



ASHES
God Hears Our Lament
*A Congregation
of Sojourners*



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 | February 18, 2024

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome

Please silence your electronic device before the worship service begins.

Preparation for Worship

Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you." As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight. The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names on my lips. The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.

Call to Worship

The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance. I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. I have set the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure. For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption. You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.
Psalm 16

Invocation

Doxology

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

+ Come, Thou Fount

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.

+ Arise, My Soul, Arise

+Just As I Am

Children's Moment

Children ages 4-8yrs. are dismissed for Children's Church

+Scripture Reading

How lonely sits the city that was full of people! How like a widow has she become, she who was great among the nations! She who was a princess among the provinces has become a slave.

²She weeps bitterly in the night, with tears on her cheeks; among all her lovers she has none to comfort her; all her friends have dealt treacherously with her; they have become her enemies.

¹²Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow, which was brought upon me, which the LORD inflicted on the day of his fierce anger. ¹³From on high he sent fire; into my bones he made it descend; he spread a net for my feet; he turned me back; he has left me stunned, faint all the day long. ¹⁴My transgressions were bound into a yoke; by his hand they were fastened together; they were set upon my neck; he caused my strength to fail; the Lord gave me into the hands of those whom I cannot withstand. ¹⁵The Lord rejected all my mighty men in my midst; he summoned an assembly against me to crush my young men; the Lord has trodden as in a winepress the virgin daughter of Judah. ¹⁶For these things I weep; my eyes flow with tears; for a comforter is far from me, one to revive my spirit; my children are desolate, for the enemy has prevailed."

²⁰"Look, O LORD, for I am in distress; my stomach churns; my heart is wrung within me, because I have been very rebellious. In the street the sword bereaves; in the house it is like death. ²¹"They heard my groaning, yet there is no one to comfort me. All my enemies have heard of my trouble; they are glad that you have done it. You have brought the day you announced; now let them be as I am. ²²"Let all their evildoing come before you, and deal with them as you have dealt with me because of all my transgressions; for my groans are many, and my heart is faint."

Lamentations 1:1,2, 12-16, 20-22

Sermon Rev. Doug Serven

Silent Confession

Corporate Confession

We need your healing, merciful God. Give us true repentance. Some sins are plain to us, some escape us, some we cannot face. Forgive us. Set us free to hear Your Word to us. Set us free to serve You.

Declaration of Pardon

Whoever conceals his 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.

+Mercy

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.

Numbers 6:24-26

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

SWES is in particular need of peanut butter and jelly, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, tuna fish, macaroni and cheese, soups, Ramen Noodles.

Nursery/Children's Church Rotation

Today: Renata, Kathy Next Week: Diane, Janice

Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY

Sunday School: 8:50 – 9:45 AM **Adults and Teens** in Trailer **Children 4-9** 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)

Grace's Glorious Girls (girls in grades 6-12) every other Sunday 5-7 PM.

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.

Samson Society Meeting: 7 PM

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

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