

Grace Church of Dunedin

g The Gracelet

Today's Sermon:

**SHARING THE FAITH:
A COMMUNITY OF KOINONIA
A LETTER FOR A CHURCH CALLED GRACE:
THE MESSAGE OF PHILEMON
FEBRUARY 4, 2018**

Hello friends. Welcome to Grace Church! Thank you for choosing to seek, grow, and worship with us today. All are welcome.

REFLECTION + RESPONSE:

(portions inspired by Philemon and "The Lord's Prayer")

Reader: God of extravagant grace, guide us through your Word this morning as we are gathered here together. Refresh our hearts with your scriptures and open our eyes and ears to gather the information you so desperately want us to know and feel.

All: **Open us to receive your blessings, as we pray-**

All: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING:

Reader: Philemon 1:1-25

All: **May the Lord add his blessing to the reading, hearing, and doing of his holy Word.**

COMMUNION REFLECTION + PREPARATION:

Elder: Heavenly Father, as we prepare to receive the bread and the cup, we confess to you that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

All: **Lord, have mercy on us.**

ELDER: We acknowledge our tendency to overlook the abundance of your grace and presence all around us.

All: **Lord, forgive us.**

ELDER: Almighty God, help us to serve you in love and light.

All: **Lord, do not leave us unchanged.**

(sacrament instructions)

Elder: On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Elder: Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant of my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me."

Elder: And as often as we eat of this bread and drink of this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

CLOSING PRAYER + BENEDICTION:

Elder: We leave this place no longer as strangers, but members of God's own family; brothers and sisters through the blood of Jesus Christ. Together, we are being built into a holy dwelling place, where God lives by the Spirit.

All: **Lord, help us to go out with joy and confidence to love and serve the world, for we do not go alone.**

(Silently pray for someone you know in need of God's help.)

Elder: Just as Paul was in chains for the Gospel, Lord, guide us to live likewise. Provide us with the means necessary to spread The Good News to our neighbors, friends, coworkers, and families.

All: **Lord, teach us how to be open with others about our faith in You— to speak the truth in love, humbly and without shame.**

(closing words)

Elder: Grace + peace to all of you...

All: **And to you as well.**

GIVING + FINANCES:

Monthly Operating Expenses: \$8,571.89

January's Income (as of 1.31.18): \$10,273.80

December's General Income: \$13,419.00

Make checks payable to:

Grace Church of Dunedin

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