

**June 23, 2019**

The Presence of God's Glory  
*Free Grace Presbyterian Church*

## SOME THOUGHTS FOR REFLECTION:

It is not possible to be union with Christ and not be in possession of all that is Christ's.

Derek Thomas  
Welsh Presbyterian pastor

The Spirit's filling...denotes divinely provided empowerment to carry out the commands of God.

Guy Prentiss Waters  
Professor of New Testament  
at Reformed Theological Seminary

And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit...  
**Ephesians 5:18**

You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.  
**Romans 8:9**

John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."  
**Luke 3:16**

Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.  
**Hebrews 12:28-29**

Whatever else happened at Pentecost, one thing that cannot be missed by the most casual observer was the sudden upsurging of moral enthusiasm. Those first disciples burned with steady, inward fire. They were enthusiastic to the point of complete abandon.

A.W. Tozer  
20<sup>th</sup> century pastor and author

The pouring out of Holy Spirit at Pentecost happened once and for all. Once poured out, the Holy Spirit has never left. It is the same Holy Spirit poured out in power on you.

George Robertson  
Presbyterian pastor

# GOD SUMMONS US BY HIS GRACE

Leader: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

**People: It is he who remembered us in our low estate, for his steadfast love endures forever;**

Leader: And rescued us from our foes, for his steadfast love endures forever;

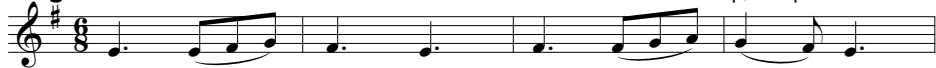
**People: He who gives food to all flesh, for his steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader: Give thanks to the God of heaven, for his steadfast love endures forever.

Psalms 136

## We give thanks for his love endures forever

"O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!"



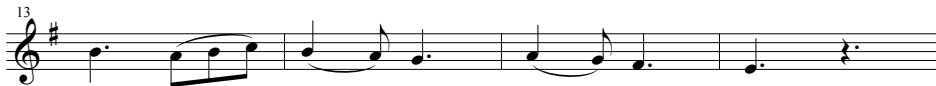
1. O the deep, deep love of Je - sus!  
 2. O the deep, deep love of Je - sus!  
 3. O the deep, deep love of Je - sus!



5 Vast, un - mea - sured, bound - less free;  
 Spread his praise from shore to shore;  
 Love of ev - 'ry love the best:



9 roll - ing as a might - y o - cean  
 how he lov - eth, ev - er lov - eth,  
 'tis an o - cean vast of bless - ing,



13 in its full - ness o - ver me.  
 chang - eth nev - er, nev - er - more.  
 'tis a ha - ven sweet of rest.



17 Un - der - neath me, all a - round me,  
 How he watch - es o'er his loved ones,  
 O the deep, deep love of Je - sus!



21 is the cur - rent of thy love;  
 died to call them all his own;  
 'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me;



25 lead - ing on - ward, lead - ing home - ward,  
 how for them he in - ter - ced - eth,  
 and it lifts me up to glo - ry,



29 to thy glo - rious rest a - bove  
 watch - eth o'er them from the throne.  
 for it lifts me up to thee.

In Scripture, the call to worship comes from God. We need to be called because it is not our natural impulse to come to him. The call reminds us of God's pursuing love toward us.

"Father, Long before Creation"

1. Fa - ther, long be - fore cre - a - tion thou hast cho - sen us \_\_\_ in love; \_\_\_  
 2. Though the world may change its \_\_\_ fash - ion, yet our God is e'er \_\_\_ the same; \_\_\_  
 3. God's com - pas - sion is my sto - ry, \_\_\_ is my boast - ing all \_\_\_ the day; \_\_\_  
 4. Lov - ing Fa - ther, now be - fore thee we will ev - er praise thy love; \_\_\_

5  
 and that love so \_\_\_ deep, so \_\_\_ mov - ing, \_\_\_  
 his com - pas - sion \_\_\_ and his \_\_\_ cov - nant \_\_\_  
 mer - cy free and \_\_\_ nev - er \_\_\_ fail - ing \_\_\_  
 and our songs will \_\_\_ sound un - ceas - ing \_\_\_

