



# GRACE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)*

## Who is this? A study in Mark

Our church exists to help people **know** God's Son, **fellowship** with God's people, **worship** in God's church, **grow** in God's grace and **serve** in God's world.

# The Lord's Day | July 30, 2023

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### Welcome

*Please silence your electronic device before the worship service begins.*

### Preparation for Worship

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples! Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works! Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

Psalm 105:1-3

### Call to Worship

Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually! Remember the wondrous works that he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered, O offspring of Abraham, his servant, children of Jacob, his chosen ones!

Psalm 105:4-6

### Invocation

***+I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord***

### Pastoral Prayer Followed by Lord's Prayer

**All: Our Father, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come; your 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

***+As It Is in heaven***

***+King of Kings***

*(Children 4-8yrs. go downstairs for Children's Church)*

## **+Scripture Reading**

<sup>21</sup> And he said to them, "Is a lamp brought in to be put under a basket, or under a bed, and not on a stand? <sup>22</sup> For nothing is hidden except to be made manifest; nor is anything secret except to come to light. <sup>23</sup> If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear." <sup>24</sup> And he said to them, "Pay attention to what you hear: with the measure you use, it will be measured to you, and still more will be added to you. <sup>25</sup> For to the one who has, more will be given, and from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away."

<sup>26</sup> And he said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. <sup>27</sup> He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. <sup>28</sup> The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. <sup>29</sup> But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."

<sup>30</sup> And he said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? <sup>31</sup> It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, <sup>32</sup> yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." <sup>33</sup> With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. <sup>34</sup> He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything. Mark 4:21-34

**Sermon** Rev. Patrick Allen

## **Silent Confession**

### **Corporate Confession**

**We confess to you, Lord, what we are: we are not the people we like others to think we are; we are afraid to admit even to ourselves what lies in the depths of our souls. But we do not want to hide our true selves from you. We believe that you know us as we are and yet you still love us. Help us not to shrink from self-knowledge; teach us to respect ourselves for your sake; give us the courage to trust your guidance. Raise us out of the paralysis of guilt and fear and take us into the freedom and energy of forgiven people. And for those of us who through long habit find forgiveness hard to accept, we ask that you would break our bondage and set us free. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

### **Declaration of Pardon**

I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins. Isaiah 43:25

## **+Hear the Call of the Kingdom**

**+Benediction**

The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

Psalm 121:5-8

**+Dismissal:**

Pastor: Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

*+If able, please stand*

## Announcements

We welcome Rev. Patrick Allen to the pulpit today. Patrick is husband to Becky, and father to three girls, Rylie, Molly and Emily. In his free time he enjoys coaching soccer, hiking and playing board games with his kids. Patrick is originally from Atlanta, and came to Baltimore via Covenant Seminary in St. Louis.

We hope you can stop in for a new monthly social event: **Grace Game Night!!** Tyson Janney will be hosting regular board game nights on the First Saturday of every month at 7pm. Youth and adults are encouraged to come try it out! We have games of many lengths and levels of difficulty, so whether you haven't played any games besides "Monopoly" or whether you're a die-hard enthusiast, we hope to see you there!

**Men's Discipleship Meeting:** The next meeting is this Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 7 am at the church.

**Children's Sunday School:** Sunday School is working through *The Biggest Story* curriculum. *The Biggest Story Curriculum* incorporates a host of integrated print and digital components to teach children key Bible stories from Genesis to Revelation. We'll work through 104 Old and New Testament Scripture lessons which are geared to kindergarten through fifth grade, teaching material that will help children understand God's plan to redeem the world through his Son, Jesus.

**Adult Sunday School:** We are discussing the passages on which the Children's Sunday School is based. All are welcome to these lively, informative sessions.

**South West Emergency Services current wish list:** Cereal, canned vegetables, soup, Ramen Noodles, pasta, peanut butter and jelly.

**Nursery/Children's Church Rotation**

TODAY: Janet, Kathy

## **Ministry Schedule**

*(Changes to the schedule will be in the Announcements)*

### **SUNDAY**

**Sunday School:** 8:50 – 9:45 AM

**Adults** in Trailer

**Children 4-12 yrs.** in main classroom in the church

**Fellowship Time** between Sunday School and Service

**Worship Service:** 10 AM

**Nursery** (infant -3yrs.) in Toddler Room during service (2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Sunday)

**Children's Church** (4-8 yrs.) before Pastoral Prayer in Toddler Room  
(2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Sunday)

### **MONDAY**

**Women's Discipleship Group:** 7 PM

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the Month

Meets in person and on Zoom

Contact Diane Darchicourt

### **WEDNESDAY**

**Conversational English Classes:** 9:30 -11:30 AM

Meets weekly during the school year

Contact Janet Pryor

**Zoom Praying Meeting:** 7:30-8:30 PM

Meets weekly

Contact Jim Darchicourt

### **SATURDAY**

**Men's Discipleship Group:** 7 AM

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month at the church

Contact John Daniello

Thank you for worshipping with us!

If you would like to have your name added to our communication list for announcements and events, please scan the code.



Thank you for your generous giving to help us support the mission and vision of Grace Relay. You can make a one-time gift or set up regular giving. Visit [grpca.org](http://grpca.org) or scan the code.



### **Church Leadership**

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