

Sunday, May 3rd, 2020: Worship at Home Resources

Announcements: Insert a Dad-joke (ala Troy D.) or reflection (ala Sheryl M.) or another favorite intro here.

- An example Dad joke might be: Want to hear a construction joke? Sorry, I'm still working on it.
- An example reflection might be: Everyone take a deep breath in...and out. Breathe in and then one more time with Psalm 103:12
Breathing In ("As far as the east is from the west") ...
Breathing out ("so far does God remove our transgressions from us").

Watch your email and follow our [Grace Covenant facebook page](#) to keep up-to-date.

Call to Worship: Psalm 103:1-12 (NIV)

Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—

who forgives all your sins

and heals all your diseases,

who redeems your life from the pit

and crowns you with love and compassion,

who satisfies your desires with good things

so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

The Lord works righteousness

and justice for all the oppressed.

He made known his ways to Moses,

his deeds to the people of Israel:

The Lord is compassionate and gracious,

slow to anger, abounding in love.

He will not always accuse,

nor will he harbor his anger forever;

he does not treat us as our sins deserve

or repay us according to our iniquities.

For as high as the heavens are above the earth,

so great is his love for those who fear him;

as far as the east is from the west,

so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Worship with Song continued (click links for video)

** pro-tip: click the links in advance to let the ads run through then pause the video so you're ready to worship.

[Holy Water](#)

[Mighty to Save](#)

[I Got Saved](#)

[O Come to the Altar](#)

Pray for the offering

Heavenly Father, we thank you for your mercy and grace. Lord we pray you will use this these weeks to build Your kingdom. Help us to love You even more and to love each other well. Help us, Lord, to love our neighbors in practical ways. Please use the offering of Your church to accomplish Your work in the world. Amen.

Giving Options (thank you for continuing as you are able to help fund utilities and salary and outreach and helpfulness): [Give Online at this link](#). Or electronically through your bank. Or mail a check to 3030 Broadway North, Fargo, ND 58102.

Offering Song (click link for video):

[Drops in the Ocean](#)

Pray for the reading of the word

Lord we ask you to fill us with your Holy Spirit and open our ears to listen well to your Word. Help us to not just hear your Word, but to seek to understand Your message and to live it out as Your people. Sanctify us by the truth, Lord; Your word is truth (John 17:17). Amen.

Scripture Reading: Matthew 18:23-33 (NLT)

“Therefore, the Kingdom of Heaven can be compared to a king who decided to bring his accounts up to date with servants who had borrowed money from him. In the process, one of his debtors was brought in who owed him millions of dollars. He couldn’t pay, so his master ordered that he be sold—along with his wife, his children, and everything he owned—to pay the debt.

“But the man fell down before his master and begged him, ‘Please, be patient with me, and I will pay it all.’ Then his master was filled with pity for him, and he released him and forgave his debt.

“But when the man left the king, he went to a fellow servant who owed him a few thousand dollars. He grabbed him by the throat and demanded instant payment.

“His fellow servant fell down before him and begged for a little more time. ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it,’ he pleaded. But his creditor wouldn’t wait. He had the man arrested and put in prison until the debt could be paid in full.

“When some of the other servants saw this, they were very upset. They went to the king and told him everything that had happened. Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, ‘You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me. Shouldn’t you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?’

Message from Pastor James Brown: “Forgiveness”

Pastor James Brown is currently the Director of Discipleship for our denomination the Evangelical Covenant Church.

[Click this link to watch James Brown's message on our website.](#)
[\(the video is also on YouTube\)](#)

Prayers of the People:

Please email your next requests to office@gracecovenantfm.org or call any LT member so we can update the list for next week.

Loren and Pat Treibert: Update from Pat: Loren is feeling better, but his heart still needs to get stronger. No procedure is needed at this time. His pulse is normal. Praise God for his goodness! Thanks to everyone for their prayers and phone visits. Hope to see everyone soon!! Earlier: Loren has made multiple emergency trips to the hospital this week. Trouble regulating pacemaker. Especially tough since Pat can't be with him. Please pray for comfort and peace and successful resolution.

Stan and Beth Wolf: Please pray for our friend Sharlynn and her family. She recently started another regimen of chemo. At her last Mayo visit they found the cancer has spread. They are trying one last treatment. We continue to ask for prayer for healing, guidance and for peace. The prognosis is poor, but we know with the power of prayer, all things are possible thru him.

Eventide (Jennifer Grieve): Covid-19 has entered Eventide in Fargo (22 cases last week – 9 of those are staff including one working her mom's pod.). Please keep everyone there in prayer. It's been seven weeks now with no visitors. (Especially pray for Jennifer Grieve's mom, Bette Deich).

Robyn: Please continue in prayer for healing for my legs. Ankle fracture and torn ACL on left leg, with continued healing for right leg. Frustrated: tired all the time from my leg.

Christina: Please continue to pray for healing of blood clotting issues. Follow-up appointment next week. Continuing to heal from possible ankle fracture (crutches and boot for six weeks). Update: I can now walk around the house (short distances) in the boot which is very nice and made it downstairs for the first time in five weeks – JOY! It is still pretty swollen at the end of the day! I guess I would pray for wisdom on how far to push it and when to rest. Looking forward to being able to walk around the block, hopefully, in a couple weeks or drive myself to the store!

