

STAYING ON MESSAGE

THE GRACE OF SUPERNATURAL GENEROSITY

2 CORINTHIANS 8:1-4, 7-9; 9:6-11



TRINITY
Presbyterian Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP | Sunday, July 18, 2021

Listening devices are available for the hearing impaired.

Please speak with a greeter or visit the sound booth upstairs for a listening device.

SONG OF GATHERING & PREPARATION

The people of God always sang as they ascended the hill in Jerusalem up to the temple to worship (see Psalms 120-134). We, as well, prepare our hearts, minds, and bodies for worship by singing about the God we serve.

God With Us

CALL TO WORSHIP | Isaiah 58:6-7, 10-12 (ESV)

We read God's Word, the Bible, together. It reveals to us who God is and what He expects of us.

"Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? ... if you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday. And the LORD will guide you continually and satisfy your desire in scorched places and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail. And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to dwell in."

PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION

We pray together praising God for who He really is (Adoration) and admitting our inability to live up to what He expects of us (Confession).

ASSURANCE OF PARDON | John 1:14-16; John 3:16 (ESV)

We read God's Word together and are reminded that mercy and grace are freely given to all who have faith in Jesus Christ.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ... "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace for us in Jesus by giving generously to the work of His church and the kingdom of God.

Grace

PRAISE & CELEBRATION

Our response to God's free grace is celebratory worship. We express our praise to God for who He is and what He has done for us.

No Longer Slaves

Only A Holy God

CONFESSION OF FAITH

As an expression of our faith in Jesus Christ in solidarity with his people, we declare the substance of what we believe.

From the New City Catechism:

Q. 29. How can we be saved?

A. Only by faith in Jesus Christ and in his substitutionary atoning death on the cross; so even though we are guilty of having disobeyed God and are still inclined to all evil, nevertheless, God, without any merit of our own but only by pure grace, imputes to us the perfect righteousness of Christ when we repent and believe in him.

KIDS' WORSHIP & COMMUNITY KIDS DISMISSAL (Infants - 5th Grade)

Please see your child's check-in name tag for class assignment.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSION

We express in prayer our gratitude to God for what He has done and ask Him to continue to act for our good and the good of others in our community and world.

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD | Drew Bennett, Lead Pastor of Redeemer City Church

A small portion of God's Word is explained to us and applied to our lives and circumstances.

SONG OF RESPONSE

We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace by singing again of His goodness and greatness.

Living Hope

BENEDICTION

Because the hand of God's wrath was raised against Jesus, we now receive the hand of God's blessing as we are sent out to live our lives to the glory of God.

May the LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the LORD turn His face toward you and give you His peace,
both now and forevermore. Amen.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE & SERMON OUTLINE

Proclamation of God's Word

Text: 2 Corinthians 8:1-4, 7-9; 9:6-11 (ESV)

Title: Staying On Message: The Grace of Radical Generosity

Teacher: Drew Bennett

¹ We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, ² for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. ³ For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, ⁴ begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints— ... ⁷ But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you—see that you excel in this act of grace also. ⁸ I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. ⁹ For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich. ... ⁶ The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷ Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. ⁹ As it is written, “He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.” ¹⁰ He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹ You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

Intro: The secret sauce of early Christianity was its eccentricity.

GRACE ABOUNDING TO US

From God's fullness we receive grace upon grace.

GRACE ABOUNDING *IN* US

From our fullness, grace overflows to others.

GRACE ABOUNDING *FROM* US

Generosity is the hallmark of Christians.

YOU CAN PRAY WITH US ...

1. Worship the LORD, God Almighty, for His love. Praise Him for the grace upon grace that you experience daily. Take a moment to rehearse as many instances as you can of goodness and mercy from this past week.
2. How have you lived in pride or fear? Confess how your unbelief has kept you from the kind of sacrificial generosity God invites us all into, asking Him to forgive you and to change you.
3. Give thanks to Jesus, who for your sake became poor to make you rich. Thank Him for being trustworthy and gracious to leave all He had in heaven to come to suffer to bring rebels like us into His home and family!
4. Who do you know that is in need of physical assistance – food, clothing, housing, etc? Ask the Lord what He would have you do to help meet their practical needs.
5. Ask the Holy Spirit to bear in you His fruit of sacrificial generosity. Pray for strength and motivation to encourage your fellow believers in love and good deeds as He has come alongside you.

