

March 17, 2019

Redemption: Ransomed
Free Grace Presbyterian Church

SOME THOUGHTS FOR REFLECTION

So glorious is his redemption that it should ravish us with wonder.

John Calvin

16th century French-Swiss pastor and theologian

C h r i s t
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

“Worthy are you
to take the scroll and to
open its seals, for you were
slain, and by your blood you
ransomed people for God from
every tribe and language and
people and nation, and you have
made them a kingdom and
priests to our God, and they
shall reign on the earth.”

Revelation 5:9-10

“For
even the Son of
Man came not to be
served but to serve,
and to give his life as
a ransom for many.”

Mark 10:45

In him we
have redemption
through his blood, the
forgiveness of our
trespasses, according to
the riches of his
grace...

Ephesians 1:7

And if
you call on him as
Father who judges
impartially according to each
one's deeds, conduct yourselves
with fear throughout the time of
your exile, 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 1:17-19

If you want to know how
far God is willing to go to
redeem His people, look
at Jesus Christ.

Ligon Duncan

Presbyterian pastor and author

The language of redemption is the
language of purchase and more
specifically of ransom. And ransom
is the securing of a release by the
payment of a price.

John Murray

20th century Presbyterian theologian

The gospel is the message of God's redeeming love in sending his own Son into the world. Those who understand that love will be driven to share it. They will not only rejoice to sit down with other redeemed sinners in heaven's feast; they will seek other sinners in Christ's name to call them home. As Christ was sent, so he sends them, and the dynamic of mission is the heart of the love of God.

Edmund Clowney

20th century Presbyterian pastor, theologian, and president of Westminster Theological Seminary

GOD SUMMONS US BY HIS GRACE

Leader: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

People: **Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,**

Leader: Who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

People: **O LORD, my God, you are very great! You are clothed with splendor and majesty, covering yourself with light as with a garment, stretching out the heavens like a tent.**

Leader: He lays the beams of his chambers on the waters; he makes the clouds his chariot; he rides on the wings of the wind; he makes his messengers winds; his ministers a flaming fire.

Psalms 103, 104

We bless the Lord

"How Great Thou Art"

1. O Lord, my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er
2. When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der, and hear the
3. And when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to
4. When Christ shall come with shout of ac-cla-ma-tion and take me

all the worlds thy hands have made; I see the stars, I hear the rol-ling
birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft-y moun-tain
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross, my bur-den glad-ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad-o-

thun-der, thy pow'r through-out the u-ni-verse dis-played. Then sings my
gran-deur, and hear the brook and feel the gen-tle breeze.
bear-ing, he bled and died to take a-way my sin.
ra-tion, and there pro-claim, my God, how great thou art!

soul, my Sav-ior God, to thee: how great thou art, how great thou art! Then sings my

soul, my Sav-ior God, to thee: how great thou art, how great thou art!

Biblical worship is always a response to God's gracious revelation of himself to his people. Hence, all our worship services begin with a Scriptural call to worship God.

GOD SANCTIFIES US BY HIS GRACE

God reminds us of what he requires of us

Micah 6

"With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

So often
Christians act as if
they no longer sin.
The reality
Scripture teaches
is that those in
Christ are free
from slavery to sin.
We no longer face
death as the price
of our sin because
Jesus Christ took
our sin on himself.
And yet we
continue to sin. So
we cry out to God
through Jesus
Christ to be at
work in us. We
confess our
failings and ask
that we would live
in the strength of
Christ's death and
resurrection.

Micah 7
Ephesians 1

We humble ourselves, crying out of our guilt and need for him

Gracious Lord, we who talk loudly of justice,
speak of our own kindness,
and boast in our humility,
come asking your forgiveness.

We seek your salvation, then act like we save ourselves.

We beg your forgiveness, then repeat our errors.

We experience your grace, and then act defeated.

We rely on your power, but only when times are hard.

Forgive our wandering from you

as we run to other things for comfort and hope.

Grant that through the tears of our repentance

we may see the glories of Christ's death and resurrection.

