

July 7, 2019

Hath God Said

Free Grace Presbyterian Church

SOME THOUGHTS FOR REFLECTION:

When God speaks, it is the voice of Satan that asks, "Hath God said?" The voice of man made in God's image must be, "Speak, Lord, for thy servant heareth!"

Edmund Clowney
Presbyterian pastor and theologian

Moreover,
the altar at Bethel, the high
place erected by Jeroboam the son
of Nebat, who made Israel to sin, that
altar with the high place he pulled down and
burned, reducing it to dust. He also burned the
Asherah. And as Josiah turned, he saw the tombs
there on the mount. And he sent and took the bones
out of the tombs and burned them on the altar and
defiled it, according to the word of the LORD that the
man of God proclaimed, who had predicted these things.
Then he said, "What is that monument that I see?" And
the men of the city told him, "It is the tomb of the man
of God who came from Judah and predicted these
things that you have done against the altar at
Bethel." And he said, "Let him be; let no man
move his bones." So they let his bones
alone, with the bones of the prophet
who came out of Samaria.
2 Kings 23:15-18

God has willed that we should seek and find His living Word in the witness of a brother, in the mouth of man. Therefore, the Christian needs another Christian who speaks God's Word to him. He needs him again and again when he becomes uncertain and discouraged, for by himself he cannot help himself without belying the truth. He needs his brother man as a bearer and proclaimer of the divine word of salvation.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer
20th century German Lutheran pastor
executed by Hitler in World War II

Shout for joy in the
LORD, O you righteous!
Praise befits the upright. Give
thanks to the LORD with the lyre;
make melody to him with the harp of
ten strings! Sing to him a new song; play
skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.
For the word of the LORD is upright, and
all his work is done in faithfulness. He
loves righteousness and justice; the
earth is full of the steadfast love
of the LORD.

Psalms 33:1-5

He says the word of Yahweh was given to him, because we know that God alone ought to be heard, and the prophets are to be heard only if they present what has come from him.

John Calvin
16th century French-Swiss pastor and theologian

"All flesh is like grass
and all its glory like the
flower of grass. The grass
withers, and the flower falls, but
the word of the Lord remains
forever." And this word is the
good news that was
preached to you.

1 Peter 1:24-25

GOD SUMMONS US BY HIS GRACE

Leader: Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.

Hebrews 1
John 1

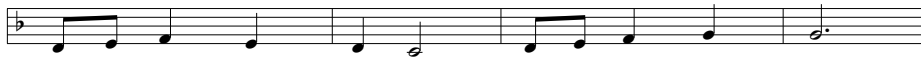
People: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth... For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

We recognize the glory of God seen in the Word made flesh and respond in worship

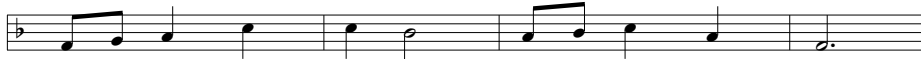
"At the Name of Jesus"



1. At the name of Je - sus ev - 'ry knee shall bow;
2. At his voice cre - a - tion sprang at once to sight;
3. Hum - bled for a sea - son to re - ceive a name
4. In your hearts en - throne him; there let him sub - due
5. Bro - thers, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain,



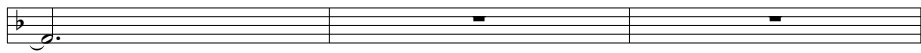
ev - 'ry tongue con - fess him King of glo - ry now.
all the an - gel fa - ces, all the hosts of light,
from the lips of sin - ners un - to whom he came.
all that is not ho - ly, all that is not true.
with his Fa - ther's glo - ry o'er the earth to reign.



Tis the Fa - ther's plea - sure we should call him Lord,
thrones and do - mi - na - tions, stars u - pon their way,
Faith - ful - ly he bore it, spot - less to the last,
Crown him as your cap - tain in temp - ta - tion's hour;
For all earth - ly po - wers meet u - pon his brow,



who from the be - gin - ning was the migh - ty Word.
all the heav'n - ly or - ders in their great ar - ray.
brought it back vic - to - rious, when from death he passed.
let his will en - fold you in its light and pow'r.
and our hearts con - fess him King of Glo - ry now.



We worship God because he made his Word flesh to reveal himself to us. This is the reality of Jesus Christ. In this man all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell so that we might see the glory of God and receive his grace.

