



Grace Church of Dunedin

The Gracelet

Today's Sermon:

**VERY GOOD: THE INTRINSIC VALUE
OF CREATION AND HUMANS
GENESIS: IN THE BEGINNING**

January 7, 2017

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 1 and "The Lord's Prayer")

Reader: O God our Father, we thank you that today you have called us to worship you and learn of you. Though we arrive from different backgrounds and traditions, we share one faith.

All: **We are, each of us, unique and precious to God, and are members of one Body.**

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

All: **Open us to a new awakening, a new beginning, praying-**

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 1:26-31

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, let us not harbor anything in our hearts that might spoil our fellowship with you.

ALL: **Lord, work with us and within us.**

(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: Architect of the Universe, Your voice called out over the deep and darkness and brought forth light. Your voice called out over the waters and brought forth life. Your voice called out over this earth and brought forth our very beings. Your voice continues to call out in our Universe and bring new hope and new life.

All: **Help us to hear Your voice above the hum of the highway and the buzz of the business talk. Help us to hear Your voice in the cries of children, in the soft tones of the sick, in the pleas of the poor. May we hear, listen, and respond to Your voice in our lives and in our world. In Your name we pray. Amen.**

(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 1.5.18): \$140.00

December's General Income: \$13,419.00

Make checks payable to:

Grace Church of Dunedin

PO Box #421 Dunedin, FL 34697

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