



GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

S P A R T A N B U R G

They taught us kids in school between the recess breaks
That the universe just sorta fell together like a Big Mistake
It started with a bang that sent the pieces flying
Then it cooled and twirled into dinosaurs and dandelions

It was a Big Mistake to have eyes that see
To have love like this inside of me
To have lips that smile as I swim your kiss
To have minds that will forever every part of this
All the moonlight shrouded in the clouds above and
The autumn leaves and the falling love
The still reflection in the moonlit lake
All, they said, it was a big mistake, it was a big mistake
~ *Big Mistake*, David Wilcox

'We can discover no divine purpose or providence for the human species.'
~ *Humanist Manifesto II*

Man never achieves a clear knowledge of himself unless he has first looked upon
God's face, and then descends from contemplating him to scrutinize himself.
~ *John Calvin*

Order of Worship: May 12th, 2024

And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church,²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

~ *Ephesians 1:22-23 (ESV)*

Call to Worship

Leader: The earth is the Lord's, for he made it:

People: Come, let us adore him.

Leader: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:

People: Come, let us adore him.

Leader: The mercy of the Lord is everlasting:

People: Come, let us adore him.

Leader: Lord, open our lips.

People: And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

~ *The Worship Sourcebook*

Invocation

Hymn – Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!

All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Singing bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blessed,
Wellspring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother,
All who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the happy chorus,
Which the morning stars began;
Father love is reigning over us,
Brother love binds man to man.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us onward
In the triumph song of life.

Hymn – How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder,
Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made;
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

*Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!*

When through the woods, and forest glades I wander,
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees.
When I look down, from lofty mountain grandeur
And see the brook, and feel the gentle breeze.

Chorus

And when I think, that God, His Son not sparing;
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on a Cross, my burdens gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.

Chorus

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration,
And then proclaim: "My God, how great Thou art!"

Chorus

Confession of Sin

Merciful God, you made us in your image, with a mind to know you, a heart to love you, and a will to serve you. But our knowledge is imperfect, our love inconstant, our obedience incomplete. In your tender love, forgive us through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Remembering the Gospel

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”.

~ Galatians 3:13 (ESV)

Hymn – Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah,
Pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;
Hold me with Thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore;
Bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing waters flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, be Thou still my Strength and Shield.
Strong Deliverer, be Thou still my Strength and Shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee;
Songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee.

Confession of Faith

Q: What is faith in Jesus Christ?

A: Faith in Jesus Christ is acknowledging the truth of everything that God has revealed in his Word, trusting in him, and also receiving and resting on him alone for salvation as he is offered to us in the gospel.

~ The New City Catechism, Q30

Reception of New Members

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Reading

To the choirmaster: according to The Gittith. A Psalm of David.

8 O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.

² Out of the mouth of babies and infants,
you have established strength because of your foes,
to still the enemy and the avenger.

³ When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

⁴ what is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?

⁵ Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings
and crowned him with glory and honor.

⁶ You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under his feet,

⁷ all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,

⁸ the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

⁹ O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

⁵ For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. ⁶ It has been testified somewhere,

“What is man, that you are mindful of him,
or the son of man, that you care for him?

⁷ You made him for a little while lower than the angels;
you have crowned him with glory and honor,

⁸ putting everything in subjection under his feet.”

Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. ⁹ But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

...

¹⁴ Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

~ Hebrews 2:5-9, 14-17 (ESV)

S e r m o n

R e v . J u s t i n K e n d r i c k

Hymn – Fairest Lord Jesus

Fairest Lord Jesus,
ruler of all nature,
O thou of God and man the Son,
Thee will I cherish,
Thee will I honor,
thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows,
fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer
who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine,
fairer still the moonlight,
and all the twinkling starry host:
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
than all the angels heaven can boast.

Beautiful Savior!
Lord of all the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Words of Institution

²⁶Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." ²⁷And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, ²⁸for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

~ Matthew 26:26-29 (ESV)

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Consecration

Serving of the Bread and Cup

Note: The outer ring contains grape juice, the inner rings contain wine.

Guidelines for the Lord's Supper†

The Lord's Supper is a family meal for Christians – a time when we delight in Christ and in the good news that His work alone has made us right with God. All baptized Christians who trust in Christ alone as their Savior and Lord, belong to a church that embraces the gospel, and seek strength to live more faithfully to Christ are invited to participate. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal‡, please use this time to meditate on one of the prayers below.

Prayer for those searching for 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 leads 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.

† Note to Parents: To receive communion, a child must have been baptized, publicly professed their faith in Christ, and been formally received as a communing member by the elders of this church or the governing body of the church to which you belong. We look forward to welcoming your children to the table when they come to this point and ask that you speak to the pastor when you feel your child is ready to begin the process of becoming a communing member.

‡ Please remember Paul's words from 1 Corinthians 11:27-29:

²⁷Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.

Hymn – Jesus, Lover Of My Soul

Jesus, lover of my soul,
Let me to Thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll,
While the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Savior, hide,
'Til life's storm is past;
Safe into the haven guide;
Receive my soul at last.

Other refuge have I none,
I helpless, hang on Thee;
Leave, oh leave me not alone,
Support and comfort me.
All my trust on Thee is stayed,
All help from Thee I bring;
Cover my defenseless head
In the shadow of Thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, are all I want,
Here more than all I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
Heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is Thy Name,
I am all unrighteousness;
False and full of sin I am;
Thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with Thee is found,
Grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound;
Make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art,
Let me take of Thee;
Spring Thou up within my heart;
For all eternity.

