

Hello, Gracers! This Sunday as our church body worships with faith at home rather than all together in our sanctuary, we wanted to provide you with our Grace worship resources.

Sunday, March 29th 2020

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

An example Dad joke might be: I think I have a bad back...but it's just a hunch. (from Pastor Cal's chiropractor).

An example reflection might be: Everyone take a deep breath in...and out. One more time with Revelation 4:8 Breathing in ("Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord God Almighty") ...Breathing out ("who was and is and is to come").

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

Call to Worship: Psalm 118:26-29

Psalm 118:26-29 New International Version (NIV)

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

From the house of the Lord we bless you.

The Lord is God,

and he has made his light shine on us.

With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession

up to the horns of the altar.

You are my God, and I will praise you;

you are my God, and I will exalt you.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

his love endures forever.

Worship with Song (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.

[Hosaanna \(I See the King of Glory\)](#)

[Revelation Song](#)

[The Lion and the Lamb](#)

[Awesome God](#) and [Our God](#)

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): [We the Kingdom – Holy Water](#)

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: Luke 19:28-44 (NIV)

After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ say, ‘The Lord needs it.’”

Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” They replied, “The Lord needs it.” They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road. When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:

“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!”

“I tell you,” he replied, “if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.”

As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it and said, “If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes. The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God’s coming to you.”

Message from Pastor Cal: “Sharing and Caring”

[Click this link to watch Pastor Cal’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.

40 Days Through God’s Story: Please pray that our hearts will be open to hear God’s truth and that we will fall more in love with Jesus.

Meredith: Had surgery Tuesday (3/31) to remove a tumor in my brain affecting my vision related to the previous tumor in the same area. Surgery went well, surgeon is pleased. Had some nausea but that’s resolved. Back at home now. Meredith says she is feeling so good (yay!). I am grateful for each of you and all God has done for me on this journey. I know that I am in His hands.

Christina: Possible ankle fracture. Crutches and boot for six weeks. Confirmed blood clot and lots of pain. Will have to be on blood thinner for at least 3 months. Pray that I get into this routine and the pain continues to go down (it has been Yay!). My hope is to put light weight on it while in the boot within this next week.

Adam and the Walker family: his siblings, cousins and aunt and uncles and us. His grandmother passed away this week. We will be going to her grave side burial on Sunday which is, also, Cari and Adam’s birthday. For creative ways to celebrate Cari’s sweet-sixteen birthday.

Robyn: Please continue in prayer for healing for my legs. Ankle fracture and torn ACL on left leg, with continued healing for right leg.

Suz: son Don had massive heart attack treated at Sanford and home now. Praying for healing, peace, comfort, and wisdom.

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.

Laura: Please pray for my Dad – he’s back in the hospital. Completed 3rd surgery in 3 weeks. Praying for healing of the surgical site and reduced pain. Likely in the hospital through the weekend then moving back to rehab. It’s REALLY hard for him not to have any family around. For Dad and Mom both for reduced stress, increased peace, relief of depression, encounters with Jesus - our Prince of Peace.

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 will not enter and infect anyone sheltering or working at the New Life Center. 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-guests daily.

Linda: Please pray for Linda as she moved to Mankato on the 25th of March. We pray that God will bless her in her new home with new friends and a church to call home as well. We pray that her previous co-workers at Family Fare and in her apartment building will encounter another who will encourage them to turn to Jesus.

Steve A: Please pray for Steve’s Dad as he recovers from a fall. 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.

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 preparing 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 suffering domestic violence where home is not a safe place. That we will be filled with the Holy Spirit. That God will give us wisdom. That we will have hearts to be helpful and meet needs wisely. That our trust in Jesus be strengthened in these uncertain times.

Pray Together the Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator 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 to the dead;
on the third day He rose again;
He ascended into Heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.

Hymn: [Hosanna](#) (Click for video, See picture on last page for Hymnal Page #16)

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest
Lord we lift up Your Name,
With hearts full of praise,
Be exalted Oh Lord our God,
Hosanna in the highest.

Glory, Glory, Glory to the King of Kings
Glory, Glory, Glory to the King of Kings
Lord we lift up Your Name,
With hearts full of praise,
Be exalted Oh Lord our God,
Glory to the King of Kings.

Benediction from Numbers 6:24-26 (NIV):

May the Lord bless you and keep you;

May the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you;

May the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace.

Grace-In-Action: Invite your neighbors to Drive-Through Pizza.

- Leave a note for your neighbors – or call them – and invite them to participate in Drive-Through Pizza in the Grace Parking lot
- our North Fargo Pizza Hut will be assisting us with contact-free drive-through service. See the attached note or website for details or print some out to leave for neighbors.
- Call or email the Grace Covenant office with your order by Wednesday, April 8th at noon (cheese or pepperoni or supreme pizza) and (cans of sprite, coke, diet coke or mello yello).

We just need to know how many of each and the household name. (701-235-4622 or office@gracecovenantfm.org)

Grace in Practice: practicing together with ALL AGES the different ways we can live out our everyday faith

We are in a new week for our 40 Days Through God's Story.

(See the [Gospel Story by Memory page under Events/40 Days God's Story](#)).