7  
 draws us close to Christ a - bove. \_\_\_ Still it keeps us,  
 through all a - ges will \_\_\_ re - main. \_\_\_ God's own chil - dren,  
 moves my will, di - rects \_\_\_ my way. \_\_\_ God so loved us,  
 'til we reach our home \_\_\_ a - bove. \_\_\_ Giv - ing glo - ry,

10  
 still it keeps us \_\_\_ firm - ly fixed in Christ a - lone. \_\_\_  
 God's own chil - dren \_\_\_ must for - ev - er praise his name. \_\_\_  
 God so loved us \_\_\_ that his on - ly Son \_\_\_ he gave. \_\_\_  
 giv - ing glo - ry \_\_\_ to our God and to \_\_\_ the Lamb; \_\_\_

13  
 Giv - ing glo - ry, giv - ing glo - ry \_\_\_ to our God and to \_\_\_ the Lamb.

In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.  
 Ephesians 1

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# GOD SANCTIFIES US BY HIS GRACE

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## **God declares what he requires of us and shows us our inability to do it**

And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How do you read it?" And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live."

Luke 10  
James 2

Whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it.

## **We confess our sin and acknowledge that we are guilty of God's law**

*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*

A full prayer of confession acknowledges that our sin is more than an isolated example of bad judgment; it is a way of life. Sin is our response to God—fleeing from him and running to other things. We confess that we are sinful people, and we live in need of a Savior.

## **God declares our salvation—his mercy poured out richly on us in the Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ**

When the kindness of God our Savior and his love for mankind appeared, he saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to his mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we would be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Titus 3

**We sing out in all of life of the richness of his mercy, his great love with which he loved us** “Thy Mercy, My God”

I will sing of the steadfast love [mercy] of the LORD, forever; with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.  
Psalm 89



1. Thy mer - cy, my God, is the theme of my song, the  
 2. With - out thy sweet mer - cy I could not live here;  
 3. Thy mer - cy is more than a match for my heart, which  
 4. Great Fath - er of mer - cies, thy good - ness I own, and the



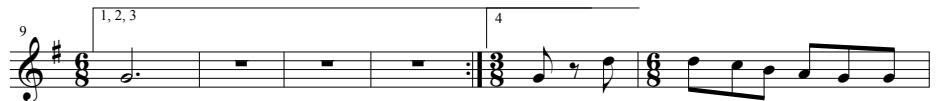
joy of my heart, and the boast of my tongue; thy  
 sin would re - duce me to ut - ter des - pair, but  
 won - ders to feel its own hard - ness de - part; dis -  
 cov - e - nant love of thy cru - ci - fied Son; all



free grace a - lone from the first to the last hath  
 through thy free good - ness my spir - its re - vive and  
 solved by thy good - ness, I fall to the ground and  
 praise to the Spi - rit, whose whis - per di - vine seals



won my af - fec - tions and bound my soul  
 he that first made me still keeps me a -  
 weep for the praise of the mer - cy I've  
 mer - cy and par - don and right - eous - ness



fast.  
 live.  
 found. mine; all praise to the Spi - rit, whose



whis - per di - vine seals mer - cy and par - don and right - eous - ness mine!

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# GOD SPEAKS WITH US BY HIS GRACE

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<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. <sup>4</sup>And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 2:1-13

<sup>5</sup>Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. <sup>7</sup>And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, <sup>11</sup>both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." <sup>12</sup>And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup>But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine."

**Sermon**

Rev. Per Almquist

## The Presence of God's Glory

The Church that God Built

These words are  
God's... Thou  
book of vast  
authority, thou art  
a proclamation  
from the Emperor  
of Heaven; far be  
it from me to  
exercise my  
reason in  
contradicting  
thee... This is the  
book untainted by  
any error; but it is  
pure unalloyed,  
perfect truth.  
Why? Because  
God wrote it.  
Charles Spurgeon

**We rest in the wonder of the Holy Spirit poured out upon us, seeking his work within us**

"Come, Holy Spirit, Come"



1. Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit, come; let thy bright beams a - rise; dis -  
2. Con - vince us of our sin, then lead to Je - sus' blood, and



pel the dark - ness from our minds and o - pen all our eyes.  
to our wond' - ring view re - veal the se - cret love of God. *Chorus:* Come,



Ho - ly Spi - rit come! Give light to dark - ened eyes;



kin - dle in our hearts the flames of ne - ver dy - ing love. 3.'Tis



thine to cleanse the heart, to sanc - ti - fy the soul, to pour fresh life in  
there - fore, in our hearts; our minds from bon - dage free, then we shall know and



ev - 'ry part, and re - cre - ate us whole. 4.Dwell,  
praise and love the Fa - ther, Son, and thee. *Chorus:* Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit come! Give



light to dark - ened eyes; kin - dle in our hearts the flames of ne - ver dy - ing love.

Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment.  
John 16



# GOD STRENGTHENS US BY HIS GRACE

## God works the presence of his glory in us by his Holy Spirit applying to us the death of Jesus Christ 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 with us as a visitor, you are acknowledging to our church that you are in covenant with God. You also acknowledge 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. Wine and bread are the elements of the supper as instituted by Jesus Christ and so we follow his example.

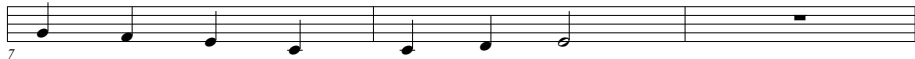
"I Thirst"



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 Newbiggin

Prayer is not a sign of doubting, but a witness to our certain hope and confidence, since we ask the Lord for things that we know he has promised.  
John Calvin

## **We give our tithes and offerings to God to proclaim his mighty works within us**

*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 knowing that his Holy Spirit is at work within us**

O God, most high, most glorious,  
the thought of your infinite serenity cheers us,  
for we are toiling and moiling, troubled and distressed,  
but you are for ever at perfect peace.  
Your designs cause you no fear or care of unfulfillment,  
they stand fast as the eternal hills.  
Your power knows no bond,  
your goodness no stint.  
You bring order out of confusion,  
and our defeats are your victories:  
For you reign as the the Lord God omnipotent.

We come to you as sinners with cares and sorrows,  
to leave every concern entirely to you,  
every sin calling for Christ's precious blood;  
Revive deep spirituality in our hearts;  
Let us live near to the great Shepherd,  
hear his voice, know its tones, follow its calls.  
Keep us from deception by causing us to abide in the truth,  
from harm by helping us to walk in the power of the Spirit

Give us intenser faith in the eternal truths,  
burning into us by experience the things we know;  
Let us never be ashamed of the truth of the gospel,  
that we may bear its reproach,  
vindicate it,  
see Jesus as its essence,  
know in it the power of the Spirit.

Lord, help us, for we are often lukewarm and chill;  
unbelief mars our confidence,  
sin makes us forget you.  
Let the weeds that grow in our souls be cut at their roots;  
grant us to know that we truly live only when we live to you,  
that all else is trifling.  
Your presence alone can make us holy, devout, strong and happy.  
Abide in us, gracious God, and make us a community that is marked by the gospel  
that the community around us would see not us,  
but you in all your glory and grace through us.

May we live in the power of your Holy Spirit poured out upon us,  
proclaiming Jesus as both Lord and Christ.  
Amen.

# GOD SENDS US WITH HIS GRACE

We cry out for God to come to us, sending his Holy Spirit to rule in us

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

1. Come, thou Al - might - y King, help us thy name to sing,  
2. Come, thou In - car - nate Word, gird on thy might - y sword,  
3. Come, Ho - ly Com - for - ter, thy sa - cred wit - ness bear  
4. To the great One in Three e - ter - nal prais - es be,

help us to praise. Fa - ther, all glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic -  
our prayer at - tend. Come, and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy  
in this glad hour. Thou who al - might - y art, now rule in  
hence ev - er - more. His sov - ereign maj - es - ty may we in

to - ri - ous, come and reign ov - er us, An - cient of Days.  
Word suc - cess; Spir - it of ho - li - ness, on us de - scend.  
ev - ery heart, and ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.  
glo - ry see, and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

"And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."  
Luke 24

2 Corinthians 13

**God promises the presence of his glory with his Church, now and forever**

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**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.*

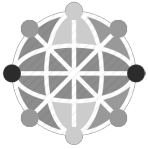




## Welcome to Free Grace

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)  
Brian Cosgrove  
Ken Morris



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Connor Crawford, *voice*; Dan Crawford, *voice*; Beth Almquist, *piano*

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God shows his glory most clearly  
in his saving spiritual nitwits like me.  
So God would have to stop being God  
before he would quit on me.

broken people  
bound together in Christ  
for God's glory