Benediction

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!
Amen

*If you would like to contribute to the ministry of Grace,
please place your offering in the wooden box near the door.
Contributions can also be made online at www.gracespartanburg.com/give*

Sunday School – Adult, Youth, and Children's classes meet weekly at 9:00 am.

Younger Elementary (Grades K-2) – taught by Ginger & Alex Lever, Lauren Nass, & Lauren Smith

Older Elementary (Grades 3-5) – taught by Tisha O'Donnell

Youth Group (Grades 6-12) – taught by Ethan & Claire Greer

Adults – A study in Genesis

Community Groups – Community groups are currently the main avenue at Grace for us to bless one another, be blessed by one another, and bless our neighbors. We encourage all of our members to be involved in a group if at all possible.

Westside Community Group – meets Sundays at 5pm at the Smiths' home. For more information contact Jim O'Donnell at 864-804-7482 or otenews@gmail.com.

Eastside 1 Community Group – meets Sundays at 5pm at the Nasses' home. For more information contact Dylan Nass at 608-295-9811 or dylan.nass@gmail.com.

Eastside 2 Community Group – meets Mondays at 6pm. For more information contact Robert Wood at 843-670-2532 or RobertLeroyWood@gmail.com.

Boiling Springs Community Group – meets Sundays at 5:30pm at the Swicegoods' home. For more information contact Cindy Swicegood at 704-692-3806 or cindypianist@gmail.com.

Interested in Serving?

- If you're gifted **musically**, and would like to help lead worship, contact Eric Sparks at michaelericsparks@gmail.com.
- If you'd like to be involved in **outreach**, contact Jake Farkas at jrfarkas11@gmail.com.
- If you're the hospitable sort and are willing to serve as a **greeter**, contact Cassie White at cwhite6105@bellsouth.net.

The Session (made up of our pastor and elders) meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6pm.

Elders:

Ken Huff
Dylan Nass
Jim O'Donnell
Thomas White
Robert Wood

Deacons:

David Evans
Jake Farkas
Michael Humeniuk
Martin Ilderton
Roosevelt Leggett
J.J. Lies
Joshua Meador
Chris Wayne
David White
Jerry Womack

Youth Group – Students in grades 6-12 meet during Sunday School on Sunday mornings at 9am, as well as Wednesday evenings, 6:30-8pm at 119 County Road.

Nursery – We provide a nursery for children ages 0-4 for both the Sunday School hour and worship service. We also welcome all children to stay in the worship service.

Today, May 12: SS - Jeté & Lana Huff; Worship – Jeté, Jerry & Donna Womack
Next Week, May 19: SS - Jeté & Lydia Alleman; Worship – Jeté, John & Tina Wilson

Building Fund:

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Budget | \$975,000 |
| Spent | \$197,611.53 |
| Remaining | \$777,388.47 |

Completed in April:
Education wing framing
Wall and floor plumbing
Sheetrock in education wing

Planned for May:
Sanctuary ceiling sheetrock
HVAC rough in
Bathroom tile

Future Projects:

Funds Available - \$127,718.02



The Church

For information about who we are and what we're doing:



gracespartanburg.com
facebook.com/gracespartanburg
instagram.com/gracesprtbnbrg

Contact Us:

Pastor - Justin Kendrick, justin@gracespartanburg.com

Director of Women's and Children's Ministries – Kristy Evans, kristy@gracespartanburg.com

RUF Campus Minister at Wofford – Oliver Pierce, oliver.pierce@ruf.org

Deacons – deacons@gracespartanburg.com

Youth Group – Ethan & Claire Greer, youthgroup@gracespartanburg.com

*If you have a question, announcement or prayer request contact us via email:
admin@gracespartanburg.com*



Use your camera app to fill out a contact card, sign up for our newsletter, or give online.

Worship

Please don't feel pressured to say or sing anything you don't believe. Please do feel free to ask questions by dropping them in the offering box, email, ask a member, or contact our pastor. Please remember to silence all cell phones during the worship service.

Announcements

- **Cookies for college students!** College Students, the end of classes is almost here, and we're hoping you'll have a strong finish to the school year! Please don't leave today without grabbing a bag of **homemade cookies** available for you in the lobby!
- **Special Adult Sunday School** – On Sunday, May 19th, we will welcome Deandra Comer, director of BridgeWay Village, to share more about this upcoming ministry to Spartanburg! The Bridge is located just down Brawley Street from our church, and BridgeWay Village, which is currently under construction next door to the Bridge, will be a tiny house community for single women in seasons of homelessness. Please save the date and plan to attend!
- The **Grace Women's Book Club** will be discussing *The Pilgrim's Progress* for their next meeting on Monday, May 20th, 7pm, at the home of Kristy Evans. There are many versions of this story available; so, please select and read your favorite. For our discussion, *The Pilgrim's Progress in Modern English* will be referenced, and during our time together, we'll cover only the story of Christian. We look forward to seeing you!
- **Grace women, save the date!** On Saturday, June 8th, at 10am, you are invited to join us for a gathering we are calling **Mug and Muffins!** Stay tuned for more details to come.