

June 22, 2025 The River and the Rock Free Grace Presbyterian Church

Some Thoughts for Reflection

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.

Genesis 3:15

God does not leave the fulfillment of His promises to chance or to men, but secures them in Christ—who is both the Yes and the Amen of all His covenants.

John Calvin 16th century Swiss reformer, pastor, theologian

When we make gods in our own image, we deny the Christ God has revealed. Only the God who stoops to take our nature and bear our curse can redeem us.

Herman Bavinck 19th century Dutch reformed theologian And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing... and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.

Genesis 12:2-3

The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples. Genesis 49:10 The gospel is not about a new start, but a new Head. As in Adam all die, so in Christ shall all be made alive. Sinclair Ferguson Presbyterian pastor, theologian

To follow Christ is to forsake all counterfeit sons of Adam, and to be found in the one true Son—bone of our bone, yet without sin. Robert Murray M'Cheyne 19th Century Scottish Pastor I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom... and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 2 Samuel 7:12-13

GOD SUMMONS US BY HIS GRACE

- Leader: You have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to countless thousands of angels in a joyful gathering. You have come to the assembly of God's firstborn children, whose names are written in heaven.
- People: We have come to God himself, who is the judge over all things.
- Leader: You have come to Jesus, the one who mediates the new covenant between God and people, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks of forgiveness.
- People: Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

We enter His courts with songs of praise!

"To God Be the Glory"



Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness! Psalm 115:1

Hebrews 12

Psalm 95

GOD SANCTIFIES US BY HIS GRACE

Isaiah 1	God proclaims our sin of generational rebellion Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth; for the LORD has spoken "Children have I reared and brought up, but they have rebelled against me. The ox knows its owner, and the donkey its master's crib, but Israel does not know, my people do not understand."
John 1	The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive 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.

the best sacrifice to God, and a broken confession is the best absolution to the conscience. Richard Sibbes (The Bruised Reed)

A broken heart is

God declares that all who are in Christ are justified by his righteousness

Romans 5

2 Corinthians 5

As one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous... For our sake God made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.



If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared. Psalm 130:3-4



Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us. Selah Psalm 62:8

GOD SPEAKS WITH US BY HIS GRACE

[23] Jesus, when he began his ministry, was about thirty years of age, being the son (as was supposed) of loseph, the son of Heli, [24] the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, the son of Melchi, the son of Jannai, the son of Joseph, [25] the son of Mattathias, the son of Amos, the son of Nahum, the son of Esli, the son of Naggai, [26] the son of Maath, the son of Mattathias, the son of Semein, the son of Josech, the son of Joda, [27] the son of Joanan, the son of Rhesa, the son of Zerubbabel, the son of Shealtiel, the son of Neri, [28] the son of Melchi, the son of Addi, the son of Cosam, the son of Elmadam, the son of Er, [29] the son of Joshua, the son of Eliezer, the son of Jorim, the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, [30] the son of Simeon, the son of Judah, the son of Joseph, the son of Jonam, the son of Eliakim, [31] the son of Melea, the son of Menna, the son of Mattatha, the son of Nathan, the son of David, [32] the son of lesse, the son of Obed, the son of Boaz, the son of Sala, the son of Nahshon, [33] the son of Amminadab, the son of Admin, the son of Arni, the son of Hezron, the son of Perez, the son of Judah, [34] the son of Jacob, the son of Isaac, the son of Abraham, the son of Terah, the son of Nahor, [35] the son of Serug, the son of Reu, the son of Peleg, the son of Eber, the son of Shelah, [36] the son of Cainan, the son of Arphaxad, the son of Shem, the son of Noah, the son of Lamech, [37] the son of Methuselah, the son of Enoch, the son of Jared, the son of Mahalaleel, the son of Cainan, [38] the son of Enos, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.

Luke 3:23-38

Rev. Adam Lee

The River and The Rock

That You May Be Certain

We must reject every false savior and trust Christ alone because God has openly revealed who Jesus is:

1) By Keeping Public Promises

- a) to crush the serpents head
- b) to bless the nations
- c) to provide a forever king

2) By Unseen Hands

- a) using unknown names
- b) In silent years
- c) with ordinary providence

3) As a New Adam

- a) Becoming the head of a new people
- b) the fountain of new life

We cry out that Jesus is our only haven of rest

"Jesus, I am Resting, Resting"



We must remember that the only haven of safety is in the mercy of God, as manifested in Christ, in whom every part of our salvation is complete." John Calvin

GOD STRENGTHENS US BY HIS GRACE

We celebrate the Lord's Supper, resting in the protection of Christ our rock

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 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.

