

FOLLOW THE SON

≡ SHINING THE LIGHT ON DISCIPLESHIP ≡





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SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Bible Study 9:00am

Worship 10:00am

Monday Worship 7:00pm

FOLLOW THE SON

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, June 29, 2025

Theme: *Shining the Light on our Commitment*

Our Summer Series at Grace will focus on Discipleship, focusing on following Jesus, the Son. Elijah and Elisha both knew the faithfulness of the Lord. In response to God's faithfulness, they were committed to serving him. Elisha illustrates that commitment by taking steps that made a return to his former way of life impossible.

† GOD CALLS US †

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit

ALL: Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

SONG

"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory
Fills my heart with joy and love,
Teach me ever to adore Thee;
May I still Thy goodness prove.

Here I raise my Ebenezer,
Hither by Thy help I've come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wand'ring from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now like a fetter
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee;
Prone to wander, Lord I feel it;
Prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

Oh, that day when freed from sinning,
I shall see Thy lovely face;
Clothed then in the blood-washed linen
How I'll sing Thy wondrous grace!
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry,
Take my ransom'd soul away;
Send Thine angels soon to carry
Me to realms of endless day.

† GOD CLEANSSES US †

TIME OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.
ALL: Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.
ALL: Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have sinned against you. We have done the things that we should not have done and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Forgive us, renew us, and restore us according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake He forgives all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I declare with joy, "Your sins are forgiven!" In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE
"This is the Gift of God"

Because of His love, rich in mercy,
He made us alive in Him.
Saved us from death, Rescued the sinners,
This is the gift of God.

Holy is the Lamb of God.
Holy is the One who loved.
Not by works, but by His blood.
This is the gift of God.

Before the creation we were chosen,
Adopted into His love.
Glorious grace lavished upon us,
This is the gift of God.

Holy is the Lamb of God.
Holy is the One who loved.
Not by works, but by His blood.
This is the gift of God.

† GOD SPEAKS WITH US †

OLD TESTAMENT
1 Kings 19:19-21

So Elijah went from there and found Elisha son of Shaphat. He was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen, and he himself was driving the twelfth pair. Elijah went up to him and threw his cloak around him.²⁰ Elisha then left his oxen and ran after Elijah. "Let me kiss my father and mother goodbye," he said, "and then I will come with you."

"Go back," Elijah replied. "What have I done to you?"

²¹ So Elisha left him and went back. He took his yoke of oxen and slaughtered them. He burned the plowing equipment to cook the meat and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out to follow Elijah and became his servant.

EPISTLE
Galatians 5:1, 13-25

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh^[a]; rather, serve one another humbly in love. ¹⁴For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."^[b]
¹⁵If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

¹⁶So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever^[c] you want. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

¹⁹The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery;
²⁰idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. ²⁴Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

HOLY GOSPEL
Luke 9:51-62

As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. ⁵²And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; ⁵³but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem.

⁵⁴When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, "Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them^[a]?" ⁵⁵But Jesus turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶Then he and his disciples went to another village.

⁵⁷ As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go."

⁵⁸ Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."

⁵⁹ He said to another man, "Follow me."

But he replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."

⁶⁰ Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

⁶¹ Still another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family."

⁶² Jesus replied, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ!

MESSAGE

"Shining the Light on Purpose" - Galatians 5

SONG:

"In Christ Alone"

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
this cornerstone, this solid ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless Babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones He came to save.
'Til on the cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied.
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
then bursting forth in glorious day,
up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
for I am His and He is mine,
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the pow'r of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
'til He returns or calls me home,
here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

AFFIRMATION 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 Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

BRINGING OUR BLESSINGS *with Thanksgiving in our Offering*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

CLOSING SONG
"From All Who Dwell Below the Skies"

From all that dwell below the skies
Let the creator's praise arise: Alleluia, alleluia!
Let the Redeemer's name be sung
Through ev'ry land by ev'ry tongue.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord:
Eternal truth attends Thy Word; Alleluia, alleluia!
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore
Till suns shall rise and set no more.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

All praise to God the Father be,
All praise, eternal Son, to thee; Alleluia, alleluia!
Whom with the Spirit we adore Forever and forevermore
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

† GOD BLESSES & SENDS †

BLESSING

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face shine
upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon with favor and give you
peace.

ALL: Amen!

Pastor: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God.