"My Maker and My King"

My Ma - ker and my King, to thee my all I owe; thy
 The crea - ture of thy hand, on thee a - lone I live; my
 Lord, what can I im - part when all is thine be - fore? Thy
 O let thy grace in - spire my soul with strength di - vine; let

3 sover - eign boun - ty is the spring whence all my bless - ings flow; thy
 God, thy ben - e - fits de - mand more praise than I can give; my
 love de - mands a thank - ful heart, the gift, a - las! how poor, thy
 ev - 'ry word and each de - sire and all my days be thine; let

5 sover - eign boun - ty is the spring whence all my bless - ings
 God, thy ben - e - fits de - mand more praise than I can
 love de - mands a thank - ful heart, the gift, a - las! how
 ev - 'ry word and each de - sire and all my days be

7 flow.
 give.
 poor.
 thine.

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."
 Revelation 21

GOD SANCTIFIES US BY HIS GRACE

God declares the wages of our sin

You also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness... For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6

We confess our sin, acknowledging the death that we have earned

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

Confession is not feeling sorry for our sin and hoping God will do something about it –he already has! This is the wonder of the gospel. Our confession is an acknowledgment that we need his answer for our sin as well as a resting in that answer: Jesus Christ.

God declares our possession of all the riches purchased by Christ's blood: redemption

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich...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

2 Corinthians 8
1 Peter 1

God shows his
love for us in that
while we were still
sinners, Christ
died for us.
Romans 5

We rejoice in God's love that gives us an interest in the precious blood of Christ

"And Can It Be"

1. And can it be that I should gain an in - trest in the Sav - ior's blood? Died
 2. He left his Fa - ther's throne a - bove, so free, so in - fin - ite his grace! Hum -
 3. Long my im - pris - oned spi - rit lay, fast bound in sin and na - ture's night; thine
 4. No con - dem - na - tion now I dread; Je - sus, and all in him, is mine! A -

he for me, who caused his pain? For me, who him to death pur - sued?
 bled him - self, so great his love, and bled for A - dam's help - less race.
 eye dif - fused a quick - 'ning ray; I woke, the dun - geon flamed with light.
 live in him, my liv - ing Head, and clothed in right - eous - ness di - vine.

A - ma - zing love! How can it be that thou, my God, should die
 'Tis mer - cy all, im - mense and free, for, O my God, it found
 My chains fell off, my heart was free; I rose, went forth, and fol -
 Bold I ap - proach the e - ter - nal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ,

for me? A - ma - zing love! How can it be, that thou, my God, should die for me? A -
 out me.
 - loved thee.
 my own.

ma - zing love! How can it be, that thou, my God should die for me?

GOD SPEAKS WITH US BY HIS GRACE

¹And behold, a man of God came out of Judah by the word of the LORD to Bethel. Jeroboam was standing by the altar to make offerings. ²And the man cried against the altar by the word of the LORD and said, "O altar, altar, thus says the LORD: 'Behold, a son shall be born to the house of David, Josiah by name, and he shall sacrifice on you the priests of the high places who make offerings on you, and human bones shall be burned on you.'" ³And he gave a sign the same day, saying, "This is the sign that the LORD has spoken: 'Behold, the altar shall be torn down, and the ashes that are on it shall be poured out.'" ⁴And when the king heard the saying of the man of God, which he cried against the altar at Bethel, Jeroboam stretched out his hand from the altar, saying, "Seize him." And his hand, which he stretched out against him, dried up, so that he could not draw it back to himself. ⁵The altar also was torn down, and the ashes poured out from the altar, according to the sign that the man of God had given by the word of the LORD. ⁶And the king said to the man of God, "Entreat now the favor of the LORD your God, and pray for me, that my hand may be restored to me." And the man of God entreated the LORD, and the king's hand was restored to him and became as it was before. ⁷And the king said to the man of God, "Come home with me, and refresh yourself, and I will give you a reward." ⁸And the man of God said to the king, "If you give me half your house, I will not go in with you. And I will not eat bread or drink water in this place, ⁹for so was it commanded me by the word of the LORD, saying, 'You shall neither eat bread nor drink water nor return by the way that you came.'" ¹⁰So he went another way and did not return by the way that he came to Bethel.

¹¹Now an old prophet lived in Bethel. And his sons came and told him all that the man of God had done that day in Bethel. They also told to their father the words that he had spoken to the king. ¹²And their father said to them, "Which way did he go?" And his sons showed him the way that the man of God who came from Judah had gone. ¹³And he said to his sons, "Saddle the donkey for me." So they saddled the donkey for him and he mounted it. ¹⁴And he went after the man of God and found him sitting under an oak. And he said to him, "Are you the man of God who came from Judah?" And he said, "I am." ¹⁵Then he said to him, "Come home with me and eat bread." ¹⁶And he said, "I may not return with you, or go in with you, neither will I eat bread nor drink water with you in this place, ¹⁷for it was said to me by the word of the LORD, 'You shall neither eat bread nor drink water there, nor return by the way that you came.'" ¹⁸And he said to him, "I also am a prophet as you are, and an angel spoke to me by the word of the LORD, saying, 'Bring him back with you into your house that he may eat bread and drink water.'" But he lied to him. ¹⁹So he went back with him and ate bread in his house and drank water.

