

January 27, 2019

Hope: Assured Confidence

Free Grace Presbyterian Church

SOME THOUGHTS FOR REFLECTION:

Hope can see heaven
through the thickest clouds.

Thomas Brooks

17th century English Puritan pastor

We must accept finite disappointment,
but we must never lose infinite hope.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

20th century Baptist pastor
and civil rights leader

If in Christ we have
hope in this life only,
we are of all people
most to be pitied.

1 Corinthians 15:19

For all the
promises of God find
their Yes in him. That is
why it is through him that
we utter our Amen to
God for his glory.

2 Corinthians 1:20

For the grace of God has
appeared, bringing salvation for
all people, training us to renounce
ungodliness and worldly passions, and
to live self-controlled, upright, and godly
lives in the present age, waiting for our
blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of
our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,
who gave himself for us to redeem us
from all lawlessness and to purify for
himself a people for his own
possession who are zealous
for good works.

Titus 2:11-14

Confident hope breeds inward joy. The man who
knows that his hope of glory will never fail him
because of the great love of God, of which he has
tasted, that man will hear music at midnight.

Charles Spurgeon

19th century British Baptist pastor
known as the Prince of Preachers

Blessed be
the God and Father
of our Lord Jesus Christ!
According to his great
mercy, he has caused us to
be born again to a living
hope through the
resurrection of Jesus
Christ from the dead.

1 Peter 1:3

And not only the
creation, but we ourselves,
who have the firstfruits of the
Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait
eagerly for adoption as sons, the
redemption of our bodies. For in this
hope we were saved. Now hope that is
seen is not hope. For who hopes for
what he sees? But if we hope for
what we do not see, we wait for
it with patience.

Romans 8:23-25

Hope expects what faith
believes and by expecting it,
enables you to believe it,
even when you can't see it...
faith is called on to trust
despite the evidence to the
contrary, but hope expects
the realities that God sets
forth.

Ligon Duncan

Presbyterian pastor and chancellor of
Reformed Theological Seminary

GOD SUMMONS US BY HIS GRACE

Leader: Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

People: **When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.**

Psalms 146

Leader: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

People: **whose hope is in the Lord his God,**

Leader: who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever.

People: **Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul! I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

We sing praise to our God, our help, our hope

“Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah”



1. Hal - le - lu - jah, praise Je - ho - vah, O my soul, Je -
2. Hap - py is the man that choos - es Is - rael's God to
3. Food he dai - ly gives the hun - gry, sets the mourn - ing
4. Hal - le - lu - jah, praise Je - ho - vah, O my soul, Je -



ho - vah praise; I will sing the glo - rious prais - es of my God through
be his aid; he is blest whose hope of bless - ing on the Lord his
pris -'ner free, rais - es those bowed down with an - guish, makes the sight - less
ho - vah praise; I will sing the glo - rious prais - es, of my God through



all my days. Put no con - fi - dence in princ - es, nor for help on
God is stayed. Heav'n and earth the Lord cre - a - ted, seas and all that
eyes to see. Well Je - ho - vah loves the right - eous, and the stran - ger
all my days. O - ver all God reigns for - ev - er, through all ag - es



man de - pend; he shall die, to dust re - turn - ing,
they con - tain; he de - liv - ers from op - press - ion,
he be - friends, helps the fa - ther - less and wid - ow,
he is King; un - to him, thy God, O Zi - on,



and his pur - po - ses shall end.
righ - teous - ness he will main - tain.
judg - ment on the wick - ed sends.
joy - ful hal - le - lu - jahs sing.

The early church called Sunday the Lord's Day because it was on Sunday that Christ rose from his grave. So every Sunday we gather as his people and celebrate his resurrection and our hope in him.

Rejoice in the Lord
always; again I will
say, rejoice.
Philippians 4

"Rejoice, the Lord is King"

1. Re - joi - ce, the Lord is King: your Lord and King a - dore! Re -
2. Je - sus the Sa - vior reigns, the God of truth and love; when
3. His king - dom can - not fail, he rules o'er earth and heav'n; the
4. He sits at God's right hand till all his foes sub - mit, and
5. Re - joi - ce in glor - ious hope! Our Lord, the Judge, shall come, and

6
joice, give thanks, and sing, and tri - umph ev - er more.
he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove.
keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus giv'n.
bow to his com - mand, and fall be - neath his feet.
take his ser - vants up to their e - ter - nal home.

