

September 1, 2024

I Will Tend My Flock

Free Grace Presbyterian Church

SOME THOUGHTS FOR REFLECTION:

There is no word in the whole round of primitive ecclesiastical phraseology which is more frequently used to express the relation of office-bearer than "to shepherd."

Thomas Lindsay
19th century Scottish historian and Presbyterian minister

"Then I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will set shepherds over them who will care for them, and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be missing, declares the LORD."

Jeremiah 23:3-4

Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

Hebrews 13:17

The love of Christ opens the shepherd's heart to share the joys and griefs of his people.

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

And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Matthew 9:35-38

Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.

Acts 20:28

Oh, then, let us hear these arguments of Christ, whenever we feel ourselves grow dull and careless: "Did I die for these souls, and will not you look after them? Were they worth My blood, and are they not worth your labor? Did I come down from heaven to earth, 'to seek and to save that which was lost;' and will you not go to the next door, or street, or village, to seek them? How small is your condescension and labor compared to Mine! I debased Myself to this, but it is your honor to be so employed. Have I done and suffered so much for their salvation, and was I willing to make you a fellow-worker with Me, and will you refuse to do that little which lies upon your hands?"

Richard Baxter
17th century British pastor

So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

1 Peter 5:1-4

GOD SUMMONS US BY HIS GRACE

Leader: What is man's primary purpose?

People: To glorify God and enjoy him forever.

Leader: So make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! Know that the LORD, he is God!

People: It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

People: For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Westminster Shorter
Catechism #1

Psalm 100

We, the sheep of his pasture, enter his courts with praise

"Now unto Jehovah"

Now un - to Je - ho - vah, ye sons of the migh - ty, all
5 glo - ry and strength and do - min - ion ac - cord; as - cribe to him glo -
10 - ry, and ren - der him hon - or. In beau - ty of ho - li - ness wor - ship the Lord!
17 1. The voice of Je - ho - vah comes down on the wa - ters; in thun - der the God
2. The voice of Je - ho - vah is migh - ty, is migh - ty; the voice of Je - ho -
3. Each one in his tem - ple his glo - ry pro - claim - eth. He sat on the flood;
23 of the glo - ry draws nigh. Lo, o - ver the waves of the wide - flow - ing
- vah in maj - es - ty speaks: the voice of Je - ho - vah the ce - dars is
he is King on his throne. Je - ho - vah all strength to his peo - ple im -
29 wa - ters Je - ho - vah as King is en - thron - ed on high!
break - ing; Je - ho - vah the ce - dars of Leb - a - non breaks.
part - eth; Je - ho - vah with peace ev - er bless - eth his own.

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

“Heavenly Hosts in Ceaseless Worship”



1. Heaven-ly hosts in cease-less wor-ship, "Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly!" cry;
2. All cre-a-tion, all re-demp-tion join to sing the Sa-vior's worth;



"He who is, who was, and will be, God Al-migh-ty, Lord Most High.
Lamb of God whose blood has bought us, kings and priests to reign on Earth.



Praise and ho-nor, power and glo-ry be to him who reigns a-lone."
Wealth and wis-dom, power and glo-ry, ho-nor, might, do-min-ion, praise



We, with all his hands have fa-shioned fall be-fore the Fa-ther's throne.
now be his from all his crea-tures and to e-ver-last-ing days!

And they sang a new song, saying, "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

GOD SANCTIFIES US BY HIS GRACE

The holy God calls us to sorrow over our sin

Thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite."

Isaiah 57

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

James 4

We submit ourselves to God, humbling ourselves before him as we confess our sin to him

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 humble ourselves we confess our sins and our need for Jesus Christ and God responds assuring us that Christ's death paid the price of our sin once for all. We are not forgiven again, rather we are reminded that Christ's sacrificial death guarantees our forgiveness once for all.

God claims his sheep through the good Shepherd who laid down his life for us

He was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Isaiah 53

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. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

1 Peter 2

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.

We mourn what it cost our Shepherd to draw us back to him

"O Come and Mourn with Me Awhile"

1. O come and mourn with me a - while; O
 2. Sev'n times he spake 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,

4
 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 -

7
 us ___ mourn: Je - sus, our Lord, is cru - ci - fied. 1&3
 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.

