

# Grace Presbyterian Church (PCA)

The Lord's Day  
December 27, 2020  
Order of Worship

---

## — GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP HIM —

### \*Call to Worship

Psalm 147:1-5

Praise the LORD!

For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.

The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.

## — WE RESPOND WITH SINGING & PRAYER —

### \*Hymn of Praise

“O Worship the King”

Trinity Hymnal #2, vv. 1, 4, 5

1 O worship the King all-glorious above,  
O gratefully sing his power and his love:  
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,  
pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

4 Your bountiful care, what tongue can recite?  
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;  
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,  
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

5 Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,  
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail.  
Your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,  
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

*text: based on Psalm 104, Robert Grant, 1883, music: Johann Michael Haydn  
arranged in William Gardiner's 'Sacred Melodies' 1815*

### \*Prayers of Adoration (followed by The 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.

## — GOD CALLS US TO REPENT —

### Call to Confession

Psalm 32:1-6a

Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit. When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said,  
“I will confess my transgressions to the Lord”— and you forgave the guilt of my sin.  
Therefore let everyone who is godly pray to you while you may be found.

— WE RESPOND IN CORPORATE & INDIVIDUAL REPENTANCE —

**Prayer of Confession**

Almighty and most merciful Father, we are thankful that your mercy is higher than the heavens, wider than our wanderings, deeper than all our sin. Forgive our careless attitudes toward your purposes, our refusal to relieve the suffering of others, our envy of those who have more than we have, our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure, our indifference to the treasures of heaven, our neglect of your wise and gracious law. Draw us back to Christ, our Savior. Root us in His love for us and our union with Him, so that we may desire what is good, love what you love, and do what you command, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Silent Prayers of Confession**

— GOD ANNOUNCES FORGIVENESS —

**Words of Encouragement**

Colossians 2:13-14

When the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

— WE RESPOND IN ACTS OF WORSHIP —

**\*Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*Confession of Faith**

The Apostles' Creed

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

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick<sup>1</sup> and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic<sup>2</sup> Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. AMEN.

---

*traditional English wording. <sup>1</sup>'quick' means 'living/alive' <sup>2</sup>'catholic' means 'universal;' that is, the Christian Church made up of all believers.*

**Prayers of Intercession**

**Fellowship through Announcements**

**Tithes & Offerings Encouragement**

Offering plates are located by each entrance. You may also give to the church via the Donate page on our website, by setting up automatic withdrawal from your bank, or by mailing a check to the church. We are thankful to God for your generosity.

— GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH HIS WORD —

Sermon

“Forgiveness”

Rev. Scott Wells  
Matthew 18:21-35

Meditation & Prayer

— WE RESPOND TO THE WORD & SACRAMENT —

\*Hymn of Response

“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

Trinity Hymnal #500

1 Rock of Ages, cleft for me  
let me hide myself in thee;  
let the water and the blood,  
from thy riven side which flowed,  
be of sin the double cure,  
cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

2 Not the labors of my hands  
can fulfil thy law's demands;  
could my zeal no respite know,  
could my tears for ever flow,  
all for sin could not atone;  
thou must save, and thou alone.

3 Nothing in my hand I bring,  
simply to thy cross I cling;  
naked, come to thee for dress;  
helpless, look to thee for grace;  
foul, I to the Fountain fly;  
wash me, Savior, or I die.

4 While I draw this fleeting breath,  
when mine eyelids close in death,  
when I soar to worlds unknown,  
see thee on thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in thee.

*text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1776, music: James Ward Music, 1985*

\*Benediction

Musical Accompaniment: Olivia Hokrein

Hymns from Trinity Hymnal used by permission of Great Commission Publications | CCLI License #4001028  
Scripture quotations are from The ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001  
by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

---

Sermon Notes