Romans 5:12-19

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned—for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

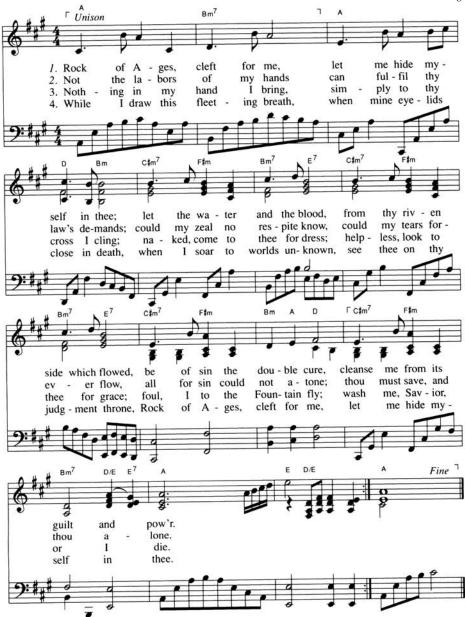
But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men.

For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

As certainly as I see with my eyes the bread of the Lord broken for me, and the cup communicated to me, so certainly is His body offered and broken, and His blood shed for me. Zacharias Ursinus

"Rock of Ages



Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD GOD is an everlasting rock. Isaiah 26:1

We echo the truth of God's covenant mercy

Westminster Larger Catechism Q#22	Did all mankind fall in that first transgression? The covenant being made with Adam as a public person, not for himself only, but for his posterity, all mankind descending from him by ordinary generation, sinned in him, and fell with him in that first transgression.
Westminster Shorter Catechism Q#20	Did God leave all mankind to perish in the estate of sin and misery? God having, out of his mere good pleasure, from all eternity, elected some to everlasting life, <i>did enter into a covenant of grace</i> , to deliver them out of the estate of sin and misery, and to bring them into an estate of salvation by a Redeemer.
Westminster Larger Catechism Q#31	With whom was the covenant of grace made? The covenant of grace was made with Christ as the second Adam, and in him with all the elect as his seed.

A catechism is a teaching tool written in question-andanswer format. The Westminster Larger & Shorter Catechisms were written in England in the 1640s to teach about God as he reveals himself in the Bible. It has been used by congregations and families in both worship and instruction for almost 400 years.

We give thanks to God for his mercies and make our petitions known 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 BY HIS GRACE



God declares His peace will overflow like a river

Leader: May the Lord extend peace to you like a river, and the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream; may he comfort you as one whom his mother comforts. You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice; your bones shall flourish like the grass; and the hand of the LORD shall be known to his servants.

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 Isaiah 66



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:





Credits

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.

Beth Almquist, piano; Dan Crawford, voice; Abigail Lee, violin

"To God Be the Glory" Public Domain. Words: Fanny Crosby, 1875. Music: William Doane, 1875.

"A Debtor to Mercy Alone" ©1998 Kevin Twit Music. Words: Augustus Toplady, 1771. Music: Kevin Twit, 1998.

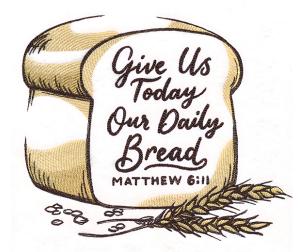
"Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul" ©1998 Kevin Twit Music. Words: Anne Steele, 1760?. Music: Kevin Twit, 1998.

"Jesus, I am Resting, Resting" ©1998 NewSpring Music. Words: Jean S. Pigott, 1876. Music: David Hampton, 1998.

"Rock of Ages" ©1985 Music Anno Domini. Words: Augustus Toplady, 1776 alt. by Thomas Cotterill, 1815. Music: James Ward, 1984.

"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less" Public Domain. Words: Edward Mote, 1834. Music: William Bradbury, 1863.

Our Daily Worship A through-the-week devotional



The following pages are provided for you with a desire to "lead you beside still waters". May they assist you in your walk with Christ through week, as you practice his presence, feed upon his word, and reflect upon how both impact your weekly life.

Monday

Scripture: Luke 3:23 – Jesus, when he began his ministry, was about thirty years of age, being the son (as was supposed) of Joseph...

Reflection: The Gospel begins with a name. Nothing miraculous—just a list of fathers and sons. But in that quiet beginning, God is keeping ancient promises. Jesus didn't appear out of nowhere; He came as the answer to every covenant promise, the fulfillment of every thread in redemptive history. Not through mythology, but through human lineage.

Our Common Weakness: We often skip over genealogies in Scripture, dismissing them as irrelevant or dull—missing the profound way God works through ordinary names and long-forgotten generations.

Christ Connection: Christ steps onto the scene as the long-promised Son. In Him, the silence breaks, and God's Word stands visible.