Be at work in us for your name's sake,

through Jesus Christ, whose blood has paid for our sin. Amen

God declares that he has paid the price of our sin with the blood of Christ

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea... In God we have redemption through Christ's blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.

We mourn that what our sin cost is the death of Jesus Christ

"O Come and Mourn with Me Awhile"



1. O come and mourn with me a - while; O
 2. Sev'n times he spoke sev'n words of love; and
 3. O break, O break, hard heart of mine! Thy
 4. A bro - ken heart, a fount of tears, ask,



come ye to the Sa - vior's side; O come, to - ge - ther let
 all three hours his si - lence cried for mer - cy on the souls
 weak - self - love and guilt - y pride his Pi - late and his Ju -
 and they will not be de - nied; a bro - ken heart love's cra -



us__ mourn: Je - sus, our Lord, is cru - ci - fied,
 of__ men: Je - sus, our Lord, is cru - ci - fied.
 - das__ were: Je - sus, our Lord, is cru - ci - fied,
 - dle__ is: Je - sus, our Lord, is cru - ci - fied.



Chorus: O love of__ God!__ O sin__ of__ man!__ In



this dread__ act__ your__ strength__ is__ tried,__ and vic-to - ry__ re - mains



with__ love: Je - sus, our Lord, is cru - ci - fied!

We mourn the death of Christ because it was our sin that required it. Yet we rejoice because he is not dead. We have his victory over the grave as the guarantee of our own victory in him.

GOD SPEAKS WITH US BY HIS GRACE

Titus 2:11–14

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹²training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴who 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.

Sermon

Rev. Per Almquist

Redemption: Ransomed

50¢ Words: The Vocabulary of Faith

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

hope

assured confidence

grace

love undeserved

sin

not the way it's
supposed to be

We wonder at the God who ransoms us with his own Son

“How Deep the Father’s Love for Us”

1. How deep the Fa - ther's love for us, how
 2. Be - hold the man up - on a cross, my
 3. I will not boast in an - y - thing: no

2
 vast be - yond all meas - ure, that he should give his on - ly Son to
 sin up - on his shoul - ders; a - shamed, I hear my mock - ing voice call
 gifts, no pow'r, no wis - dom; but I will boast in Je - sus Christ: his

4
 make a wretch his treas - ure. How great the pain of sear - ing loss; the
 out a - mong the scof - fers. It was my sin that held him there un -
 death and res - ur - rec - tion. Why should I gain from his re - ward? I

6
 Fa - ther turns his face a - way as wounds which mar the cho - sen One bring
 til it was ac - com - plished; his dy - ing breath has brought me life; I
 can - not give an an - swer; but this I know with all my heart: his

8
 man - y sons to glo - ry.
 know that it is fin - ished.
 wounds have paid my ran - som. Why

12
 should I gain from his re - ward? I can - not give an an - swer; but

14
 this I know with all my heart: his wounds have paid my ran - som.

For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, [6] who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

1 Timothy 2

GOD STRENGTHENS US BY HIS GRACE


And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me." And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."
Luke 22

God sets before us our redemption, Christ's body and blood given 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.


"I Will Glory in My Redeemer"




I will glo - ry in my Re - deem - er, whose price - less blood has ran - somed
I will glo - ry in my Re - deem - er; my life he bought, my love he
I will glo - ry in my Re - deem - er, who car - ries me on ea - gle's



⁵ me. Mine was the sin that drove the bit - ter nails and hung him on that judge - ment
owns. I have no long - ings for a - no - ther; I'm sat - is - fied in him a -
wings. He crowns my life with lov - ing - kind - ness; his tri - umph song I'll ev - er



⁹ tree. I will glo - ry in my Re - deem - er, who crushed the pow'r of sin and
lone. I will glo - ry in my Re - deem - er, his faith - ful - ness my stand - ing
sing. I will glo - ry in my Re - deem - er, who waits for me at gates of



¹³ death. My on - ly Sav - ior be - fore the ho - ly Judge: the Lamb who is my right - eous
place. Though foes are might - y and rush up - on me, my feet are firm, held by his
gold. And when he calls me, it will be par - a - dise: his face for - ev - er to be -