10
 2&4
 Chorus: O love of ___ God! ___ O sin ___ of ___ man! ___ In

13
 this dread ___ act ___ your ___ strength ___ is ___ tried, ___ and vic - to - ry ___ re - mains

16
 with ___ love: Je - sus, our Lord, is cru - ci - fied!

GOD SPEAKS WITH US BY HIS GRACE

¹Ask rain from the LORD
in the season of the spring rain,
from the LORD who makes the storm clouds,
and he will give them showers of rain,
to everyone the vegetation in the field.

²For the household gods utter nonsense,
and the diviners see lies;
they tell false dreams
and give empty consolation.
Therefore the people wander like sheep;
they are afflicted for lack of a shepherd.

³My anger is hot against the shepherds,
and I will punish the leaders;
for the LORD of hosts cares for his flock, the house of Judah,
and will make them like his majestic steed in battle.

⁴From him shall come the cornerstone,
from him the tent peg,
from him the battle bow,
from him every ruler—all of them together.

⁵They shall be like mighty men in battle,
trampling the foe in the mud of the streets;
they shall fight because the LORD is with them,
and they shall put to shame the riders on horses.

⁶I will strengthen the house of Judah,
and I will save the house of Joseph.
I will bring them back because I have compassion on them,
and they shall be as though I had not rejected them,
for I am the LORD their God and I will answer them.

⁷Then Ephraim shall become like a mighty warrior,
and their hearts shall be glad as with wine.
Their children shall see it and be glad;
their hearts shall rejoice in the LORD.

⁸I will whistle for them and gather them in,
for I have redeemed them,
and they shall be as many as they were before.

⁹Though I scattered them among the nations,
yet in far countries they shall remember me,
and with their children they shall live and return.

¹⁰I will bring them home from the land of Egypt,
and gather them from Assyria,

Zechariah 10:1-12

*What rule has God
given to direct us
how we may
glorify and enjoy
him?*

The Word of God,
which is contained
in the Scriptures of
the Old and New
Testaments, is the
only rule to direct
us how we may
glorify and enjoy
him.

Westminster Shorter
Catechism

God... does not send teachers to make the air resound with empty words, but in order to work mightily by their voice and to bring their words to life by the power of his Spirit, for the salvation of believers.
John Calvin

and I will bring them to the land of Gilead and to Lebanon,
till there is no room for them.

¹¹He shall pass through the sea of troubles
and strike down the waves of the sea,
and all the depths of the Nile shall be dried up.

The pride of Assyria shall be laid low,
and the scepter of Egypt shall depart.

¹²I will make them strong in the LORD,
and they shall walk in his name,"
declares the LORD.

Sermon

I Will Tend My Flock

Mine! Living Like You Belong to Jesus
Zechariah 10:1-12

Rev. Adam Lee

1. Shepherdless Sheep (1-3)

2. Shepherds Promised (4-5)

3. The Chief Shepherd Acts (6-12)

We rest in the Shepherd of our lives

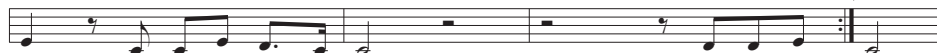
"O Wondrous Love"



1. O wondrous love that will not let me go, I cling to you with all my strength and
love that's come to dwell in me, Lord, who am I, that I should come to



soul, yet if my hold should ev - er fail, this won - drous
know your ten - der voice as - sur - ing me this won - drous



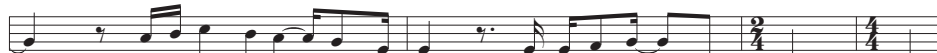
love will nev - er let me go. 2. O won - drous go?
love will nev - er let me



I'm rest - ing in the ev - er - last - ing arms, in the ev - er - faith - ful heart,



the Shep - herd of my life. You'll car - ry me on your might - y wings of grace,



keep - ing me un - til the day I look in - to your eyes.



3. O wondrous love that sings of Cal - va - ry, the sweet - est sound this sin - ner's ev - er
4. O wondrous love that rush - es o - ver me, I can't es - cape this riv - er's glo - rious



known: the song of your re - deem - ing Son, whose won - drous love will nev - er let me
flow; you o - ver - whelm my days with good: your won - drous love will nev - er let me



go. I'm rest - ing go, your won - drous love will nev - er let me go.

