



Grace Church of Dunedin

The Gracelet

Today's Sermon:

EVIL AND THE MISSION OF GOD GENESIS: IN THE BEGINNING

January 28, 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 Genesis 13 and "The Lord's Prayer")

Reader: From familiar and comfortable spaces, You call us: Go. In the dead of night when questions burn, You invite us: Come. Where there are longings of the heart, You beckon us: Draw near.

All: **Lord, draw us near to you this morning as we are gathered together to learn of you and worship you.**

Reader: Call us away from the distractions of the world to experience what You are doing now, in us.

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: Genesis 50:15-21

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 evaluate the evil in our lives and guide our next moves.

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: We hold in our hearts and before you all those who are experiencing the stresses and heartaches of life's changes: those in mourning, those without hope, those who are alone, those who are bone-weary.

All: **In all of life, in all of our travels, in all of our doubts, and in all of our endeavors; as you call us and send us, welcome us and keep us; above all else, you do not leave us. No matter the changes, you remain.**

(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 1.26.18): \$9,218.80

December's General Income: \$13,419.00

Make checks payable to:

Grace Church of Dunedin

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