Luke 3:23 What does the quiet beginning of Jesus' ministry—through a genealogy—teach us about God's ways of working?

Genesis 12:1–3 How do God's promises to Abraham help you read the genealogy of Jesus with fresh eyes?

Micah 5:2 How does this quiet prophecy—about a small town and a long-promised King help you trust that God is still at work, even when His ways seem hidden or slow in your life?

Prayer: Lord, Your faithfulness spans generations. Teach me to rest in Your Word, even when the fulfillment seems slow. Thank You for Christ, who proves You always keep Your promises. Amen.

Tuesday

Scripture: Luke 3:23b–31 – ...the son of David, the son of Jesse, the son of Obed... the son of Boaz... the son of Judah... the son of Jacob... the son of Isaac... the son of Abraham...

Reflection: These names are not filler. They are covenant echoes—living proof that God never forgets His Word. Jesus arrives not by chance, but by divine commitment. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Judah, Boaz, David... Each name recalls a promise: a serpent-crushing Seed, a blessing for all nations, a forever King. The Gospel doesn't bypass history—it fulfills it.

Our Common Weakness: We want spiritual results now, without the wait, and so rather rewrite the story than trust the Author.

Christ Connection: Christ came just as promised. The ancient covenant line held, not because people were faithful—but because God was.

Luke 1:54–55 What does Mary's song teach us about God's faithfulness to His covenant with Abraham and his offspring?

2 Corinthians 1:20 How does this passage help you see that the Old Testament covenants were always pointing to Him—and that, by faith, you are now grafted into all those promises?

Psalm 105:8–10 Why is it vital to remember God's covenant over generations? How might your faithfulness today bless future believers?

Prayer: God of Abraham and David, You keep covenant through centuries and sinners. Anchor my trust in Your promises—even the ones that feel far off. Teach me to wait with hope, knowing Christ has already come—and will come again. Amen.

Wednesday

Scripture: Luke 3:31–34 – ...the son of Melea, the son of Menna, the son of Mattatha... the son of Esli... the son of Naggai...

Reflection: These are the names we forget—if we ever knew them at all. No stories, no miracles—just quiet links in the chain. But the Spirit included them for a reason. God's redemption doesn't depend on fame or flash. It moves through generations of quiet faithfulness.

Our Common Weakness: We equate significance with spotlight. If our obedience isn't seen or celebrated, we wonder if it matters at all.

Christ Connection: Jesus came through men and women never mentioned elsewhere in Scripture; yet they still carried the line of the Messiah. So your quiet faithfulness—your prayers, your service, your parenting, your one-on-one discipleship, your patience—is not wasted. Christ redeems the ordinary. In Him, no act of obedience is ever overlooked.

Hebrews 6:10 How does this verse reassure you when your service feels unseen or small?

1 Corinthians 1:27–29 Why does God often work through the weak or hidden things of the world? How does this encourage you today?

Galatians 6:9 How does this verse encourage you to persevere in quiet faithfulness—even when there's no immediate fruit?

Prayer: Lord of every generation, You see what we overlook. Teach me to trust that Your hand is at work—even when mine seems empty. May I find joy in quiet faithfulness, knowing Christ came through the seeming mundaneness of life. Amen.

Thursday

Scripture: Luke 3:38 – ...the son of Enos, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God. Reflection: Luke's genealogy goes all the way to Adam, not just Abraham. He wants us to see Jesus not just as Israel's Messiah, but the Savior of all ethnicities. Adam failed to represent humanity in righteousness. But Christ came as the new and better Adam, the true Son of God, who would obey where Adam disobeyed, bringing life where Adam brought death.

Our Common Weakness: We still act like Adam is in charge—as if we're the authority over our lives, not Christ.

Christ Connection: Jesus came as the new Adam—our covenant head and our hope. In Him, a new humanity is born. When we belong to Christ, we're no longer defined by the fall of Adam but by the righteousness of our Savior.

Luke 3:36-38 How does tracing Jesus' line through both judgment (Noah) and creation (Adam) deepen your confidence in Him as the Redeemer of all nations?

Romans 5:18–19 How does Paul describe the contrast between Adam and Christ? How does this deepen your understanding of what Jesus accomplished?

1 Corinthians 15:21–22 How does this passage clarify what it means for Christ to be the "new Adam"? What comfort does it give for daily life and final hope?

Prayer: Father, thank You for giving us a new head in Christ. Where Adam failed, Jesus triumphed. Let His obedience shape my heart, and His resurrection life empower my days. Teach me to walk in joyful submission—not as one bound by fear, but as one freed by grace. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Friday

Scripture: Isaiah 32:1–2 – Behold, a king will reign in righteousness, and princes will rule in justice. Each will be like a hiding place from the wind, a shelter from the storm, like streams of water in a dry place, like the shade of a great rock in a weary land.

