



Grace  Peace
Presbyterian Church

Love God, Love Others, Love the World
September 12th, 2021

Welcome to Grace & Peace! *We understand that coming to a church service can be a bit of a daunting and uncomfortable experience for many people. As Christians we believe that this time is an opportunity to engage with God and his people, and during our formal time of worship we employ a variety of means by which we seek to do just that. We invite you to participate in whatever way you feel comfortable. If you don't feel like praying, singing, or even standing up you don't need to, no one will think less of you. We realize that some of our practices may seem strange to you and at times it might even seem like we're speaking a different language. If you have any questions about why we do any of the things we do please don't hesitate to ask anyone who's involved with the service. We have a time for refreshments and conversation after the service and if you have any questions about the service or the message our pastor will be wandering around drinking coffee and would love to meet you. Thanks again for joining with us this morning. We hope you find the time to be both encouraging and thought provoking.*

The restrooms are located to the right of the main entrance.

Please turn your mobile devices off or to airplane mode.

Greeting & Time of Reflection:

"By virtue of faith in Christ, home is in heaven, and Christians therefore are just passing through this world as foreigners." – Karen H. Jobes, 1 Peter, 61.

"The conclusion is clear: in some sense, by virtue of becoming Christians, followers of Jesus have a relationship to the world such that they don't belong and are treated with hostility. In other words, a heightened experience of exile is a reality of authentic Christian discipleship. This is why becoming a Christian and growing in Christian maturity will likely make us feel more aware of our exile in the world even as we become more aware of belonging to God.

*"Baptism is thus an intensely political act. It is the spiritual equivalent of burning the flag of a nation along with our passport and identity papers and then embracing a new citizenship, under a new authority, and with an entirely new set of rights and responsibilities." – Paul S. Williams, *Exiles On Mission*, 38, 84.*

*"The modern philosopher had told me again and again that I was in the right place, and I had still felt depressed even in acquiescence. But I had heard that I was in the wrong place, and my soul sang for joy, like a bird in spring. The knowledge found out and illuminated forgotten chambers in the dark house of infancy. I knew now why grass had always seemed to me as queer as the green beard of a giant, and why I could feel homesick at home." – G. K. Chesterton, *Orthodoxy**

Call to Worship: Psalm 22:27-28¹

*27 All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before you.*

*28 For kingship belongs to the LORD,
and he rules over the nations.*

Opening Prayer

Songs of Praise & Adoration²:

Come People of the Risen King

Come, people of the Risen King,
Who delight to bring Him praise;
Come all and tune your hearts to sing
To the Morning Star of grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth
We will lift our eyes to Him,
Where steady arms of mercy reach
To gather children in.

Refrain:

Rejoice, Rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice; O Church of Christ,
rejoice!

Come, those whose joy is morning sun,
And those weeping through the night;
Come, those who tell of battles won,
And those struggling in the fight.
For His perfect love will never change,
And His mercies never cease,
But follow us through all our days
With the certain hope of peace.

(Refrain)

Come, young and old from every land -
Men and women of the faith;
Come, those with full or empty hands -
Find the riches of His grace.
Over all the world, His people sing -
Shore to shore we hear them call
The Truth that cries through every age:
“Our God is all in all”!

(Refrain)

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by Keith and Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend)*

¹ All passages of Scripture taken from the English Standard Version.

²Adoration: n.; the act of paying honor, as to a divine being; worship; reverent homage; fervent and devoted love.

Grace and Peace

Grace and peace, O how can this be,
For lawbreakers and thieves, for the
worthless, the least.

You have said, that our judgment is death;
For all eternity, without hope, without rest.

Chorus:

O, what an amazing mystery,
What an amazing mystery,
That your grace has come to me!

Grace and peace, O how can this be?
The matchless King of all paid the blood
price for me.

Slaughtered lamb, what atonement you
bring!
The vilest sinner's heart can be cleansed,
can be free.

(Chorus)

Grace and peace, O how can this be?
Let songs of gratefulness ever rise, never
cease.
Loved by God and called as a saint;
My heart is satisfied in the riches of Christ.

(Chorus)

O, what an amazing love I see,
What an amazing love I see,
That your grace has come to me! (3x)

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Joel Sczebel)*

Profession of Faith: *The Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 1³*

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own,
but belong – body and soul, in life and death –
to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ.

He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood,
and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.
He also watches over me in such a way
that not a hair can fall from my head
without the will of my Father in heaven:
in fact, all things must work for together for my salvation.

Because I belong to him,
Christ, by his Holy Spirit,
assures me of eternal life
and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready
from now on to live for him.

³ The Heidelberg Catechism is a 16th Century document used primarily in Reformed churches for instruction in the Christian faith.