¹⁷ ness, the Lamb who is my right - eous - ness.
grace, my feet are firm, held by his grace.
hold, his face for - ev - er to be - hold. last time, repeat from *

We live as the redeemed, zealous for good works, giving our tithes and offerings

"All for Jesus"

1. All for Je - sus, all for Je - sus,
 2. Let my hands per - form his bid - ding,
 3. World - lings prize their gems of beau - ty,
 4. Since my eyes were fixed on Je - sus,
 5. O what won - der! how a - ma - zing!

all my be - ing's ran - somed pow'rs,
 let my feet run in his ways;
 cling to gold - ed toys of dust,
 I've lost sight of all be - side;
 Je - sus, glo - rious King of kings,

all my thoughts and words and do - ings,
 let my eyes see Je - sus on - ly,
 boast of wealth and fame and plea - sure;
 so deigns to - chained my spi - rit's vi - sion,
 to call me his be - lov - ed,

all my days and all my hours.
 let my lips Je - speak his praise.
 on - ly Je - sus will I trust.
 look - ing at the cru - ci - fied.
 lets me rest be - neath his wings.

You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body
 1 Corinthians 6

Prayer is our way
of entering into
the happiness of
God himself.

Tim Keller

We come to God and pray for his glory to be seen in the midst of this sinful world

*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 hear and rest in the promise of our God: that he is our Redeemer

"I am the Lord"



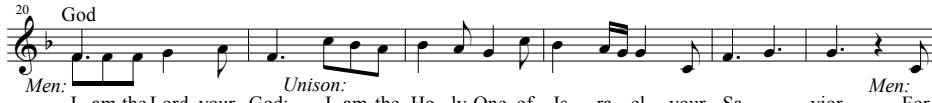
1. When you pass through the wa-ters I will be with you and the waves will
 2. When you walk through the fire you'll not be burned, and the flames will



not o-ver-come you Do not fear, for I have re-deemed you. I have
 not con-sume you Do not fear, for I have re-deemed you. I have



14 *Women:* I am the Lord, your
 called you by name, you are mine. *Men:* For I am the Lord, your God;
 called you by name, you are mine.



20 *Men:* God *Unison:* I am the Lord your God; I am the Ho-ly One of Is-ra-el, your Sa- vior. *Men:* For



26 *Women:* I am the Lord, your God;
 I am the Lord, your God; *Men:* I am the Lord, your God; *Unison:* I am the Ho-ly One of



31 *Women:* Do not fear, Do not fear,
 Is-ra-el, your Sa- vior. *Men:* I am the Lord, I am the Lord, I am the



38 Do not fear, Do not fear, fear;
 Lord, I am the Lord, *Unison:* I am the Lord.

ut when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.
 Galatians 4

Galatians 1

We live in the promise of redemption

Leader: But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior."

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 the gospel calls us as we reconnect with those we know
and as we meet someone new.*

A benediction is a pronouncement of God's blessing; hence, the minister stands with hands outstretched, and an appropriate posture is for the worshipper to stand with their hands open, palms upward, to receive God's blessing as he promises.

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

hope

assured confidence

grace

love undeserved

sin

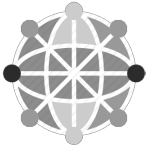
not the way
it's supposed to be



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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Heather Kidd, *voice*; Grace Kidd, *voice*; Millie Kidd, *piano*

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"O Come and Mourn with Me Awhile" ©1999 Eric Ashley Music. Words: Frederick Faber, 1849. Music: Eric Ashley, 1999.

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"All for Jesus!" Public Domain. Words: Mary D. James, 1889. Music: John Stainer, 1887.

"I am the Lord" ©1984 Meadowgreen Music Company. Words: Billy Sprague based on Isaiah 43. Music: Billy Sprague, 1984.

Marinate, abide, and rejoice in this:

It is because of him (God) that you are
in Christ Jesus, who has become for us
wisdom from God—that is, our
righteousness, holiness and
redemption. (1 Co 1:30)

Jesus is your righteousness,
holiness, and redemption.
Get your eyes off you!
Scotty Smith

broken people
bound together in Christ
for God's glory