



grace

presbyterian

church

THE LORD'S DAY

Sunday, August 29, 2021

Prelude

Margaret Bradly, Organ

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 36: 7-9

“How precious is your steadfast love, O God! The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings. They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights. For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light.”

***Hymn of Praise**

“Ye Servants of God”

#165

Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim, and publish abroad his wonderful name.
The name, all victorious, of Jesus extol; his kingdom is glorious and rules over all.

God ruleth on high, almighty to save; and still, he is nigh – his presence we have.
The great congregation his triumph shall sing, ascribing salvation to Jesus, our King.

Salvation to God, who sits on the throne! Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim, fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.

Then let us adore, and give him his right, all glory and pow’r, and wisdom and might,
All honor and blessing, with angels above, and thanks never ceasing for infinite love.

***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 38: 1-2

“O LORD, rebuke me not in your anger, nor discipline me in your wrath! For your arrows have sunk into me, and your hand has come down on me.”

Prayer of Confession:

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our sins, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ your Son. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 38: 21-22

“Do not forsake me, O LORD! O my God, be not far from me! Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation!”

Hymn of Preparation:

“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

Psalm 35: 1-18

Contend, O LORD, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me!
²Take hold of shield and buckler and rise for my help! ³Draw the spear and javelin against my pursuers! Say to my soul, “I am your salvation!” ⁴Let them be put to shame and dishonor who seek after my life! Let them be turned back and disappointed who devise evil against me! ⁵Let them be like chaff before the wind, with the angel of the LORD driving them away! ⁶Let their way be dark and slippery, with the angel of the LORD pursuing them! ⁷For without cause they hid their net for me; without cause they dug a pit for my life. ⁸Let destruction come upon him when he does not know it! And let the net that he hid ensnare him; let him fall into it—to his destruction!⁹Then my soul will rejoice in the LORD, exulting in his salvation. ¹⁰All my bones shall say, “O LORD, who is

like you, delivering the poor from him who is too strong for him, the poor and needy from him who robs him?”¹¹ Malicious witnesses rise up; they ask me of things that I do not know.¹² They repay me evil for good; my soul is bereft.¹³ But I, when they were sick— I wore sackcloth; I afflicted myself with fasting; I prayed with head bowed^[a] on my chest.¹⁴ I went about as though I grieved for my friend or my brother; as one who laments his mother, I bowed down in mourning.¹⁵ But at my stumbling they rejoiced and gathered; they gathered together against me; wretches whom I did not know tore at me without ceasing; ¹⁶ like profane mockers at a feast, they gnash at me with their teeth. ¹⁷ How long, O Lord, will you look on? Rescue me from their destruction, my precious life from the lions! ¹⁸ I will thank you in the great congregation; in the mighty throng I will praise you.

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. David Stewart

Scripture Reading:

Lamentations 3: 43-66

⁴³“You have wrapped yourself with anger and pursued us, killing without pity; ⁴⁴ you have wrapped yourself with a cloud so that no prayer can pass through. ⁴⁵ You have made us scum and garbage among the peoples.⁴⁶“All our enemies open their mouths against us; ⁴⁷ panic and pitfall have come upon us, devastation, and destruction; ⁴⁸ my eyes flow with rivers of tears because of the destruction of the daughter of my people.⁴⁹“My eyes will flow without ceasing, without respite, ⁵⁰ until the LORD from heaven looks down and sees; ⁵¹ my eyes cause me grief at the fate of all the daughters of my city. ⁵²“I have been hunted like a bird by those who were my enemies without cause; ⁵³ they flung me alive into the pit and cast stones on me; ⁵⁴ water closed over my head; I said, ‘I am lost.’ ⁵⁵“I called on your name, O LORD, from the depths of the pit; ⁵⁶ you heard my plea, ‘Do not close your ear to my cry for help! ⁵⁷ You came near when I called on you; you said, ‘Do not fear!’ ⁵⁸“You have taken up my cause, O Lord; you have redeemed my life.⁵⁹ You have seen the wrong done to me, O LORD; judge my cause.⁶⁰ You have seen all their vengeance, all their plots against me. ⁶¹“You have heard their taunts, O LORD, all their plots against me. ⁶² The lips and thoughts of my assailants are against me all the day long. ⁶³ Behold their sitting and their rising; I am the object of their taunts. ⁶⁴“You will repay them, O LORD, according to the work of their hands. ⁶⁵ You will give them dullness of heart; your curse will be^[a] on them. ⁶⁶ You will pursue them^[a] in anger and destroy them from under your heavens, O LORD.”

Sermon

**Longing in Prayer
“Hope in a Hopeless World”**

Rev. David Stewart

I. Sorrow For Sin

II. Hope in Despair

III. The Avenger

Hymn of Response:

“May the Mind of Christ My Savior”

#644

May the mind of Christ my Savior live in me from day to day.
by his love and pow’r controlling all I do and say.

May the Word of God swell richly in my heart from hour to hour,
so that all may see I triumph only through his pow’r.

May the peace of God my Father rule my life in everything,
that I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me as the waters fill the sea;
him exalting self abasing, this is victory.

May his beauty rest upon me as I seek the lost to win,
And may they forget the channel, seeing only him.

***Benediction**

Romans 15:13

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”

***Three-fold Amen.**

***Indicates congregation will stand, if able**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Note from Pregnancy Solutions:

During this past season, we have seen God do more than we could have ever imagined. In the midst of a worldwide pandemic, Pregnancy Solutions never closed our doors. We have two new locations; one in Port Charlotte, and the other, our new North Port facility will open in September. We are looking for volunteers to assist in many areas and we invite you to think about becoming a part of our volunteer team. Please check us out at www.pregnancysolutions.org or call 941-408-7100.

Join us for our 19th Annual Pregnancy Solutions Banquet, Seen. Known. Loved. Bridging the Gap.

This year for the first time ever, we will be holding three separate events!

Tuesday, November 2nd at Isles Yacht Club in Punta Gorda at 7:00 PM (Dinner)

Tuesday, November 9th at Plantation Golf and Country Club in Venice at 11:00 AM (Luncheon)

Tuesday, November 9th at Plantation Golf and Country Club in Venice at 7:00 PM (Dinner)

These three events will allow for a more intimate gathering and will make it possible for more of our Charlotte County community to attend.

The meal is complimentary; an opportunity to make a financial gift will be extended. You can sign up at psbanquet.org.

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

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

08/08//21 Offering	\$ 2,470.00
YTD Offering	\$161,312.90
YTD Budget	\$105,910.00
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

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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