Reflection: Isaiah foresaw rulers who would bring shelter to those under their care. What he saw in part, we see in fullness: Jesus is not only the promised King—He is the Rock Himself. Luke has taken us through a river of names. But where does it lead? To a Person. A place of rest. Jesus does not merely stand at the end of Israel's line—He becomes the source of a new one. He stepped into the torrent of judgment to bear its full weight. And now, behind Him— in the quiet waters of grace—we find rest. He is our shelter, our Rock, and from Him flows the water of life.

Our Common Weakness: We think we can withstand the torrent of sin instead of seeking the shelter of the Rock.

Christ Connection: Christ is the true King, the refuge for the weary, and the fountain of living water.

John 7:37–38 What does Jesus mean when He says rivers of living water will flow from within those who believe in Him? How does this tie back to being sheltered in Him? Consider also **Exodus 17:6** as you reflect.

Revelation 22:1–2 How does the image of the river of life flowing from the throne of God and the Lamb help you see that the story which began in Genesis and flowed through Luke 3 is now fulfilled in Christ—and still flowing toward you?

Prayer: Rock of our salvation, You stood in the storm so I could rest in grace. Thank You for taking the flood of judgment and becoming my hiding place. Let living water flow from You through me. Keep me in Your shelter—and send me in Your name. Amen.

CATECHISM CORNER

WLC .31 – With whom was the covenant of grace made? The covenant of grace was made with Christ as the second Adam, and in him with all the elect as his seed.

The covenant of grace rests on this astonishing truth: God made His saving promises not just to individuals here and there, but to Christ Himself—as the true representative of all who would be united to Him by faith. Jesus is the second Adam, the Head of a new humanity, securing redemption for those who belong to Him.

Scripture affirms this in multiple places:

- **Galatians 3:16–17** teaches that the promises made to Abraham were ultimately made to Christ, showing He is the focal point of God's covenantal plan.
- **Romans 5:15–21** shows Christ as the second Adam, whose obedience brings life and justification where Adam's disobedience brought death.
- **Isaiah 53:10–11** speaks of the suffering servant bearing guilt and, as a result, seeing His "offspring"—the people secured by His sacrifice.
- **Psalm 22:30** anticipates generations yet unborn who will be joined to Christ in worship and service.
- **Ephesians 1:4** assures us that God chose His people *in Christ* before the foundation of the world, anchoring the covenant in eternity.

Why does this matter? Because your hope doesn't rest in your performance, but in your union with Christ. If God made the covenant with Him, and you are in Him, then the promises are yours. Full stop.

If Jesus is the covenant Head, how does that shape your view of assurance and salvation?

Isaiah 53:10 speaks of Christ "seeing His offspring" and being satisfied. How does it encourage you to know that your faith is part of what brings joy to the heart of your Redeemer?

PRAYER/PRAISES

Your elders are praying over the following matters and invite you to join us in seeking the Lord's help:

- 1) Pray that the Lord would raise up deacons from within our congregation. In this season, many practical needs are being met by your elders, which can stretch the time we have for our primary calling—prayer and the ministry of the Word. We are trusting the Lord to provide co-laborers who can share in the care and service of Christ's body."
- 2) Pray for the completion and fruitful use of a new gospel booklet. Pastor Adam has written a short booklet designed to help communicate the gospel clearly and personally. Pray that the final steps in this project would be completed soon, and that the booklet would become a useful tool for many in sharing Christ with loved ones. THIS IS GETTING CLOSER... HOPEFULLY AFTER GA!
- **3)** Pray for Per and Adam as they go to General Assembly this week. Pray that God will be glorified as the church gathers to do the business set before it.

Use this space to track record things you are praying for this week:



This Week In Focus:

Sunday, June 22nd – Prayer Meeting 6:00pm at the church

NOTE: No Youth Group This week

Regular Rhythms of Grace

<u>Weekly Gatherings</u> Youth Group - Fridays, 7:00pm – At the church

Prayer Meeting - Sundays, 6:00pm – At the church

Monthly or Biweekly Gatherings

First Friday Fires - 1st Friday, 5:45pm – Lee Family Home Bring a side dish, and dress appropriately for the weather.

Second Sunday Discussions - 2nd Sunday, 15 minutes after worship ends Family-style conversations on a rotating topic.

Women's Breakfast - 2nd Saturday, 9:30am – Cosgrove Family Home (Cancelled for June)

Men's Night - 3rd Friday, 7:00pm – Location varies

Praying for Prodigals - 3rd Sunday, 8:30am – Church building

Conversations in Grace - *1st & 3rd Thursdays, 7:00pm – At the church* Summer evening conversations in God's Word.

broken people bound together in Christ for God's glory