



grace

presbyterian

church

THE LORD'S DAY

Sunday, December 19, 2021

Prelude

Margaret Bradly, Organ

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 99: 1-3

“The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake! The LORD is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples. Let them praise your great and awesome name! Holy is he!”

***Hymn of Praise:**

“Good Christian Men, Rejoice”

#207

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
earth and heav'n before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door, and man is blessed evermore,
Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this!

Good Christian men rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

***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 32: 1-2

“Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit..”

Prayer of Confession:

Holy Father, you see us as we are, and know our inmost thoughts. We confess that we are unworthy of your gracious care. We forget that all life comes from you and that to you all life returns. We have not sought to do your will with our whole hearts. We have not lived as grateful children, nor loved as Christ loved us. Apart from you, we are nothing. Only your grace can sustain us. Lord, in your mercy, forgive us, heal us, and make us whole. Set us free from our sin and restore us to the joy of your salvation now and forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 32:5

“I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the LORD’, and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.”

Hymn of Preparation:

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

#216

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing Christ, the babe, is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all, Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Flocks were sleeping: shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you. Christ the babe was born for you.

Scripture Reading

Leviticus 19: 1-18

19 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them, You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy. ³Every one of you shall revere his mother and his father, and you shall keep my Sabbaths: I am the LORD your God. ⁴Do not turn to idols or make for yourselves any gods of cast metal: I am the LORD your God.⁵“When you offer a sacrifice of peace offerings to the LORD, you shall offer it so that you may be accepted. ⁶It shall be eaten the same day you offer it or on the day after, and anything left over until the third day shall be burned up with fire. ⁷If it is eaten at all on the third day, it is tainted; it will not be accepted, ⁸and everyone who eats it shall bear his iniquity, because he has profaned what is holy to the LORD, and that person shall be cut off from his people.⁹“When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, neither shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. ¹⁰And you shall not strip your vineyard bare, neither shall you gather

the fallen grapes of your vineyard. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the LORD your God. ¹¹“You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; you shall not lie to one another. ¹²You shall not swear by my name falsely, and so profane the name of your God: I am the LORD. ¹³“You shall not oppress your neighbor or rob him. The wages of a hired worker shall not remain with you all night until the morning. ¹⁴You shall not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind, but you shall fear your God: I am the LORD. ¹⁵“You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor. ¹⁶You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the LORD. ¹⁷“You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. ¹⁸You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.

Pastoral Prayer

Mr. Andy Mitchell

Scripture Reading

1 Timothy 5: 17-6:2

¹⁷Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching. ¹⁸For the Scripture says, “You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain,” and, “The laborer deserves his wages.” ¹⁹Do not admit a charge against an elder except on the evidence of two or three witnesses. ²⁰As for those who persist in sin, rebuke them in the presence of all, so that the rest may stand in fear. ²¹In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of the elect angels I charge you to keep these rules without prejudging, doing nothing from partiality. ²²Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, nor take part in the sins of others; keep yourself pure. ²³(No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments.) ²⁴The sins of some people are conspicuous, going before them to judgment, but the sins of others appear later. ²⁵So also good works are conspicuous, and even those that are not cannot remain hidden. **6** Let all who are under a yoke as bondservants regard their own masters as worthy of all honor, so that the name of God and the teaching may not be reviled. ²Those who have believing masters must not be disrespectful on the ground that they are brothers; rather they must serve all the better since those who benefit by their good service are believers and beloved.

Sermon

**Honor Where It Is Due
Being the Church**

Rev. David Stewart

I. Caring for Elders

II. Shepherding Shepherds

III. What About Slavery?

Hymn of Response:

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!”

#198

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Behold the King of glory waits;
The King of kings is drawing near, the Savior of the world is here.

A helper just he comes to thee, his chariot is humility.
His Kingly crown is holiness, his scepter, pity in distress.

O blest the land, the city blest, where Christ the Ruler is confessed!
O happy hearts and happy homes to whom this King in triumph comes!

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart
From earthly use for heav'n's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to thee; here Lord, abide!
Let me thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in me reveal.

So come, my Sovereign, enter in! Let new and nobler life begin!
Thy Holy Spirit, guide us on, until the glorious crown be won.

Benediction:

Romans 16: 25-27

“Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith – to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ!”

***Three-fold Amen.**

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

We will have our annual meeting of the congregation on Sunday, January 16, 2022, immediately following the worship service. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect corporate officers and to review the approved 2022 budget.

If you would like your donation to be recorded for 2021, please make sure that it is postmarked by December 31, 2021.

New Year's Eve celebration, 5:00 p.m., at the Julius's backyard, 9795 S. W. Riverview Circle, Lake Suzy, FL 34269. Hot dogs roasted for you, please bring a chair and side dish to share. Feel free to bring any fireworks. RSVP 270-314-8614

Please plan to join us on January 15, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. behind the church, for a hot dog and smores cookout. Please bring your own lawn chairs. We will provide fire and utensils for cooking. A sign-up sheet will be available in the narthex beginning January 2, 2022.

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

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

12/19//21 Offering	\$ 11,340.00
YTD Offering	\$228,619.40
YTD Budget	\$158,865.00
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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