1) Review the Gospel Story Actions: God Rules – We Sin – God Promises – Jesus Rescues – We Answer – God Gives And now this week we are learning that We Share and Care. *The action is: with palms up, stretch out your hands straight forward and then spread your arms wide.*

With the Holy Spirit's help, we share God's love with people everywhere and invite them to follow Jesus too. We help hurting people and work to fix problems that cause hurt. We give thanks to God and look forward to Jesus coming back to finish making all things right.

Just for fun: This is our last week of our 40 Days Through God's Story adventure! Do you know ALL of the actions? **Take a quick video of yourselves with the actions and words and post it**

in our [Amazing Gracers](#) – private facebook group ([link](#)). Would be fun to see everyone! See the attached Gospel Memory sheet if you've forgotten some. =)

2) From [Justice Journey for Kids](#) from our denomination:

EXPLAIN: We've heard about the beginning of history, when God created our beautiful and diverse world; and we've talked about the middle of history, when Jesus sent out his friends to make disciples from every country and tribe on earth, and that includes us! Now, we'll talk about the end of history.

Remember that God started everything by creating the earth and people, and then people messed up? Ever since then, people have been divided by the things that should unite us. Instead of appreciating how God made everyone different, some people decided that our diversity was a bad thing. People have even gone to war and killed other humans because they didn't like the color of their skin, or eyes, or the way they talked, or the style of their church. Even more than that, people all over the world hurt each other with words and actions because they are afraid of how we are different. That is called racism and prejudice. Many people are sad and hurting, or angry and hateful, because of those things.

[Ask the question:] Do you think God is happy with that situation? Allow for responses.

EXPLAIN: No, I don't think God is happy about that either. God is not part of racism or prejudice at all. God is the one who made us all different in the first place. Diversity was God's own idea! God sent Jesus to save all people from all places, all over the world. We know that.

But what you might not know is that God's plan doesn't stop there. At the very end of the Bible, a man named John saw a wonderful dream from God and wrote it down. In this dream, John saw what would happen at the end of time, when Jesus comes back to earth to show all people that he loves them and rescues them. John saw the big throne room of heaven, where God rules as a king over all the earth. Here's what he saw.

READ REVELATION 19:5-9.

EXPLAIN: So in heaven people of all countries and tribes and languages were all worshiping God together. They were wearing the same white clothes that reminded everyone of the way they followed Jesus. The only thing that was different about them was the way God had made them: individual and unique, diverse and special. But they were all following Jesus and praising God. And, the end of that, verse 9 says they were all invited to a feast!

Begin to spread out the tablecloth and set it with the place settings, flowers, and candles.

EXPLAIN: My table here isn't big enough for that many people.

[Ask the question:] But do people who are at war, or who hate each other or are terrified of each other, sit down at a big feast together?

No. A feast means a celebration with people who love each other! So, at the end of history, people of all countries and colors will sit down at a table together, at the same feast. The most

important guest will be God, who will be at the feast. The Bible says this about what it will be like.

READ REVELATION 21:1-4.

EXPLAIN: God will end all fighting and war; there will be no more death or sadness or pain.

[Ask the question:] Do you think there will be things like racism or prejudice there?

Allow for answers.

EXPLAIN: No, of course not! The end of John's dream, what God showed him, goes like this.

READ REVELATION 22:1-5.

EXPLAIN: A garden and rivers? That sounds like creation, like where God made all people in the first place! We will all be one people—God's people. Just as God made us all different in the beginning at creation, God will rule over all the different kinds of people as our king at the end of time.

DISCUSS:

- *Why do you think God showed John this dream of all people from everywhere worshiping God together?*
- *Why do you think that God wants to throw a big feast for all God's people?*
- *Do you think there are people who would not want to come? Why or why not?*

3) Justice Journey Activity: Look through the books or newspapers or online pictures with the group. Point out all the people doing, wearing, and eating different things/

Play a game similar to "I'm going on a picnic."

To begin say, "I'm going to a feast and I'm inviting someone who (name an action, food, or clothing from the pictures)."

For example, "I'm going to a feast and I'm inviting someone who eats tortillas."

The child next to you must say, "I'm going to a feast and I'm inviting someone who eats tortillas and (their own choice.)"

Continue this way until either the kids start forgetting the previous answers or until everyone has had a couple of turns.

EXPLAIN: Since we know that God has invited everyone from every place on earth to his great feast, it seems silly to exclude people now.

- *Would you be whiny and rude to someone who was a guest at your holiday meal?*
- *How can we be kind to people now, and treat everyone with respect, as if we were getting ready to sit down to a feast together?*
- *What should we do when we see others being treated unfairly or unkindly because of their differences? As fellow future guests at the table, how can we stick up for them?*

4) Gather the kids around the video player and play the video:

Travis's Feast <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u3-Px7JqAow>

DISCUSS: What was most noticeable about the feast? Who was there? What were they saying? Was any one missing? Would you like to go to that kind of a feast?

CLOSE IN PRAYER: *Ask God to help us respond in a loving way to others rather than mean ways because someone is different from us. Give thanks to God for making us different and helping us to celebrate our differences.*

Hosanna

16

In unison G D Em C

1 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
 2 Glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry to the King of

est! kings! Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho -
 Glo - ry, glo - ry,

Em C D C D7
 san - na in the high - est! Lord we lift up your name
 glo - ry to the King of kings!

G C D7 G C D
 with hearts full of praise; be ex-alt-ed, O

G D/F# Em C D G C/G G
 Lord my God! Ho - san - na in the high - est!
 Glo - ry to the King of kings!

8va

Irregular