



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 | March 10, 2024

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome

Please silence your electronic device before the worship service begins.

Preparation for Worship

I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up and have not let my foes rejoice over me. O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.

Call to Worship

O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol; you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit. Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name. For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

Psalm 30:1-5

Invocation

Doxology

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

+All Praise to Him

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.

+Stronger

+I Will Wait for You

Children's Moment

Children aged 4-8 are dismissed for Children's Church

+Scripture Reading

¹How the gold has grown dim, how the pure gold is changed! The holy stones lie scattered at the head of every street. ²The precious sons of Zion, worth their weight in fine gold, how they are regarded as earthen pots, the work of a potter's hands!

³Even jackals offer the breast; they nurse their young, but the daughter of my people has become cruel, like the ostriches in the wilderness.

⁴The tongue of the nursing infant sticks to the roof of its mouth for thirst; the children beg for food, but no one gives to them.

⁵Those who once feasted on delicacies perish in the streets; those who were brought up in purple embrace ash heaps.

⁶For the chastisement of the daughter of my people has been greater than the punishment of Sodom, which was overthrown in a moment, and no hands were wrung for her.

⁹Happier were the victims of the sword than the victims of hunger, who wasted away, pierced by lack of the fruits of the field.

¹⁰The hands of compassionate women have boiled their own children; they became their food during the destruction of the daughter of my people.

¹¹The LORD gave full vent to his wrath; he poured out his hot anger, and he kindled a fire in Zion that consumed its foundations.

¹⁵"Away! Unclean!" people cried at them. "Away! Away! Do not touch!" So they became fugitives and wanderers; people said among the nations, "They shall stay with us no longer."

¹⁶The LORD himself has scattered them; he will regard them no more; no honor was shown to the priests, no favor to the elders.

¹⁷Our eyes failed, ever watching vainly for help; in our watching we watched for a nation which could not save.

¹⁸They dogged our steps so that we could not walk in our streets; our end drew near; our days were numbered, for our end had come. Our pursuers were swifter than the eagles in the heavens; they chased us on the mountains; they lay in wait for us in the wilderness.

²⁰The breath of our nostrils, the LORD's anointed, was captured in their pits, of whom we said, "Under his shadow we shall live among the nations."

²¹ and be glad, O daughter of Edom, you who dwell in the land of Uz; but to you also the cup shall pass; you shall become drunk and strip yourself bare.

²²The punishment of your iniquity, O daughter of Zion, is accomplished; he will keep you in exile no longer; but your iniquity, O daughter of Edom, he will punish; he will uncover your sins.

Lamentations 4

Sermon Rev. Doug Serven

Silent Confession

Corporate Confession

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Righteousness will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

Romans 4:24-25

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.

+Lord, I Need You

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

Women's Discipleship Group meets tomorrow evening, 7pm, at the home of Janet Ruehl.

VBS, The Great Jungle Journey, is coming! Mark your calendars for June 24 - 28. Many volunteers are needed! See Bonnie if you can help. Start inviting your neighbors ages 4 through finishing fifth grade.

Adult Sunday school meets in the left trailer from 9:00 to 9:45. Each week we preview the scripture passage that will be covered in the sermon. Come join us to help prepare your heart to worship.

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: Tyson, Sharon Next week: Renata, Jenn

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)

Community Group: 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month.

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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