

February 3, 2019

True and Living Water
Free Grace Presbyterian Church

SOME THOUGHTS FOR REFLECTION:

The world takes us to a silver screen in which flickering images of passion and romance play. And as we watch, the world says this is love. God take us to the foot of a tree on which a naked and bloodied man hangs and says, THIS is love.

Jo Vitale
British apologist

The image of Jesus as the Bridegroom] not only comprehends [all other images of what it means for Christians to be united Christ], but in respect to nearness and dearness exceeds all other relations.

George Whitefield

18th century English Anglican preacher,
co-founder of the Methodist church,
and the primary figure in The Great Awakening

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'"

John 7:37-38

"Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David."

Isaiah 55:1-3

How precious is your steadfast love, O God! The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings. They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights. For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light.

Psalms 36:7-9

I may, I suppose, regard myself, or pass for being, a relatively successful man. People occasionally stare at me in the streets—that's fame. I can fairly easily earn enough money to qualify for admission to the higher slopes of the Internal Revenue—that's success. Furnished with money and a little fame even the elderly, like myself, if they care to, may partake of trendy diversions—that's pleasure. It might happen once in a while that something I said or wrote was sufficiently heeded for me to persuade myself that it represented a serious impact on our time—that's fulfillment. Yet I say to you—and I beg you to believe me—multiply these tiny triumphs by a million, add them all together, and they are nothing—less than nothing—measured against one draught of that living water Christ offers to the spiritually thirsty, irrespective of who or what they are.

Malcolm Muggeridge

20th century English journalist and satirist

GOD SUMMONS US BY HIS GRACE

Leader: Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.

People: **And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!"**

Leader: Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!

People: **Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.**

Psalms 29
Isaiah 6
Revelation 4

We praise the great and awesome name of our holy God

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

1. Holy, ho-ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al-might - y! Ear - ly in the
2. Holy, ho-ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee, cast - ing down their
3. Holy, ho-ly, ho - ly! Though the dark-ness hide thee, though the eye of
4. Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al-might - y! All thy works shall

morn - ing our song shall rise to thee. Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!
gold - en crowns a-round the glass - y sea; cher-u - bim and ser-a-phem
sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see, on-ly thou art ho - ly;
praise thy name in earth and sky and sea. Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!

Mer-ci - ful and might-y! God in three Per-sons, bless-ed Trin - i - ty!
fall-ing down be - fore thee, who wert, and art, and ev - er-more shalt be.
there is none be - side thee per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pur - i - ty.
Mer-ci - ful and might-y! God in three Per-sons, bless-ed Trin - i - ty!

God calls us to worship him by reminding us of his glory. When we truly accept who he is, we have no choice but to respond in worship.

GOD SANCTIFIES US BY HIS GRACE

The holy God reminds us of our unholiness and of his grace

For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel,
“In repentance and rest you shall be saved;
in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.”
Therefore the Lord waits to be gracious to you,
and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you.
For the Lord is a God of justice;
blessed are all those who wait for him.
He will surely be gracious to you at the sound of your cry.
As soon as he hears it, he answers you.

Isaiah 30

God's glory and holiness confront us with our lack of holiness, our brokenness, our sin. This drives us to Jesus Christ. He took the judgment for our sin. So we confess our sin and cry out in sorrow over it and what it caused, and find ourselves rejoicing in God's free grace in his Son, Jesus Christ.

We cry out for our Lord and Savior repenting and turning from our sin to him

“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

1. Je - sus, lo - ver of my soul, let me to thy bo - som fly,
2. Oth - er ref - uge have I none, I help - less hang on thee;
3. Thou, O Christ, art all I want; here more than all I find;
4. Plen - teous grace with thee is found, grace to cov - er all my sin;

5 while the near - er wa - ters roll, while the tem - pest still is high:
leave, oh leave me not a - lone, still sup - port and com - fort me!
raise the fall - en, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.
let the heal - ing streams a - bound; make and keep me pure with - in:

9 hide me, O my Sa - vior, hide, 'till life's storm is past;
All my trust on thee is stayed, all help from thee I bring;
Just and ho - ly is thy name; I am all un - right - eous - ness;
thou of life the foun - tain art, let me take of thee;

13 safe in - to the ha - ven guide, re - cieve my soul at last.
cov - er my de - fense - less head in the shad - ow of thy wing.
false and full of sin I am, thou art full of truth and grace.
spring thou up with - in my heart, for all e - ter - ni - ty.

