



grace

presbyterian

church

THE LORD'S DAY

Sunday, March 14, 2021

Prelude

Margaret Bradly, Organ

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 84:1-2

“How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts! My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.”

***Hymn of Praise**

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

#38

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes.
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
All praise we would render, O help us to see
‘tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

***Prayer of Adoration and 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Call to Confession

Psalm 30:8-10

“To you, O LORD, I cry, and to the LORD I plead for mercy: What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness? Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me! O LORD, be my helper.”

Prayer of Confession

Merciful Lord, we confess that with us there is an abundance of sin, but in you there is the fullness of righteousness and abundance of mercy. We are spiritually poor, but you are rich and in Jesus Christ came to be merciful to the poor. Strengthen our faith and trust in you. We are empty vessels that need to be filled; fill us. We are weak in faith; strengthen us. We are cold in love; warm us and make our hearts fervent for you that our love may go out to one another and to our neighbors. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 30:11-12

“You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness, that my glory may sing your praise and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever.”

***Hymn of Response**

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

#251

Beneath the cross of Jesus, I fain would take my stand,
The shadow of a mighty Rock within a weary land;
A home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat and the burden of the day.

Upon the cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see
The very dying form of One who suffered there for me;
And from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess,
The wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.

I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss;
my sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 29: 13-21

And the Lord said:

“Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips,
while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men,
¹⁴ therefore, behold, I will again do wonderful things with this people, with wonder upon wonder;
and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the discernment of their discerning men shall

be hidden.”¹⁵ Ah, you who hide deep from the LORD your counsel, whose deeds are in the dark, and who say, “Who sees us? Who knows us?”¹⁶ You turn things upside down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay, that the thing made should say of its maker, “He did not make me”; or the thing formed say of him who formed it, “He has no understanding?”¹⁷ Is it not yet a very little while until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest?¹⁸ In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book, and out of their gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind shall see.¹⁹ The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the LORD, and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.²⁰ For the ruthless shall come to nothing and the scoffer cease, and all who watch to do evil shall be cut off,²¹ who by a word make a man out to be an offender, and lay a snare for him who reproves in the gate, and with an empty plea turn aside him who is in the right.

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. David Stewart

Scripture Reading:

Mark: 7:1-37

Now when the Pharisees gathered to him, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem,² they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed.³ (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly, holding to the tradition of the elders,⁴ and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.)⁵ And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?”⁶ And he said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, ‘This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me;⁷ in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’⁸ You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.”⁹ And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition!”¹⁰ For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’¹¹ But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or his mother, “Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban”’ (that is, given to God)¹² then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother,¹³ thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do.¹⁴ And he called the people to him again and said to them, “Hear me, all of you, and understand:¹⁵ There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him.”¹⁷ And when he had entered the house and left the people, his disciples asked him about the parable.¹⁸ And he said to them, “Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him,¹⁹ since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?” (Thus he declared all foods clean.)²⁰ And he said, “What comes out of a person is what defiles him.²¹ For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality,

theft, murder, adultery ²² coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. ²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.” ²⁴ And from there he arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. ²⁵ And he entered a house and did not want anyone to know, yet he could not be hidden. ²⁶ But immediately a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit heard of him and came and fell down at his feet. ²⁷ Now the woman was a Gentile, a Syrophenician by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁸ And he said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁹ But she answered him, “Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.” ³⁰ And he said to her, “For this statement you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter.” ³¹ And she went home and found the child lying in bed and the demon gone. ³² Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³³ And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³⁴ And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. ³⁵ And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” ³⁶ And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁷ And Jesus ³⁸ charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁹ And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, “He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”

Sermon

“Rite” and Wrong

Rev. David Stewart

I. The Horrors of Hypocrisy

II. True Worship

III. It's the Inside That Counts

IV. The Answer Is Faith

Hymn of Response*“My Jesus, I Love Thee”**

#648

My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine;
for thee all the follies of sin I resign.
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou,
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus 'tis now.

I love thee because thou hast first loved me
and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree.
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow,
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I'll love thee in life, I will love thee in death;
and praise thee as long as thou lendest me breath;
and say, when the death dew lies cold on my brow;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright.
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow,
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

Benediction*Hebrews 13: 20-21**

“Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.”

Three-fold Amen**Indicates congregation will stand, if able**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We will be creating a new directory for this year within the next month. If you have any changes to your information, please inform the church office as soon as possible at gracelakesuzy@gmail.com.

Wi-Fi access – *GracePCA* | *Grace0777*

Please maintain distance between families as best as possible. Please fellowship outside unless there is inclement weather.

There is an offering box in the back of the sanctuary for tithes and offerings.

03/07/21 Offering	\$ 4,861.00
YTD Offering	\$41,281.00
YTD Budget	\$34,265.00
Building Fund	\$ 20.00

GRACE SUPPORTED MISSIONARIES/AGENCIES

Agape Flights – Venice, FL
Carter, Michael & Cathalain – MTW – Nagoya, Japan
Child Evangelism Fellowship – Charlotte County, FL
Grady, Miriam & son Evan – MTW – Czech Republic
Jean-Rejouis, Davidson & Katie – MTW – France
Collin & Zury – RUF Global
Knaebel, Chris & Rebecca – Church Planting – Sarasota, FL
Lennox, Patrick & Regina – MTW – Native Americans
Martin, Jeremy & Angel – Serge – London, England
Matlack, Ken & Tammie – MTW – Global Initiative to Mobilizing Intercessory Prayer
Pregnancy Solutions – Port Charlotte, FL
Stevens, Carla – MTW – Christian Educational Consultant
Tanner, Lucas – RUF – Florida Gulf Coast University
Young Life – Port Charlotte, FL

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