



**grace**

**presbyterian**

**church**

# THE LORD'S DAY

## Sunday, September 5, 2021

**Prelude**

Margaret Bradly, Organ

**\*Call to Worship**

**Psalm 145: 1-3**

"I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever. Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable."

**\*Hymn of Praise**

**"All Creatures of Our God and King"**

**#115**

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing alleluia, alleluia!  
Thou burning sun with golden beam, thou silver moon with softer gleam,

**Refrain:**

**O praise him, O praise him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Thou rushing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in heav'n along, O praise him alleluia!  
Thou rising morn in praise rejoice, ye lights of evening, find a voice, **Refrain**

Thou flowing water, pure and clear, make music for thy Lord to hear, alleluia, alleluia!  
Thou fire so masterful and bright, that givest man both warmth and light, **Refrain**

And all ye men of tender heart, forgiving others, take your part, O sing ye, alleluia!  
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear, praise God and on him cast your care, **Refrain**

Let all things their Creator bless, and worship him in humbleness, O praise him, alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, three in one, **Refrain**

**\*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 130: 1-4**

"Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD! O Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy! If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared."

### **Prayer of Confession:**

God of mercy and grace, it is your will that we should love you with heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves; but we are not sufficient for these things. We confess that our affections continually turn away from you: from purity to lust, from freedom to slavery, from compassion to indifference, from fullness to emptiness. Have mercy on us. Order our lives by your holy Word and make your commandments the joy of our hearts. Conform us to the image of your loving Son, Jesus, that we may shine as lights in the world, to your praise and glory. Amen.

### **Assurance of Pardon**

**Psalm 130: 5-8**

“I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word, I hope; my soul waits for the Lord, more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning. O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption. And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.”

### **Hymn of Preparation:**

**“Breathe on Me, Breath of God”**

**#334**

Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,  
That I may love what thou dost love and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,  
Until my will is one with thine, to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine,  
Until this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die,  
But live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.

### **Scripture Reading**

**Jeremiah 5: 18-31**

<sup>18</sup>“But even in those days, declares the LORD, I will not make a full end of you. <sup>19</sup>And when your people say, ‘Why has the LORD our God done all these things to us?’ you shall say to them, ‘As you have forsaken me and served foreign gods in your land, so you shall serve foreigners in a land that is not yours.’”<sup>20</sup> Declare this in the house of Jacob; proclaim it in Judah:<sup>21</sup>“Hear this, O foolish and senseless people, who have eyes, but see not, who have ears, but hear not. <sup>22</sup>Do you not fear me? declares the LORD. Do you not tremble before me? I placed the sand as the boundary for the sea a perpetual barrier that it cannot pass; though the waves toss, they cannot prevail, though they roar, they cannot pass over it. <sup>23</sup>But this people has a stubborn and rebellious heart they have turned aside and gone away.<sup>24</sup>They do not say in their hearts, ‘Let us fear the LORD our God, who gives

the rain in its season, the autumn rain and the spring rain, and keeps for us the weeks appointed for the harvest.’<sup>25</sup> Your iniquities have turned these away and your sins have kept good from you.<sup>26</sup> For wicked men are found among my people; they lurk like fowlers lying in wait. They set a trap; they catch men.<sup>27</sup> Like a cage full of birds, their houses are full of deceit; therefore, they have become great and rich;<sup>28</sup> they have grown fat and sleek. They know no bounds in deeds of evil; they judge not with justice the cause of the fatherless, to make it prosper, and they do not defend the rights of the needy.<sup>29</sup> Shall I not punish them for these things? declares the LORD, and shall I not avenge myself on a nation such as this?”<sup>30</sup> An appalling and horrible thing has happened in the land:<sup>31</sup> the prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests rule at their direction; my people love to have it so, but what will you do when the end comes?

