



THE LORD'S DAY

Sunday, January 1, 2023

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Margaret Bradly, Organ

*Call to Worship

Psalm 29:1-2

“Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.”

*Hymn of Adoration: “Angels from the Realms of Glory”

#218

Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o’er all the earth;
ye who sang creation’s story, now proclaim Messiah’s birth;

Refrain: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the new-born King.

Shepherds in the fields abiding, watching o’er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing, yonder shines the infant Light; **Refrain**

Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations; ye have seen his natal star; **Refrain**

Saints before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear; **Refrain**

All creation join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son;
Evermore your voices raising to th’eternal 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 Repentance:

Isaiah 53:4-5

“Surely, he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed.”

Prayer of Confession:

Father in heaven, we come before you to confess our many sins. We confess that we have turned the page in our calendar, but still have not fully turned our hearts to you. We confess that we too often seek fulfillment in human potential rather than in the peace, instruction, and new life you offer us. We confess that we would rather chart our own course than submit to your loving design. Gracious God, help us to remember that true life is found only in the Lord Jesus Christ. Give us courage to follow the radical path of Jesus in this New Year. Let us be lights that reflect your love and truth to our friends and neighbors, so that they may know that the power of sin has been broken by this one who came, Immanuel, God with us. Let this be the year we seek your glory in all that we do. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Isaiah 53:6

“All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned – every one – to his own way; and the LORD laid on him the iniquity of us all.”

***Hymn of Preparation:**

“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”

#200

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch the harps of gold;
“Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heav’n’s all gracious King”;
the world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heav’nly music floats o’er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains, they bend on hov’ring wing,
and ever o’er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

And ye, beneath life’s crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
look now! For glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing;
O rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing.

For lo, the days are hast’ning on, by prophet bards foretold,
when with the ever-circling years comes round the age of gold;
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.

Scripture Reading

Genesis 12:1-9

12 Now the LORD said¹ to Abram, “Go from your country² and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” ⁴ So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵ And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, ⁶ Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak³ of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷ Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. ⁸ From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. ⁹ And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

Pastoral Prayer

Mr. Bob Rhodes

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:22-35

²² And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) ²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” ²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶ And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷ And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸ he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, ²⁹ “Lord, now you are letting your servant⁴ depart in peace, according to your word; ³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation ³¹ that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.” ³³ And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴ And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵ (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

I. Fulfilling the Law

II. A Man of Faith

III. Falling and Rising

#219

Once did the skies before thee bow; a virgin's arms contain thee now;
angels who did in thee rejoice now listen for thine infant voice.

A little child, thou art our guest, that weary ones in thee may rest;
forlorn and lowly is thy birth, that we may rise to heav'n from earth.

Thou comest in the darksome night to make us children of the light,
to make us, in the realms divine, like thine own angels round thee shine.

All this for us thy love hath done; by this to thee our love is won;
for this we turn our cheerful lays and shout our thanks in ceaseless praise.

2 Corinthians 13:14

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”

***Three-fold Amen.**

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

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

12/25/22 Offering	\$ 1,752,.00
YTD Offering	\$ 182,317.34
YTD Budget	\$ 182,624.00
Building Fund	\$ 20.00
Look After Offering	\$ 1,630.00

Announcements:

A cookout with hotdogs and smores will be held on Friday, January 20, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. A sign up is in the foyer if you plan on joining us.

We will have our annual Congregational meeting immediately following the worship service on January 15, 2023.

Bible Studies will begin after the first of the year

Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the church – David Greenwald (941-380-1987; theophilus777.0@gmail.com) *Westminster Confession of Faith*,

Thursdays, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the church – Bob Rhodes (863-303-4579 rgr31574@aol.com), *Judges*.

Choir practice will resume on Thursdays, January 12, 2023, from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Please feel free to join us if interested.

GRACE SUPPORTED MISSIONARIES/AGENCIES

Agape Flights – Venice, FL
Carter, Michael & Cathalain – MTW – Nagoya, Japan
Child Evangelism Fellowship – Charlotte County, FL
Dalfred, Karl & Sun – OMF International - Thailand
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
Pregnancy Solutions – Port Charlotte, FL
Stevens, Carla – MTW – Christian Educational Consultant
Tanner, Lucas – RUF – Florida Gulf Coast University
TWIG – Venice, FL
Young Life – Port Charlotte, FL

10548 SW County Road 769
Lake Suzy, FL 34269
(941) 743-7971

www.gracelakesuzy.org

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