Christ through the gospel, we don't see the differences first, because we are looking at someone who has been through the same life and death situation as we have, since in Christ we have spiritually died and been raised to new life (Eph. 2:1-6; Rom. 6:4-6)."
-Tim Keller, *"The Difficulty of Community"*

Prelude *When Morning Gilds the Skies* Dale Wood setting

Community Life Update

Choral Introit

Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God!
He whose word cannot be broken formed thee for his own abode:
On the Rock of Ages founded what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters and all fear of want remove:
Who can faint while such a river ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord the Giver, never fails from age to age.

Savior, if of Zion's city I through grace a member am,
Let the world deride or pity, I will glory in thy name:
Fading are the world's best pleasures, all its boasted pomp and show;
Solid joys and lasting treasures none but Zion's children know.

Words: John Newton (1779), Public Domain; Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH by Cyril Taylor (1942), arr. James Biery, © 2005, Hope Publishing Company

*Call to Worship Psalm 48:1a, 9-11, 13b-14

Leader: Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised in the city of our God!

All: We have thought on your steadfast love, O God, in the midst of your temple.

Leader: As your name, O God, so your praise reaches to the ends of the earth.

All: Your right hand is filled with righteousness.

Leader: Let Mount Zion be glad! Let the daughters of Judah rejoice because of your judgments!

All: Tell the next generation that this is God, our God forever and ever. He will guide us forever.

* Please stand if you are able.

*Hymn of Praise

Hymnal, 115

¹ All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing, Alleluia, alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam, thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

⁴ And all ye men of tender heart, forgiving others, take your part, O sing ye, Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear, praise God and on him cast your care,
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

⁵ Let all things their Creator bless, and worship him in humbleness, O praise him, Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, three in one,
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Words: Francis of Assisi, Public Domain, 1225; Music: Geistliche Kirchengesange, Public Domain, 1623

*Prayer of Adoration

*The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Matthew 22:34-40

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Confession of Sin *(Read in unison)*

from The Book of Common Prayer

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Moment of Silent Confession

Words of Grace and Peace

1 John 1:6-10

If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Prayer of Supplication

*Hymn of Worship

K4-K5 may leave for Kids Ministry.

8:30 am—One parent will need to escort the child to volunteers in the Commons Area for Kids Church.

9:45 am—One parent will need to escort the child downstairs to join Kids Sunday School.

I once was lost in darkest night, yet thought I knew the way.
The sin that promised joy and life had led me to the grave.
I had no hope that you would own a rebel to your will;
And if you had not loved me first, I would refuse you still.

But as I ran my hell-bound race, indifferent to the cost,
You looked upon my helpless state and led me to the cross;
And I beheld God's love displayed, you suffered in my place;
You bore the wrath reserved for me now all I know is grace.

Hallelujah! All I have is Christ, Hallelujah! Jesus is my life.

Now, Lord, I would be yours alone and live so all might see
The strength to follow your commands could never come from me.
O Father, use my ransomed life in any way You choose,
And let my song forever be my only boast is You.

"All I Have is Christ" Jordan Kaufflin © 2008 Sovereign Grace Praise, Song #5174122, CCLI License #789870

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Reading

Luke 18:1-8

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Exploring Prayer: Suffering Prayer

Andy Lewis, Lead Teaching Pastor

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Communion Prayer

Based on The Valley of Vision prayer, "The Lord's Supper"

Leader: God of all good, You have prepared for us a feast; and because we are unworthy in ourselves to sit down as guests, we wholly rest on the merits of Jesus and hide ourselves in His righteousness.

All: In this supper we remember the agony of the cross and the cost of redemption. We rejoice in Your eternal love, boundless grace, and infinite compassion.

Leader: We proclaim Your death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection, until you come again.

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Communion Hymns

Abide with me: fast falls the eventide; the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee, help of the helpless, O abide with me.

I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless, ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory? I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes. Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee: in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Words: Henry Lyte, 1847; Public Domain; Music: William Monk, 1861; Public Domain

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast.
When the tempter would prevail, he will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold, through life's fearful path.
For my love is often cold, he must hold me fast.

He will hold me fast, he will hold me fast. For my Savior loves me so, he will hold me fast.

Those he saves are his delight, Christ will hold me fast.
Precious in his holy sight, he will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost, his promises shall last.
Bought by him at such a cost, he will hold me fast.

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

For my life he bled and died, Christ will hold me fast.
Justice has been satisfied, he will hold me fast.
Raised with him to endless life, he will hold me fast.
Till our faith is turned to sight, when he comes at last.

He will hold me fast, he will hold me fast. For my Savior loves me so, he will hold me fast.

"He Will Hold Me Fast" Words: Ada Ruth Habershon (v. 1-2) and Matt Merker;
Music: Matt Merker ©2013 Getty Music, Song No. 7016161, CCLI No. 789870

*Benediction

*Postlude

*We are grateful for your sacrificial giving that supports the work of this church. To give, you can visit give.mitchellroad.org.
Tithes and Offerings may also be placed in the giving box at the exits of the Sanctuary as you leave.*

Assisting in Worship Today:

Preacher: Andy Lewis, Lead Teaching Pastor

Liturgist: Kevin Couch, Ruling Elder (8:30); Scott Puckett, Engage the World Pastor (9:45)

***Find out more about our year of Exploring Prayer in the Guide available today.
If you did not receive one when you entered pick one up at the Welcome Desk.***

Electives: Barriers to Prayer— Begins Today at 9:45 am

Have you wanted to feel close to God in prayer but often feel like your prayers are going nowhere? Join us in the Learning Commons February 5, 12 and 19 as Next Generation Pastor Neel Skelton helps us think through what might be preventing us from connecting with God in prayer.

Missional Living Conference—February 24-26 A Growing Love for the Things God Loves

We are all missionaries of the gospel of grace, whether you live in another country or right here in Greenville. We each have been given the Spirit of Jesus to continue the mission of Jesus. We are all called to missional living. That means we must have a *growing love for the things God loves*. Come and see what His Spirit is up to around the world. Come and see how the Spirit moves in you to continue the mission of Jesus.

This Week's Prayer Focus

Loving Community: Pray that God would use MR to be a place where Christ-followers would gather to care for the church and Greenville through service, mercy, compassion, teaching, accountability, and friendship. (Jn. 13:31-35)