10
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re - joi - ce, a - gain I say, re - joi - ce!

GOD SANCTIFIES US BY HIS GRACE

God calls us to humble ourselves

Jesus also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

Luke 18

His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the legs of a man, but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.

Psalms 147

We confess our sin—that we have placed our hope in ourselves, in our strength—and place our hope in him alone

We use this time in God's presence to confess our sins and our need for God's grace, silently, personally before him alone. We invite you to join us in sorrow over your sin and joy in his grace and mercy in Jesus Christ.

When we hear what God requires of us we are faced with the fact that we have not done and can not do what he requires. So for our worship to be honest it must acknowledge our failure. This leaves us no other hope but his grace and mercy.

God declares our sure and certain hope: the death of Jesus Christ for our sin

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time...Set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ... knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

1 Peter 1

We sing out to share the reason for our hope

“Lift High the Name of Jesus”



1. Lift high the name of Je - sus, of Je - sus our King. Make
 2. Lift high the name of Je - sus, of Je - sus our Lord. His
 3. Lift high the name of Je - sus, of Je - sus our Light. No



5 known the pow - er of his grace, the beau - ty of his peace. Re -
 pow'r in us is great - er than, is great - er than this world. To
 oth - er name on earth can save, can raise a soul to life. He



9 mem - ber how his mer - cy reached and we cried out to him. He
 share the rea - son for our hope, to serve with love and grace, that
 o - pens up our eyes to see the har - vest he has grown. We



13 lift - ed us to so - lid ground, to free - dom from our sin. Oh
 all who see him shine through us might bring the Fa - ther praise.
 la - bor in his fields of grace as he leads sin - ners home.



17 sing my soul and tell all he's done 'till the earth and heavens are filled with his glo - ry.

Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things. Blessed be his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory! Amen and Amen!
 Psalm 72

GOD SPEAKS WITH US BY HIS GRACE

¹³For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, ¹⁴saying, “Surely I will bless you and multiply you.” ¹⁵And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise. ¹⁶For people swear by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. ¹⁷So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, ¹⁸so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. ¹⁹We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, ²⁰where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

Hebrews 6:13-20

Sermon

Hope: Assured Confidence
50¢ Words: The Vocabulary of Faith

Rev. Per Almquist

repentance

turning

faith

confident trust

justification

made right

adoption

beloved children

sanctification

making the holy holy

perseverance

held secure

glorification

the full enjoyment of
God

advent

coming

Immanuel

God with us

incarnation

veiled in flesh the
Godhead see

Messiah/Christ

appointed,
empowered, sent

Savior

the great rescuer

epiphany

God revealed

love

Christ died for us

GOD STRENGTHENS US BY HIS GRACE

Our hope is not hung upon such an untwisted thread as, "I imagine so," or "It is likely"; but the cable, the strong rope of our fastened anchor, is the oath and promise of Him who is eternal verity. Our salvation is fastened with God's own hand, and Christ's own strength to the strong stake of God's unchangeable nature.
Samuel Rutherford

We celebrate the Lord's Supper to live in hope—receiving the assurance of our hope and proclaiming our confidence in it

We celebrate God's free grace to us in Jesus Christ by observing the Lord's Supper each Sunday. We invite to the Lord's Table all those who are baptized followers of Jesus Christ, under the authority of Christ and his body, the Church. By eating the bread and drinking the cup you are acknowledging that you are a sinner, without hope except in the sovereign mercy of God, and that you are trusting in Jesus Christ alone for your salvation. If you have any doubts about your participation, please speak to one of the elders after the service.

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"



1. Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
2. Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,
3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est
sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove, join with all
thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide, strength for to -



not, thy com - pas - sions, they fail not; as thou hast been thou for -
na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness,
day and bright hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten



ev - er wilt be.
mer - cy, and love. Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!
thou - sand be - side!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see: all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed— Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"



1. My hope is built on no - thing less than
2. When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I
3. His oath, his cov - en - ant, his blood, sup -
4. When he shall come with trum - pet sound, O



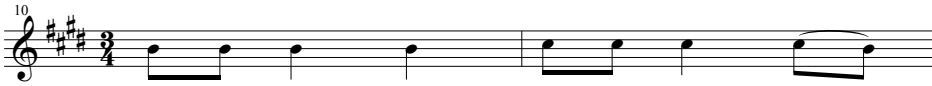
Je - sus' blood and right - eous - ness; I
rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in
port me in the whelm - ing flood; when
may I then in him be found; dressed



dare not trust the sweet - est frame, but
ev - 'ry high and storm - y gale, my
all a - round my soul gives way, he
in his righ - teous - ness a - lone, fault -



whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name. On
an - chor holds with - in the veil.
then is all my hope and stay.
less to stand be - fore the throne.