## **Pastoral Prayer**

**Mr. Bob Rhodes**

4 How the gold has grown dim, how the pure gold is changed! The holy stones lie scattered at the head of every street.<sup>2</sup> The precious sons of Zion, worth their weight in fine gold, how they are regarded as earthen pots, the work of a potter's hands!<sup>3</sup> Even jackals offer the breast; they nurse their young; but the daughter of my people has become cruel like the ostriches in the wilderness.<sup>4</sup> The tongue of the nursing infant sticks to the roof of its mouth for thirst; the children beg for food, but no one gives to them.<sup>5</sup> Those who once feasted on delicacies perish in the streets; those who were brought up in purple embrace ash heaps.<sup>6</sup> For the chastisement<sup>Ⓜ</sup> of the daughter of my people has been greater than the punishment<sup>Ⓜ</sup> of Sodom, which was overthrown in a moment, and no hands were wrung for her.<sup>7</sup> Her princes were purer than snow, whiter than milk; their bodies were more ruddy than coral, the beauty of their form<sup>Ⓜ</sup> was like sapphire.<sup>8</sup> Now their face is blacker than soot; they are not recognized in the streets; their skin has shriveled on their bones; it has become as dry as wood.<sup>9</sup> Happier were the victims of the sword than the victims of hunger, who wasted away, pierced by lack of the fruits of the field.<sup>10</sup> The hands of compassionate women have boiled their own children; they became their food during the destruction of the daughter of my people.<sup>11</sup> The LORD gave full vent to his wrath; he poured out his hot anger, and he kindled a fire in Zion that consumed its foundations.<sup>12</sup> The kings of the earth did not believe, nor any of the inhabitants of the world, that foe or enemy could enter the gates of Jerusalem.<sup>13</sup> This was for the sins of her prophets and the iniquities of her priests, who shed in the midst of her the blood of the righteous.<sup>14</sup> They wandered, blind, through the streets; they were so defiled with blood that no one was able to touch their garments.<sup>15</sup> “Away! Unclean!” people cried at them. “Away! Away! Do not touch!” So they became fugitives and wanderers people said among the nations, “They shall stay with us no longer.”<sup>16</sup> The LORD himself<sup>Ⓜ</sup> has scattered them; he will regard them no more; no honor was shown to the priests, no favor to the elders.<sup>17</sup> Our eyes failed, ever watching vainly for help; in our watching we watched for a nation which could not save.<sup>18</sup> They dogged our steps so that we could not walk in our streets; our end drew near; our days were numbered, for our end had come.<sup>19</sup> Our pursuers were swifter than the eagles in the heavens; they chased us on the mountains; they lay in wait for us in the wilderness.<sup>20</sup> The breath of our nostrils, the LORD's

anointed, was captured in their pits, of whom we said, “Under his shadow we shall live among the nations.”<sup>21</sup> Rejoice and be glad, O daughter of Edom, you who dwell in the land of Uz; but to you also the cup shall pass; you shall become drunk and strip yourself bare.<sup>22</sup> The punishment of your iniquity, O daughter of Zion, is accomplished; he will keep you in exile no longer; but your iniquity, O daughter of Edom, he will punish; he will uncover your sins.

**Sermon**

**A Grief Shared  
“Hope in a Hopeless World”**

**Rev. David Stewart**

**I. A Shattered Kingdom**

**II. A Failed Leadership**

**III. A Full Cup**

**Celebrating the Lord’s Supper**

**Hymn of Response:**

**“All the Way My Savior Leads Me”**

**#605**

All the way my Savior leads me; what have I to ask beside?  
Can I doubt his tender mercy, who through life has been my guide?  
Heav'nly peace, divinest comfort, here by faith in him to dwell;  
for I know, whate'er befall me, Jesus doeth all things well;  
for I know, whate'er befall me, Jesus doeth all things well.

All the way my Savior leads me, cheers each winding path I tread,  
gives me grace for every trial, feeds me with the living bread.  
Though my weary steps may falter, and my soul a thirst may be,  
gushing from the rock before me, lo, a spring of joy I see,  
gushing from the rock before me, lo, a spring of joy I see!

All the way my Savior leads me – O the fullness of his love!  
Perfect rest to me is promised in my Father's house above;  
when my spirit, clothed, immortal, wings its flight to realms of day,  
this my song through endless ages; Jesus led me all the way;  
this my song through endless ages; Jesus led me all the way!

**\*Benediction**

**Numbers 5: 24-26**

“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.”

**\*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](http://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](http://psbanquet.org).

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

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

08/29//21 Offering	\$ 1,967.00
YTD Offering	\$163,279.90
YTD Budget	\$109,025.00
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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