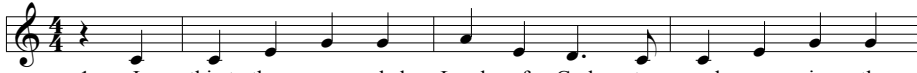
God proclaims his love for us in Jesus Christ

“If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’”...See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.

John 7
1 John 3

We come to fountain of life

"I Thirst"



1. I thirst, thou woun - ded Lamb of God, to wash me in thy
2. Take my poor heart and let it be for - e - ver closed to
3. How blest are they who still a - bide close shel - tered in thy
4. What are our works but sin and death, 'til thou thy quick - 'ning
5. Hence our hearts melt, our eyes o'er - flow; our words are lost, nor



⁴ clean - sing blood, to dwell with - in thy wounds; then pain is
all but thee; seal thou my breast, and let me wear that
bleed - ing side, who life and strength from thence de - rive, and
Spi - rit breathe? Thou giv'st the pow'r, thy grace to move; O
will we know, nor will we think of aught be - side my



⁷ sweet, and life or death is gain.
pledge of love for - e - ver there
by thee move and in thee live!
won - drous grace! O bound - less love!
Lord, my love, is cru - ci - fied.

In the strange
mercy of God the
cup of his
righteous wrath is
given into the
hands, not of his
enemies, but of his
beloved Son. And
he will drink it,
down to the dregs
until the moment
comes when "I
thirst" gives place
to "It is finished".
Lesslie Newbigin

"My Jesus, I Love Thee"

In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.
1 John 4

1. My Je - sus I love thee, I know thou art mine; for
 2. I love thee be - cause thou hast first lov - ed me and
 3. I'll love thee in life, and I'll love thee in death; I'll
 4. In man - sions of glo - ry and end - less de - light, I'll

6 thee all the fol - lies, of sin I re - sign. My
 pur - chased my par - don on Cal - va - ry's tree. I
 praise thee as long as thou lend - est me breath; and
 6 ev - er a - dore thee in hea - ven so bright; and

10 gra - cious Re - deem - er, my Sav - ior art thou; if
 love thee for wear - ing the thorns on thy brow; if
 say when the death - dew, lies cold on my brow: if
 10 sing with the glit - ter - ing crown on my brow: if

14 ev - er I loved thee, my Je - sus, 'tis now.
 ev - er I loved thee, my Je - sus, 'tis now.
 ev - er I loved thee, my Je - sus, 'tis now.
 14 ev - er I loved thee, my Je - sus, 'tis now.

19 Je - sus, 'tis now, my Je - sus, 'tis now.

GOD SPEAKS WITH US BY HIS GRACE

¹Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John ²(although Jesus himself did not baptize, but only his disciples), ³he left Judea and departed again for Galilee. ⁴And he had to pass through Samaria. ⁵So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

John 4:1-30

⁷A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."
⁸(For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹²Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock."
¹³Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." ¹⁵The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water."

¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." ¹⁷The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true." ¹⁹The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." ²¹Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."
²⁵The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." ²⁶Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

²⁷Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you seek?" or, "Why are you talking with her?" ²⁸So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, ²⁹"Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" ³⁰They went out of the town and were coming to him.

The Christian life is full of difficulties, full of pitfalls and snares. That is why we need the Scriptures.
D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

Sermon

True and Living Water

Rev. Sean Roberts

Rev. Roberts is the pastor of Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church in Portland, ME. Free Grace began as a mission work of Christ the Redeemer.

We revel in the living water, the only water that truly satisfies

“Satisfied”



1. All my life long I had pant - ed
 2. Feed - ing on the filth a - round me
 3. Poor I was and sought for rich - es,
 4. Well of wa - ter ev - er spring - ing,



3 for a drink from some cool spring
 'till my strength was al - most gone.
 some - thing that would sat - is - fy,
 Bread of Life so rich and free,



5 that I hoped would quench the burn - ing
 Longed my soul for some - thing - bet - ter,
 But the dust I gath - ered 'round me
 un - told wealth that ne - ver fail - eth,



7 of the thirst I felt with - in.
 on - ly still to hun - ger on.
 on - ly mocked my soul's sad cry.
 my Re - deem - er is to me!



9 Hal - le - lu - jah! He has found me,



11 the One my soul so long has craved! Je - sus sat - is - fies



14 all my long - ings; through his blood I now am saved.



Last time only:

17 through his blood I now am saved.