1 Kings 13:1-19

The word of the living God makes things happen. As we sing in the hymn, "He speaks, and listening to his voice, new life the dead receive; the mournful, broken hearts rejoice; the humble poor believe."

Sermon

Robert Crosby

Hath God Said

Long ago, at many
times and in many
ways, God spoke
to our fathers by
the prophets, but
in these last days
he has spoken to
us by his Son,
whom he
appointed the heir
of all things,
through whom
also he created
the world. He is
the radiance of the
glory of God and
the exact imprint
of his nature, and
he upholds the
universe by the
word of his power.

Hebrews 1

We rejoice in the firm foundation of God's word given to us

"How Firm a Foundation"

1. How firm a foun - da - tion, you saints of the Lord, is
2. "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dis - mayed; for
3. "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go, the
4. "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie, my
5. "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose, I

laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent Word! What
I am your God, and will still give you aid; I'll
riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow; for
grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply; the
will not, I will not de - sert to his foes; that

more can he say than to you he has said, to
strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand, up -
I will be with you, your trou - bles to - bless, and
flame shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign your
soul, though all hell should en - dea - vor to - shake, I'll

you who for re - fuge to Je - sus have fled?
held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
sanc - ti - fy to you your deep - est dis - tress."
dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
ne - ver, no ne - ver, no ne - ver for - sake."

Fear not, for I am
with you; be not
dismayed, for I am
your God; I will
strengthen you, I
will help you, I will
uphold you with
my righteous right
hand.
Isaiah 41

GOD STRENGTHENS US BY HIS GRACE

Although not written by the apostles, the Apostles' Creed is a concise summary of their teachings. It originated as a baptismal confession around the second century and developed into its present form around the seventh century.

We declare our faith in God as he has revealed himself in his word

Leader: Do you believe in God?

**People: I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,**

Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Leader: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**People: I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

We give our tithes and offerings as declarations of our faith that all that God reveals is right

“Whate’er My God Ordains is Right”

1. What - e'er my God or - dains is right:
2. What - e'er my God or - dains is right:
3. What - e'er my God or - dains is right:
4. What - e'er my God or - dains is right:

5
ho - ly his will a - bid - eth;
he nev - er will de - ceive me;
though now this cup, in drink - ing,
here shall my stand be tak - en;

9
I will be still what - e'er he does,
he leads me by the prop - er path;
may bit - ter seem to my faint heart,
though sor - row, need, or death be mine,

13
and fol - low where he guid - eth.
I know he will not leave me.
I take it, all un - shrink - ing.
yet I am not for - sak - en.

17
He is my God; though dark my road,
I take con - tent, what he hath sent;
My God is true; each morn a - new
My Fa - ther's care is round me there;

25
he holds me that I shall not a - fall:
his hand can turn my griefs way,
sweet com - fort yet shall fill my heart,
he holds me that I shall not fall:

29
where - fore to him I leave it all.
and pa - tient - ly I wait his day.
and pain and sor - row shall de - part.
and so to him I leave it all.

Shall not the
Judge of all the
earth do what is
just?
Genesis 18

God's promises do not render prayer superfluous. On the contrary, it is only his promises which give us the warrant to pray and the confidence that he will hear and answer.
John Stott

We cry out to God in prayer to know his word and answer its call

*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 live resting in the word of God and his faithfulness to it "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!

The steadfast love
of the LORD never
ceases; his
mercies never
come to an end;
they are new every
morning; great is
your faithfulness.
"The LORD is my
portion," says my
soul, "therefore I
will hope in him."

Lamentations 3

We live in his grace, love, and fellowship

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.

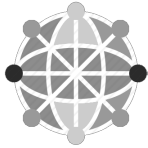
2 Corinthians 13



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



Credits

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Joanne Crosby, *flute*; Connor Crawford, *flute*; Beth Almquist, *piano*

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If it so unreasonable for my wife to expect me to know who she is and what she wants without her telling me, why do I think it is so reasonable for me to know God and what he wants without his telling me?

broken people
bound together in Christ
for God's glory