God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.
1 John 4

GOD STRENGTHENS US BY HIS GRACE

What the believer
feeds upon, then,
is not Christ's body
as such but the
redemptive
benefits that he
offers through his
saving death.
Richard Phillips

We celebrate the Lord's Supper partaking of the glory of our chief Shepherd and declaring that we belong to a good Shepherd who laid down his life for us

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.

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

The King of love my Shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
And he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul he leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow
With food celestial feedeth.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
Thy unction, grace bestoweth:
And O what transport of delight
From thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
Within thy house for ever.

We clothe ourselves with humility, submitting our lives to our great Shepherd of the sheep as we give our tithes, our offerings, and our lives to him

God was pleased, in his eternal purpose,
to choose and ordain the Lord Jesus, his only begotten Son,
to be the mediator between God and man.

As the mediator, he is the prophet, priest, and king,
the Head and Savior of the church,
the heir of all things,
and the judge of the world.

God gave to him, from all eternity,
a people to be his seed
and to be by him, in time,
redeemed, called, justified, sanctified, and glorified.

The Lord Jesus, by his perfect obedience, and sacrifice of himself,
which he, through the eternal Spirit,
once offered up unto God,
has fully satisfied the justice of his Father;
and purchased, not only reconciliation,
but an everlasting inheritance in the kingdom of heaven,
for all those whom the Father has given unto him.

Westminster Confession
of Faith 8.1 & 8.5

We cry out in prayer to our great Shepherd that we would see his care for us in all things

*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 is our refuge
and strength, a
very present help
in trouble.
Psalm 46

GOD SENDS US BY HIS GRACE

We rejoice to be of his flock, the sheep of his pasture, welcomed into his fold:

Zion

“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”

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.



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
Who can faint, while such a ri - ver ev - er flows their
'Tis his love his peo - ple rais - es, o - ver self to
Fad - ing is the world - ling's plea - sure, all his boast - ed



sure re - pose? With sal - va - tion's walls sur - round - ed,
thirst to quench? Grace which, like the Lord, the gi - ver,
reign as kings, and as priests, his sol - emn prais - es,
pomp and 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.

God declares the promise and guarantee of his tender care for us through the great Shepherd of the sheep

Leader: Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

People: Amen

Please stay and join us for a time of enjoying each other's company.

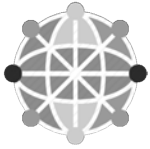
This is a time to share in life together as the gospel calls us as we reconnect with those we know, and as we meet someone new.



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. Dr. Per Almquist (pastor)
Brian Cosgrove
Adam Lee
Ken Morris
Ben Van Dyke



Credits

Cover artwork: *Shepherding the Flock*, Michael O'Neill, oil on canvas, 2017?.

Scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright ©2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

All songs are used by permission. All rights are reserved by the copyright holders. All are used according to CCLI license #11100390.

Shannon Van Dyke, *voice*; Beth Almquist, *piano*

"Now Unto Jehovah" ©2009 Gregory D. Wilbur. Words: Psalm 29, verse 1, The Psalter, 1912, verses 2-4, Book of Psalms, 1871. Music: Gregory D. Wilbur, 2009.

"Heavenly Hosts in Ceaseless Worship" ©1975 Hope Publishing Co. Words: based on Revelation 4-5, Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1972. Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824.

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

"O Wondrous Love" ©2001 Sovereign Grace Worship (ASCAP). Words and Music: Steve and Vikki Cook, 2001.

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is" ©1998 Mole End Music. Words: adapted from Psalm 23 by Henry Baker, 1868; Music: Old Irish tune, arr. by Michael Card and Craig Duncan, 1998.

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken" ©1998 Kevin Twit Music. Words: John Newton, 1779. Music: Kevin Twit, 1998.

Jesus, the Mediator, the sole Priest, Prophet, King, Savior, and Head of the Church, contains in Himself, by way of eminency, all the offices in His Church, and has many of their names attributed to Him in the Scriptures. He is Apostle, Teacher, Pastor, Minister, Bishop and the only Lawgiver in Zion. It belongs to His Majesty from His throne of glory to rule and teach the Church through His Word and Spirit by the ministry of men; thus mediately exercising His own authority and enforcing His own laws, unto the edification and establishment of His Kingdom.

The Book of Church Order

Preface

broken people
bound together in Christ
for God's glory

