



GRACE

CHURCH

*In the presence of greatness:
A study in Isaiah*

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 | October 22, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome

Please silence your electronic device before the worship service begins.

Preparation for Worship

Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

Isaiah 55:3

Call to Worship

"Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

Isaiah 55:1-2

Invocation

Doxology

Doxology means "glory words." We lift our hearts up to give God his glory for all he has done.

+*Across the Lands*

Story of Rescue: Maria Garriott

Pastoral Prayer followed by the Lord's Prayer

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.

+*Living Waters*

+*Come, Ye Sinners*

Children's Moment

Children dismissed for Children's Church

+Scripture Reading

"Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know, and a nation that did not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, and of the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. ⁶"Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; ⁷let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

¹⁰"For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹²"For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the LORD, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

Isaiah 55

Sermon Rev. Doug Serven

Silent Confession

Corporate Confession

Almighty God, forgive the sins we remember. Forgive the sins we forget. Refresh us with your overwhelming love and grace for us, we pray in the name of Christ, who with the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns with you, one God. Amen

Declaration of Pardon

Whoever conceals their transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.

Proverbs 28:13

Pastor: Your sins are forgiven. Your dignity is restored. Your shame is taken away—all by the life and sacrifice of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. At the time of the banquet, he sent his servant to say to all those who were invited, "Friends, your spot at the table is set. He has made a place for you."

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*universal

Invitation to the Table

The Lord's Supper

This is a sign and symbol for those who believe in Jesus Christ. It's not for good people. It's for you if you believe and embrace that you are worse and more messed up than you ever dare to admit; and yet you are more loved and accepted than you had ever dared to hope - because of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus for you. You will be invited to come forward. The dark liquid is wine and the light liquid is grape juice. We have gluten free crackers on the table if you need them instead of the bread. After you are finished, please place your empty cup in one of the baskets at the front. Feel free to stay and pray with the pastor or elders.

Children are welcome to come with their parents. Each child should talk with a pastor or elder about his or her belief in Christ before taking the Lord's Supper for the first time. Please make an appointment to do this at a future date.

Pastor: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us lift up our hearts to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Pastor: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.

+You Are My All in All

Announcements

+Benediction

God sends us out with his blessing. A benediction is not a prayer. We don't bow our heads. We lift them up and even lift up our hands, in a spiritually ready position so that the blessing God is giving us will fully hit our whole selves, and we'll be sent out for mission.

May the LORD bless you and keep you; may the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious toward you; may the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Amen.

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*

Prayers During the Lord's Supper:

Prayer for Those Searching for the Truth: Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way the truth and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads me to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief: Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Struggling Against Sin: Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my needs, and may I turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely to me and run with perseverance the race you have set before me, looking only to you, the pioneer and champion of my faith. Amen.

Prayer of Commitment: Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship through membership in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

Announcements

Nursery/Children's Church Rotation

Today: Kathy, Janice 10.29: Renata, Diane

Events:

December 3 - **Living Nativity 4-7 PM**

December 17 - **Christmas Party** - Manor Hill Tavern in Old Ellicott City

December 24 - **Christmas Eve Service**

Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY

Sunday School: 8:50 – 9:45 AM **Adults** in Trailer **Children 4-12** in classroom in the church.

Worship Service: 10 AM

Nursery (infant -3yrs.) in Toddler Room during service (2nd-5th Sunday)

Children's Church (infant-8 yrs., 2nd-5th Sunday)

MONDAY

Women's Discipleship Group: 7 PM, 2nd Monday of the Month, in person and on Zoom.

WEDNESDAY

Conversational English Classes: 9:30 -11:30 AM during the school year.

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

SATURDAY

Men's Discipleship Group: 7 AM, 1st Saturday of each month at the church.

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 Church. You can make a one-time gift or set up regular giving. Visit grpca.org or scan the code.



Church Leadership

Rev. Doug Serven, Pastor - servenator@gmail.com

Jim Darchicourt, Elder - clerk@grpca.org

Mark Woodland, Elder - woodlands642@outlook.com

John Daniello, Elder - jedaniello@gmail.com

Tyson Janney - Deacon - tcjanney@gmail.com

Bethany Haywood, Music Director - bethanyh27@aol.com

Joan Nelson, Administrative Assistant - churchoffice@grpca.org

Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church
1602 Linden Lane Relay MD 21227
(410) 247-4088