Christ, the sol - id rock I stand; all



o - ther ground is sink - ing sand, all



o - ther ground is sink - ing sand.

He himself bore
our sins in his
body on the tree,
that we might die
to sin and live to
righteousness. By
his wounds you
have been healed.

1 Peter 2

As we give our tithes and offerings we place our hope not in our money, but solely in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ

We give our offerings to God as a public demonstration of our faith, putting our money where our mouths are. In this action we show what we claim, that our lives are organized around God and lived for him instead of ourselves.

We cry out to God in prayer as an act of hope, living in the assured confidence of his promises no matter our circumstances

During this time we live in faith, trusting in the power of his grace, placing our lives and our church in his hands.


We ask that he would work in us and through us for his glory.

Prayer is more than a wish turned heavenward: it is the voice of faith directed Godward.
Billy Graham

GOD SENDS US WITH HIS GRACE

We rejoice and rest in our only hope: Jesus Christ


"In Christ Alone"




1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found; he is my Light, my Strength, my
2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of God in help - less
3. There in the ground his bo - dy lay, Light of the world by dark - ness
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death: this is the pow'r of Christ in



4 Song. This cor - ner - stone, this sol - id ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and
babe. This gift of love and right - eous - ness, scorned by the ones he came to
slain. Then burst - ing forth in glo - rious day, up from the grave he rose a -
me. From life's first cry to fi - nal breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti -



8 storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings
save: 'til on that cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is -
gain! And as he stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on
ny. No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from his



12 cease! My Com - for - ter, my all in all: here in the love of Christ I stand.
fied. For ev - ry sin on him was laid: here in the death of Christ I live.
me. For I am his, and he is mine: bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.
hand. 'Til he re - turns, or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll _____



18 stand. No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from his hand. 'Til he re -



23 turns, or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

Set your hope fully
on the grace that
will be brought to
you at the
revelation of Jesus
Christ.

1 Peter 1

Romans 15

We leave with a sure and steadfast hope as the anchor of our souls

Leader: May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ...May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

People: Amen

Please stay and join us for a time of refreshment and enjoying each other's company. This is a time to share in life together as we reconnect with those we know and as we meet someone new.

We do not end our service with a command or a well-wish, but with God's blessing reminding us of the beauty and power of God's promise to his people.

50¢ WORDS

THE VOCABULARY OF FAITH

revelation

God spoke

inspiration

God-breathed

trinity

3-1-1

holiness

separation

righteousness

the way it should be

sovereignty

ultimate kingship

providence

kingship in action

kingdom

living the reign

salvation

ultimate rescue

election

God's choosing

predestination

the love before time

calling

lovingly summoned

regeneration

made alive with Christ

repentance

turning

faith

confident trust

justification

made right

adoption

beloved children

sanctification

making the holy holy

perseverance

held secure

glorification

the full enjoyment of God

advent

coming

Immanuel

God with us

incarnation

veiled in flesh
the Godhead see

Messiah/Christ

appointed, empowered,
sent

Savior

the great rescuer

epiphany

God revealed

love

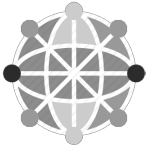
Christ died for us



Welcome to Free Grace

We are a broken church full of broken people. We know we need God's free grace. Some of us have accepted this grace, some are exploring what it's all about. All of us are still trying to understand it. We are a church that seeks to proclaim this free grace of God with both our words and our lives. Not satisfied with simply talking about it, we want to live it out. We invite you to come, explore, and live God's free grace with us.

Our Connections



Free Grace is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), a family of churches that seeks to be faithful to the Scriptures, true to the Reformed faith, and obedient to the Great Commission of Jesus Christ.

Our Leadership

Free Grace is lead by her elders, men called by God and set apart by the church to care and lead her as individual members, families, and as a whole. Our elders are:

Rev. Per Almquist (pastor)
Kevin Kidd
Ken Morris



Credits

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Not sure what it looks like
to live with hope?
Watch a dog when someone
walks into the kitchen.

broken people
bound together in Christ
for God's glory