



GRACE COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship February 7, 2021 10:00am
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Scout Sunday

Gathering

SONG TO GATHER “Grace Flows Down” Bell, Giglio, Pagett

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT “Reflections on ‘For the Beauty of the Earth’” arr. Sandra Eithun
 Charter Ringers II
 Linda Bruns, Kathy Bures, Katie Hearn,
 Cheryl Johnson, & Cal Sweeten
 Celia Nicholas, director – Chris Krug, accompanist

CALL TO WORSHIP (*video*)

We come to you, O God, to thank you for what is good.
We come to you, O God, to cry out for what is wrong.
We come to you, O God, to ask for help and restoration.
We come to you, O God, with aching hearts and glad souls.
Let us worship God.

SONGS TO PRAISE “Your Grace is Enough” Tomlin
 “Here’s My Heart” Tomlin, Ingram, Giglio

A TIME WITH STEWART

PRAYER OF SERVICE

Compassionate God, thank you for letting us work with you to share your joy with the world. Help us not take for granted the gift it is to share your good news with the nations, and with our neighbors. Help us have eyes to see the needs around us and to respond to those needs in joy and hope. May Jesus' life of love and service be our guide to love and serve the under-privileged, the abandoned and the needy amongst us. Thank you so much, merciful God, for your love and care over us. In Jesus' name we pray: Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE & SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you and all others!

Equipping

GOSPEL LESSON The Gospel of Mark 1:29–39 (CEB)

After leaving the synagogue, Jesus, James, and John went home with Simon and Andrew. Simon's mother-in-law was in bed, sick with a fever, and they told Jesus about her at once. He went to her, took her by the hand, and raised her up. The fever left her, and she served them. That evening, at sunset, people brought to Jesus those who were sick or demon-possessed. The whole town gathered near the door. He healed many who were sick with all kinds of diseases, and he threw out many demons. But he didn't let the demons speak, because they recognized him. Early in the morning, well before sunrise, Jesus rose and went to a deserted place where he could be alone in prayer. Simon and those with him tracked him down. When they found him, they told him, "Everyone's looking for you!" He replied, "Let's head in the other direction, to the nearby villages, so that I can preach there too. That's why I've come." He traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and throwing out demons.

SONG TO REFLECT

"Scars"
(as sung by I Am They)

Praise Team

EPISTLE LESSON 1st Letter of Paul to the Corinthians 8:1-13 (CEB)

Now concerning meat that has been sacrificed to a false god: We know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge makes people arrogant, but love builds people up. If anyone thinks they know something, they don't yet know as much as they should know. ³ But if someone loves God, then they are known by God. So concerning the actual food involved

in these sacrifices to false gods, we know that a false god isn't anything in this world, and that there is no God except for the one God. Granted, there are so-called "gods," in heaven and on the earth, as there are many gods and many lords. However, for us believers,

There is one God the Father.

All things come from him, and we belong to him.

And there is one Lord Jesus Christ.

All things exist through him, and we live through him.

But not everybody knows this. Some are eating this food as though it really is food sacrificed to a real idol, because they were used to idol worship until now. Their conscience is weak because it has been damaged. Food won't bring us close to God. We're not missing out if we don't eat, and we don't have any advantage if we do eat. But watch out or else this freedom of yours might be a problem for those who are weak. Suppose someone sees you (the person who has knowledge) eating in an idol's temple. Won't the person with a weak conscience be encouraged to eat the meat sacrificed to false gods? The weak brother or sister for whom Christ died is destroyed by your knowledge. You sin against Christ if you sin against your brothers and sisters and hurt their weak consciences this way. This is why, if food causes the downfall of my brother or sister, I won't eat meat ever again, or else I may cause my brother or sister to fall.

SERMON

"Better a Door Than a Window"

Rev. Mitch Trigger

Sending

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

SONG TO PRAY

Praise Team

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Let us never give up praying for justice,
or the oppressed in this world will one day ask us 'Why?'**
**Let us never give up praying for fairness,
or the hungry of this world will one day ask us 'Why?'**
Let us never give up praying for healing,

**or the sick in this world will one day ask us ‘Why?’
Let us never give up praying, for to give up
is to deny our faith in a God who answers prayer.
We pray that your answer is to bless us with hope,
encourage us through Jesus’ teachings,
and empower us through your Spirit so that we may, in turn,
be a blessing to others. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving
Breaking of the Bread
Communion of the People
Prayer after Communion

SONG TO RESPOND

“Hear Our Praises”
verse 2 & chorus

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

**May the path that you walk be ever guided by justice and light
By the truth that you stand. May it show, into the land.
May the words of Christ disturb you all your life.
The road you’ve chosen is not easy – yet it is a road that we walk together!
We walk this road together, all of us, with God’s Spirit to guide us. Amen.**

SONG TO SEND

“Hear Our Praises”
bridge & chorus

GOD’S PEACE TO YOU

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