

THE LORD'S DAY Sunday, November 14, 2021

Prelude Margaret Bradly, Organ

*Call to Worship Psalm 62: 1-2

"For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation. He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken."

*Hymn of Praise:

"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

#164

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise; the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace.

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim; to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.

Jesus, the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease; 'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.

He breaks the pow'r of reigning sin, he sets the pris'ner free; his blood can made the foulest clean, his blood availed for me.

He speaks and list'ning to his voice new life the dead receive; the mournful, broken hearts rejoice; the humble poor believe.

Hear him ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb, your loosen'd tongues employ; ye blind behold your Savior come; and leap, ye lame, for joy.

*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 79: 8-9

"Do not remember against us our former iniquities; let your compassion come speedily to meet us, for we are brought very low. Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name; deliver us, and atone for our sins, for your name's sake!"

Prayer of Confession:

Almighty and most merciful Father, we are thankful that your mercy is higher than the heavens, wider than our wanderings, deeper than all our sin. Forgive our careless attitudes toward your purposes, our refusal to relieve the suffering of others, our envy of those who have more than we have, our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure, our indifference to the treasures of heaven, our neglect of your wise and gracious law. Help us to change our way of life so that we may desire what is good, love what you love, and do what you command, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon Psalm 103: 10-12

"He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him."

Hymn of Preparation:

"Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee"

#645

Jesus the very thought of thee with sweetness fills my breast but sweeter far thy face to see, and in thy presence rest.

Nor voice can sing, nor heart can frame, nor can the memory find, a sweeter sound than thy blest name, O Savior of mankind.

O Hope of every contrite heart, O Joy of all the meek, to those who fall, how kind thou art! How good to those who seek!

But what to those who find? Ah, this nor tongue nor pen can show; the love of Jesus, what it is none but his loved ones know.

Jesus, our only joy be thou, as thou our prize wilt be, Jesus, be thou our glory now, and through eternity.

Extending Christ's Grace - RUF at FGCU

Rev. Lucas Tanner

Scripture Reading

Hebrews 10: 19 – 11:1

¹⁹ Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. ²⁶ For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries. ²⁸ Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses. ²⁹ How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace? ³⁰ For we know him who said, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay." And again, "The Lord will judge his people." 31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. ³² But recall the former days when, after you were enlightened, you endured a hard struggle with sufferings, 33 sometimes being publicly exposed to reproach and affliction, and sometimes being partners with those so treated. ³⁴ For you had compassion on those in prison, and you joyfully accepted the plundering of your property, since you knew that you yourselves had a better possession and an abiding one. ³⁵ Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. ³⁶ For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised. ³⁷ For, "Yet a little while, and the coming one will come and will not delay; 38 but my righteous one shall live by faith, and if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him." 39 But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and preserve their souls.

11 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Pastoral Prayer Mr. Bob Rhodes

Scripture Reading Luke 18: 1-8

18 And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. ²He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. ³ And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' ⁴ For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming." ⁶ And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. ⁷ And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? ⁸ I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?

Sermon

Holding on to Hope

Rev. Lucas Tanner

Notes:

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain: On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace; in every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. **Refrain**

His oath, his covenant, his blood, support me in the whelming flood; when all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. **Refrain**

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found; dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne. **Refrain**

*Three-fold Amen.

*Indicates congregation will stand, if able

Benediction: Ephesians 3: 20 - 21

"Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome Rev. Lucas Tanner this morning. Lucas was born and raised in Naples, Florida. He met his wife Bobbilee while studying business at the University of Florida. They got married in November 2004 and have three children: Isaac, Sadie, and Molly. Lucas earned a Master of Divinity from Knox Theological Seminary and has been a minister to students for 18 years. He is currently the RUF minister at Florida Gulf Coast University in Fort Myers, FL

On December 5, 2021, we will be celebrating the Advent with an evening fellowship and dinner at 5:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet is available in the narthex. Please sign up by November 21^{st} if you plan on attending. You are invited to be a part of the program with a Christmas hymn or song you would like to share as an individual, duet, or group, singing or playing an instrument or would like to read a passage of Scripture, please sign up on the sheets provided in the narthex. We would particularly love to see children and young people participate. The choir will be meeting on Mondays, November 8, 15, 22, and 29 from 6:30-7:30.

Small Group Studies are coming!

One, led by Robert Rhodes is meeting on Thursday afternoons at 2:00 p.m. at Ann Eyster's home. Two more, one at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday evening studying the Westminster Confession Faith will meet at the church, beginning November 3, 2021, and the other at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday evenings at the Mitchell's, will begin November 4, 2021.

Samaritan's Purse, Operation Christmas Child

If you are interested in participating in Operation Christmas Child this year, we would like to encourage you to use their on-line opportunity to select and pay for a box in the amount of \$25.00. website: samaritanspurse.org/occ

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

11/07/21 Offering	\$	8,802.00
YTD Offering	\$ 20	3,069.40
YTD Budget	\$ 14	0,175.00
Benevolence	\$	114.00
Building Fund	\$	130.00

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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