Call to Repentance:

¹⁹ “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. – Matthew 6:19-21

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. – Romans 12:1-2

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Silent Reflection, Meditation & Confession of Sin

Assurance of Grace: Romans 5:6-11

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— ⁸ but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. ¹¹ More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Song of Response: *Come And Make Us Free*

I'm a doubter of your grace,
And my heart won't cease
Seeking love in every place,
But your perfect arms of peace.
Though, I see that all my longings
Find their journey's end in you,
Oft they wander in the byways,
Cheaply lured by every hue.

I'm a slave to lowly thoughts
That I cannot shake:
Lust of eyes and pride of life,
Hardened heart that ne'er will break.
Though, I hear that you alone can
Make this stone a heart of flesh,
Oft in bitterness I linger,
Choosing chains, not freedom's rest.

Chorus:

All our hearts long for, we find in you, O Lord.
Help us want you more than idols we adore.
Give us eyes to see your matchless beauty.
Shatter unbelief: come and make us free.

I'm addicted to the lie
That my thirsty soul
Can be quenched by earth's supply,
Vainly seized by my control.
Though, I know that you alone have
Living water's richest store,
Oft you find me savoring droplets
Out of cisterns cracked and poor.

(Chorus 2x)

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Children's Dismissal & Announcements

Congregational Prayer:

During this time people are encouraged to pray out loud for the things on their hearts and minds. This is a time to give thanks for various things God has provided and to ask for his care and help in areas of need or concern.

Each person can conclude their prayer with the following words and the people will give the response:

Speaker: ... in your mercy

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Father, your word tells us that the Gospel is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.⁴ We pray now for our friends and family, our community and the world at large; that you would demonstrate your power by bringing people to faith in Jesus Christ and granting them salvation.⁵ Also, give us wisdom and grace to speak for Christ with gentleness and respect as we share the hope we have in him.⁶

⁴ Romans 1:16

⁵ Ephesians 2:4-10

⁶ 1 Peter 3:15

At this time we observe a time of silent prayer for those in need of the Gospel.

Message: *The Double Exile*

*¹⁷ And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,
– Ephesians 2:17-19*

*²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. –
Philippians 3:20*

¹³ He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. – Colossians 1:13-14

¹ Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

To those who are elect exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, ² according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood:

May grace and peace be multiplied to you. – 1 Peter 1:1-2

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Notes, Thoughts, Questions: _____

**Celebration of the Lord's Supper:
Prayer & Words of Institution**

Song of Celebration: *Jesus, What a Friend for Sinners*

Jesus! what a friend for sinners!

Jesus! Lover of my soul;

Friends may fail me, foes assail me,

He, my Savior, makes me whole.

Chorus:

Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Hallelujah! What a Friend!

Saving, helping, keeping, loving,

He is with me to the end.

Jesus! what a strength in weakness!

Let me hide myself in him.

Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing,

He, my strength, my victory wins.

(Chorus)

Jesus! what a help in sorrow!

While the billows o'er me roll,

Even when my heart is breaking,

He, my comfort, helps my soul.

(Chorus)

Jesus! I do now receive him,

More than all in him I find;

He has granted me forgiveness,

I am his and he is mine.

(Chorus)

Should I participate? We celebrate Communion (also called the Lord's Supper, the Lord's Table, or the Eucharist) each week. We welcome all baptized Christians—those who are trusting in Jesus Christ for salvation and who are members of congregations that proclaim the gospel—to receive Communion with us. If this does not currently describe you, we invite you to participate in spirit but not body by taking this time to consider the things you have seen and heard in worship, including God's love for sinners as portrayed in this meal. You may either remain in your seat to meditate on these things or come forward and hold out your hands to indicate that you would like to receive a blessing instead of the bread and wine. If you have any questions about whether you should participate in the Lord's Supper please talk with our Pastor or one of our elders.

Wine & Bread: At Grace & Peace we use normal bread and wine in our celebration of the Lord's Supper. We also use a common loaf and a common cup in our celebration. For those who have gluten intolerance there is gluten free bread available in the small bowl. For those who cannot take the wine due to issues of health or conscience juice is available in the individual glasses.

Silent Prayers for use during the distribution of the Lord's Supper

Prayer of uncertainty

God, I don't even know if you exist or if I'm just talking to myself. If you are real please help me to come to know you. Open my heart and my mind to consider the truth claims of Jesus who is called the Christ. Help me to see both my need for you and how Jesus is the provision for that need. Give me the answers I need and dissolve any dishonest objections that I hold to your existence.

Prayer for those searching for truth

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

Prayer of belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through

you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Saviour.

Prayer of commitment

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship 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.

Prayer for those struggling with sin

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfilment of all my needs, and may 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, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking only to you, the author and finisher of my faith. Amen.