As a deer pants for
 flowing streams, so
 pants my soul for
 you, O God. My
 soul thirsts for
 God, for the living
 God.
 Psalm 42

GOD STRENGTHENS US BY HIS GRACE

We drink of the true and living water given by his love, his death for us, as we celebrate the Lord's Supper

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.

We enjoy Christ
only as we
embrace Christ
clad in his own
promises.
John Calvin

Revelation 21:1–8, 22:1–5

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son. But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death."...

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

In gratitude and joy we give our tithes and offerings to Jesus Christ, the source of the true and living water that alone satisfies "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"



1. Glor-ious things of thee are spo-ken, Zi - on ci - ty of our God;
 2. See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e - ter - nal love,
 3. Blest in - hab - i - tants of Zi - on, washed in the Re-deem-er's blood,
 4. Sa - vior, if of Zi - on's ci - ty, I, through grace, a mem-ber am,



he whose word can - not be bro - ken formed thee for his own a - bode.
 well sup - plies thy sons and daugh - ters, and all fear of want re - move.
 Je - sus, whom their souls re - ly on makes them kings and priests to God.
 let the world de - ride or pi - ty, I will glor - y in thy name.



On the Rock of A - ges found - ed, what can shake thy sure re -
 Who can faint, while such a ri - ver ev - er flows their thirst to
 'Tis his love his peo - ple rais - es o - ver self to reign as
 Fad - ing is the world-ling's plea - sure, all his boast - ed pomp and



pose? With sal - va - tion's walls sur - round - ed,
 quench? Grace which, like the Lord, the gi - ver,
 kings, and as priests, his sol - emn prais - es,
 show; sol - id joys and last - ing trea - sure



thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
 ne - ver fails from age to age.
 each for a thank off - 'ring brings.
 none but Zi - on's chil - dren know.

Zion
 Hebrew: "Fortress"

Used in the Old Testament for Jerusalem. In both Old and New Testaments it is used to refer to God's heavenly city, the dwelling place of God's people.

We run to the fountain of living water and immerse ourselves in it as we come to God in prayer

*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.

GOD SENDS US WITH HIS GRACE

We sing out in joy and longing for our bridegroom and the streams that we taste on earth but will drink deeply of for all eternity “The Sands of Time are Sinking”



1. The sands of time are sink - ing, the dawn of heav - en breaks,
 2. The King there in his beaut - y with - out a veil is seen;
 3. O Christ, he is the foun - tain, the deep sweet well of love!
 4. The bride eyes not her gar - ment, but her dear bride - groom's face;
 5. O I am my be - lov - ed's, and my be - lov - ed is mine!

He brought me to the banqueting house,* and his banner over me was love.
 Song of Solomon 2

*Hebrew: house of wine



the sum - mer morn I've sighed for, the fair sweet morn a - wakes;
 it were a well - spent jour - ney though sev'n deaths lay be - tween:
 The streams on earth I've tast - ed more deep I'll drink a - bove:
 I will not gaze at glo - ry, but on my King of grace;
 He brings a poor vile sin - ner in - to his house of wine.



dark, dark had been the mid - night, but day - spring is at hand,
 the Lamb with his fair ar - my doth on Mount Zi - on stand,
 there to an o - cean ful - ness his mer - cy doth ex - pand,
 not at the crown he giv - eth, but on his pierc - ed hand:
 I stand up - on his mer - it; I know no oth - er stand,



and glo - ry, glo - ry dwell - eth in Em - man - uel's land.
 and glo - ry, glo - ry dwell - eth in Em - man - uel's land.
 and glo - ry, glo - ry dwell - eth in Em - man - uel's land.
 the Lamb is all the glo - ry of Em - man - uel's land.
 not e'en where glo - ry dwell - eth in Em - man - uel's land! (repeat twice)

We go out in the wonder of his promise

Leader: As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds his people from this time forth and forevermore... He hems you in, behind and before, and lays his hand upon you... May the Lord bless you from Zion, he who made heaven and earth!

People: Amen

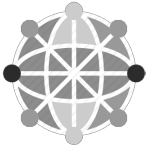
Please stay and join us for a time of refreshment and enjoying each other's company. This is a time to share in life together as we reconnect with those we know and as we meet someone new.



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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Connor Crawford, *voice*; Shane Stevens, *percussion*; Beth Almquist, *piano*

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I can't get no satisfaction
'Cause I try and I try and I try and I try
The Rolling Stones

broken people
bound together in Christ
for God's glory