Cal: pray for my friend just diagnosed with pancreatic cancer

Swensen Family: Please continue to pray for all the Swensen family during this time of grief for comfort and peace for all the family.

Barry: Update: Barry is doing very well, thanks to God! Continues recovering at home from his heart attack and stent surgery. Retired from Eventide in Moorhead. Praying for continued healing and strength for Barry and (Faith).

Steve A: Please pray for Steve's Dad – he fell again on Tuesday (4/7) had to go to ER for stitches and x-ray. Please also pray for Sheila's sister, Colleen who is still very fragile and now not sleeping for healing.

Diana: Please pray for the kids at the detention center.

Meredith: Had surgery (3/31) everything is going well and vision is also getting much better! Enjoying being home and feeling good (yay!). I am grateful for each of you and all God has done for me on this journey.

Laura: Please pray for my Dad –Friday (4/17) amputation below the knee. Moved to back to the same rehab in Grand Forks (Yay!) but also same room facing a brick wall (bummer!) Praying for healing, no infection. For Dad and Mom both for reduced stress, increased peace, moving through grief of this time, relief of depression, encounters with Jesus - our Prince of Peace. Especially with the 'no visitors' restrictions, that has been REALLY hard. He did finally agree to facetime once last Sunday (Yay!) so good to see his face.

Redeemed Covenant families: many have lost jobs and wages due to virus response. Pray that rent

and needs can be met. For new job opportunities. For Pastor Evariste – for good sleep, and health, and Holy Spirit power to minister during especially stressful times.

New Life Center: Please pray the virus for avoidance of outbreak at the New Life Center. This week was first confirmed potential exposure and first mass testing of all guests/staff/volunteers. They are housing 100+men, many are particularly vulnerable to the virus due to underlying conditions. Praying they will be able to meet increased funding needs (equipment, food, staffing) even as funding sources like the thrift store are closed and the Fargo Marathon delayed. That they will continue to be able to provide take-out meals to non-shelter-guests daily.

Prayers Related to COVID-19:

Please pray for all those who have the COVID-19 Virus for strength and healing. That the virus can be contained as much as possible. For health care workers. For those working treatment and testing sites. For government officials and law enforcement. For teachers and parents. For those missing paychecks. For retirees. For those that manufacture and deliver and sell needed items. For those developing tests and vaccines and treatments. For those in care facilities with visitor restrictions and their families. For those suffering domestic violence where home is not a safe place. That we will all be filled with the Holy Spirit. That God will give us wisdom and creativity. That we will have hearts to be helpful and meet needs wisely. That our trust in Jesus be strengthened in the midst of turmoil.

Kids of Grace Project to Equip a Clinic in Uganda: Thanks to God for almost \$4,250 sent to Hands of Action Uganda! Pray for their projects - that they will be able to relieve suffering with much needed funds to support medical clinics and possibly a pop-up dental clinic. For their workers and missionaries to remain healthy and able to minister through the love of Christ.

Let's pray together 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 sins as we forgive those who sin 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.

Hymns: Amazing Grace – Hymn #341 (see photo of hymnal page with notation)

[Link to sing-along](#) [Link to Andrea Bocelli performance on April 16th live from Duomo di Milano](#)

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound,

That saved a wretch like me.

I once was lost but now am found,

Was blind, but now I see.

T'was Grace that taught my heart to fear.

And Grace, my fears relieved.

How precious did that Grace appear

The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
'Tis Grace that brought me safe thus far
and Grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me.
His word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be,
As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we've first begun.

Because He lives – Hymn #744 (see photo of hymnal page with notation)

[Link to modern version \(Crowder\)](#) [Link to sing-along](#)

God sent His son, they called Him Jesus;
He came to love, heal and forgive;
He lived and died to buy my pardon,
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives!

Chorus:
Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,
Because He lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living,
Just because He lives!

And then one day, I'll cross the river,
I'll fight life's final war with pain;
And then, as death gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives!

[Repeat Chorus]

Let's Pray Together the Benediction from Philippians 4:7 (NIV)

May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.

Grace-In-Practice: Consider forgiveness this week

What is one step you can take toward forgiveness this week? Some ideas: A conversation with God? Asking for the Holy Spirit's help and illumination? Seeking a conversation with another? A phone call? An email? Journaling through Psalm 139:23-24? Writing a letter? Getting some wise counsel? Meditating on the Lord's prayer: "Father, forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us."?

Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound 341

G G/D D7 Em C G

1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound—
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
 3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me,
 4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares,
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years,

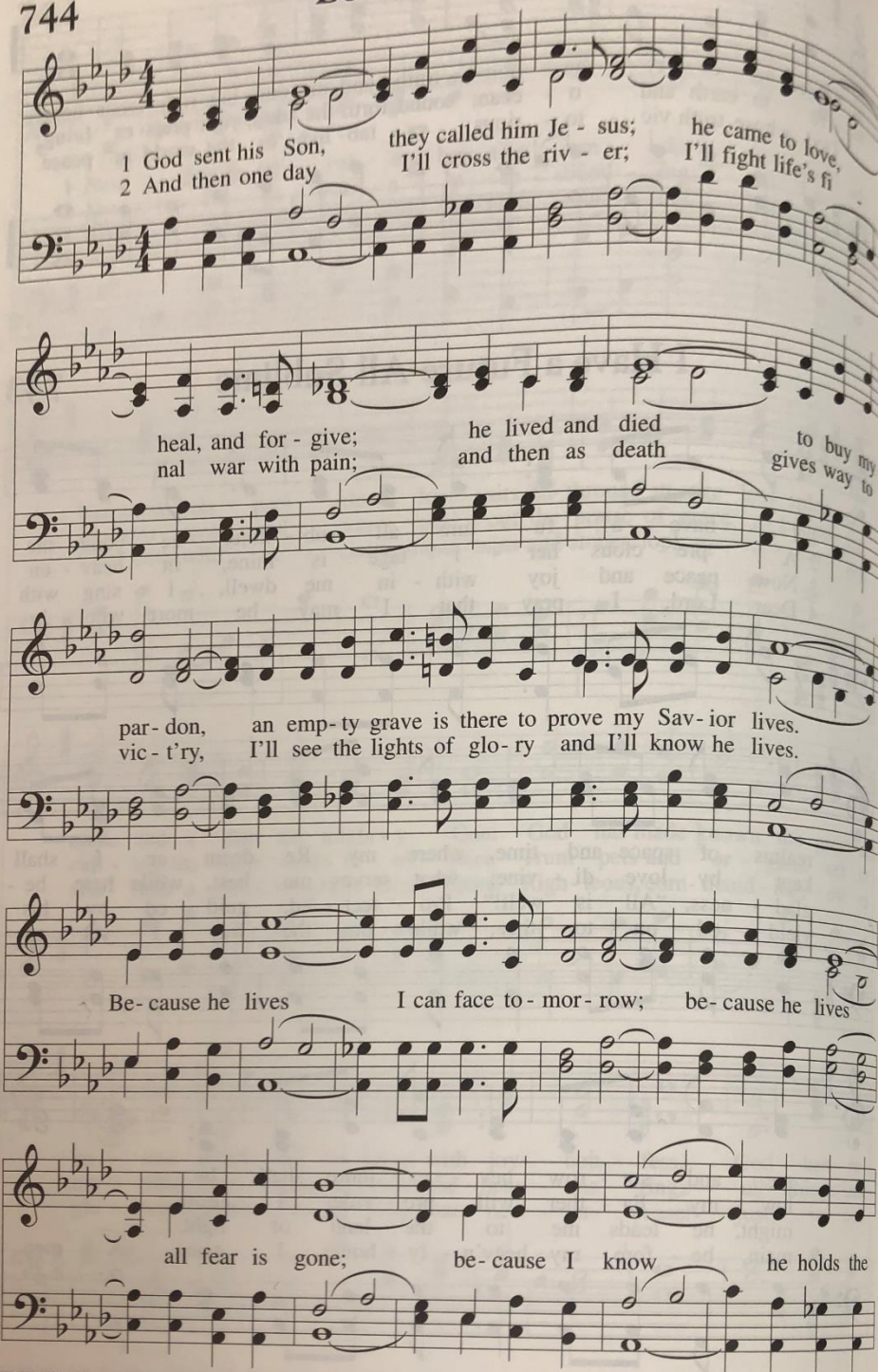
G G/D D/C G/B D7/A G G/B

that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost
 and grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did
 his Word my hope se - cures; he will my shield
 I have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought
 bright shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days

C G G/B Em G/D G/D D7 G

but now am found, was blind but now I see.
 that grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 and por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 to sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Because He Lives



1 God sent his Son, they called him Je - sus; he came to love,
2 And then one day I'll cross the riv - er; I'll fight life's fi

heal, and for - give; he lived and died
nal war with pain; and then as death to buy my
gives way to

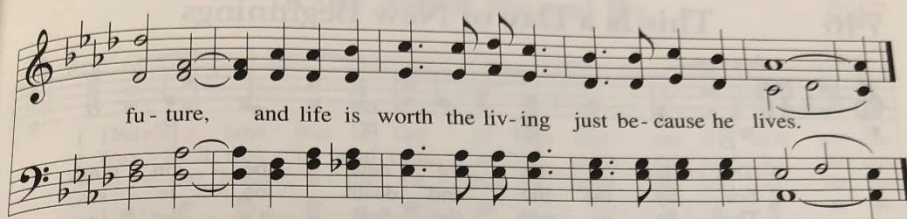
par - don, an emp - ty grave is there to prove my Sav - ior lives.
vic - t'ry, I'll see the lights of glo - ry and I'll know he lives.

Be - cause he lives I can face to - mor - row; be - cause he lives

all fear is gone; be - cause I know he holds the

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Irregular
RESURRECTION



fu - ture, and life is worth the liv - ing just be - cause he lives.