For the believer

Father, I come now to your table, to partake of Christ's body and blood in holy communion. I ask that you would search my heart and show me my failings and sins, that I may repent and turn to embrace your promises anew. Although I am unworthy, you have made me worthy.

Though I am a sinner, you have taken away my sins by your very own body and blood. May you be glorified in our partaking of your sacrament.

Closing Prayer:

Leader: Keep our hearts and thoughts in Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray:

**All: Our Father in heaven,
let your name be kept holy.
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 also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.
For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.
Amen.**

Doxology:⁷ *Gloria Patri*⁸

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be;
world without end. Amen. Amen

Benediction⁹

⁷ Doxology: literally, "to speak praise (or glory)". Doxologies are short hymns of praise traditionally used at the close of a worship service to acknowledge God's worthiness and as a reminder of his presence as we prepare to go into our week.

⁸ *Gloria Patri* means "Glory to the Father." The *Gloria Patri* is an ancient Doxology used by Christians of various traditions around the world.

⁹ Benediction: literally, "good word" or "speak well." In worship the Benediction is pronounced at the conclusion of the service as God sends his people into his world with his blessing and promise of grace.

Community Groups

Community Groups are the primary place of connection and encouragement at Grace & Peace. Each group meets in the evenings and most enjoy a meal together. Some do studies while others focus on fellowship; all are seeking to build one another up in love as the Body of Christ. We'd encourage you to find one that meets on a night or in a location that works for you and get plugged in. **Our Community Groups are officially on break until the week after Labor Day Weekend.**

Blackridge - 2nd & 4th Tuesdays

Contact: Becky Slippy
rebeccaslippy@gmail.com

Churchill - 2nd & 4th Sundays

Contact: Gretchen Bolen
kidmin@graceandpeacpgh.org

Highland Park - 2nd & 4th Sundays

Contact: Joshua Snoke
snoke4@gmail.com

Monroeville – 1st & 3rd Sundays

Contact: Julie Douglas
juliana1111@hotmail.com

Morningside 1 - Thursdays

Contact: Steve Burdette
spburdette@msn.com

Morningside 2 - 2nd & 4th Sundays

Contact: Brooke Scott
bscotty927@gmail.com

Shaler - Thursdays

Contact: James Mangiapane
jamesmangia17@gmail.com

Squirrel Hill – 1st & 3rd Thursdays

Contact: John Harris
john.a.harris@gmail.com

Announcements

Fall Equipping Classes - Beginning on TODAY

Philippians – Located in the Chapel: This class will cover a brief history and background of the Pauline epistle, and we will be reading through all four chapters together. We'll be exploring the themes of joy in the midst of hardship, contentment in Christ's service, and the unity we have in Jesus which are found in this letter. For more information email Katie at katieagate11@gmail.com.

Grace & Peace Membership Class – Located in the Basement: This class is designed specifically for those interested in joining Grace & Peace and those wanting to learn more about the life and ministry of the church. Current members are also encouraged to consider attending the classes for a refresher on the beliefs, practices, and mission of the church. For more information email Travis at travis@graceandpeacepgh.org.

Weekend on the Farm - September 24-26th

Mark your calendars!!! Weekend on the Farm is returning this Fall and since its one of the best things we do all year, and since we had to cancel last year, and since we all need a little extra time of fellowship and relaxing in an amazing setting after the past year - we think you should all start planning now to be there! Stay tuned for more details.

Stay Connected

If you'd like to receive the weekly email regarding life at Grace & Peace along with any updates, reminders, or events, please email our Administrative Assistant Mollie Sanders (admin@graceandpeacepgh.org). Also, be sure to join the Grace & Peace Facebook group.

Contact Us:

admin@graceandpeacepgh.org | graceandpeacepgh.org
5450 Friendship Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15232

Pastor Travis Scott | 412.452.5598 | travis@graceandpeacepgh.org
CCLI # 3265987

Grace & Peace Church Giving Information: The Bible teaches that the giving of tithes and offerings has always been seen as a part of the believer's worship to God. Apart from other charitable giving it's important for Christians to help financially sustain the ministry of the local church they are a part of. For those wishing to support the work of Grace & Peace there are several ways to give. Cash and checks may be placed in the offering box located at the back of the center aisle in the sanctuary. For those wishing to give online you can give through our website at: <https://www.graceandpeacepgh.org/giving->

If you are PNC customer you can set up a direct deposit to our account. If you have any questions regarding giving please talk with our Church Admin Mollie Sanders (admin@graceandpeacepgh.org).

If you are in need of any physical, practical, or financial assistance please reach out to our Diaconal Team at: deacons@graceandpeacepgh.org.