



November 16, 2025

Trophies of Divine Grace

Free Grace Presbyterian Church

SOME THOUGHTS FOR REFLECTION

We who were God's former enemies (Rom. 5:10) have been overcome and taken captive by Him and are led and displayed by Him to the world, not just on one passing occasion, but every day and everywhere where. From justification until glorification the redeemed sinner is on exhibition as a trophy of divine grace.

Philip Edgcumb Hughes
20th century Anglican NT scholar

Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days."

John 11:39

Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Philippians 3:8-11

The role of those led in triumph was to reveal the glory of the one who had conquered them.

Scott Hafemann
NT scholar

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God... but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

1 Corinthians 1:18, 23-24

But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.

1 Corinthians 15:10

The gospel is preached unto salvation, for that is its real purpose... The proper function of the gospel is always to be distinguished from its accidental function which must always be imputed to the depravity of men by which life is turned into death.

John Calvin
16th-century French-Swiss pastor and theologian

GOD SUMMONS US BY HIS GRACE

Leader: The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.

People: **We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, who is and who was, for you have taken your great power and begun to reign.**

Leader: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

People: **Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!**

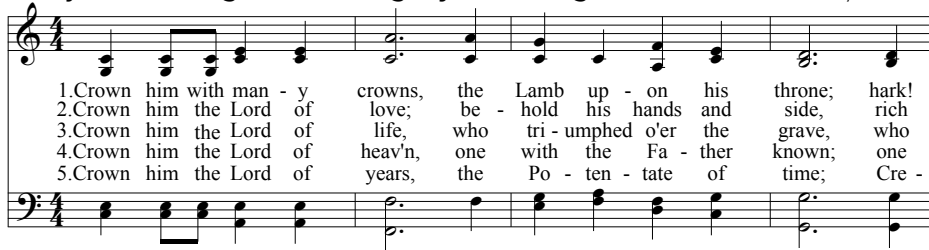
Revelation 11

Zechariah 9

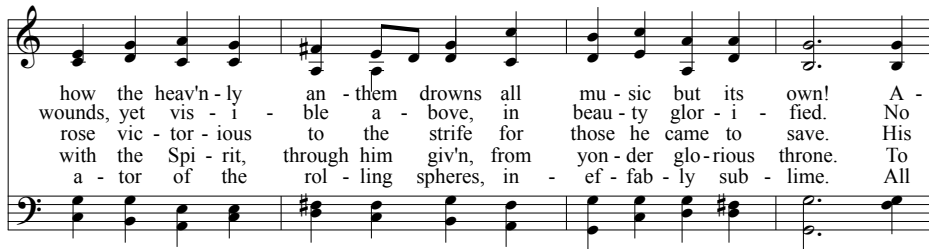
Luke 19

We rejoice, shouting aloud of the glory of our King

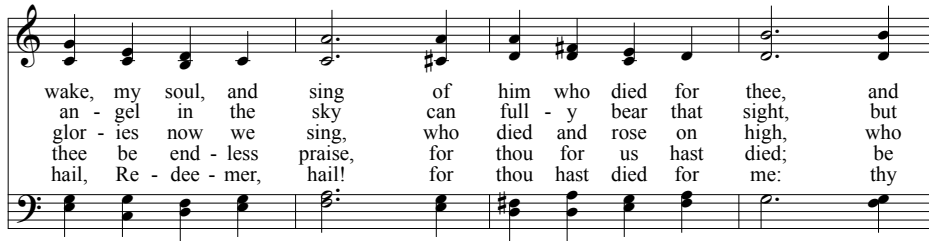
"Crown Him with Many Crowns"



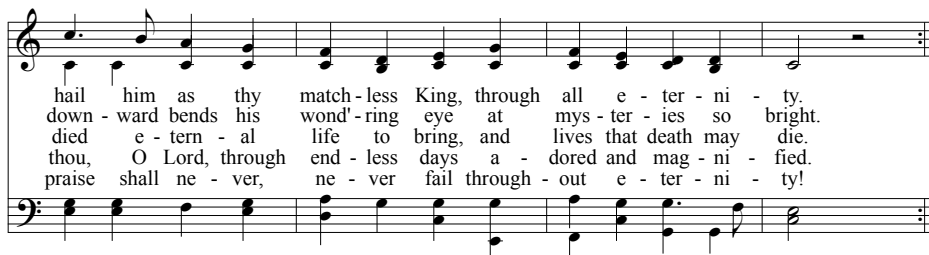
1.Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne; hark!
2.Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side, rich
3.Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave, who
4.Crown him the Lord of heav'n, one with the Fa - ther known; one
5.Crown him the Lord of years, the Po - ten - tate of time; Cre -



how the heav'n - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own! A -
wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glor - i - fied. No
rose vic - tor - ious to the strife for those he came to save. His
with the Spi - rit, through him giv'n, from yon - der glo - rious throne. To
a - tor of the rol - ling spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime. All



wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and
an - gel in the sky can full - y bear that sight, but
glor - ies now we sing, who died and rose on high, who
thee be end - less praise, for thou for us hast died; be
hail, Re - dee - mer, for for thou hast died for me; thy



hail him as thy match - less King, through all e - ter - ni - ty.
down - ward bends his wond' - ring eye at mys - ter - ies so bright.
died e - tern - al life to bring, and lives that death may die.
thou, O Lord, through end - less days a - dored and mag - ni - fied.
praise shall ne - ver, ne - ver fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty!

It is the joy of
God's people to
sing praises to him.
There is none like
him, and one day,
his glory will be
clearly seen, and
all people will
come and worship
him,
acknowledging
that he alone is
God. Our worship
is a taste of that
day.

"Alleluia, Sing to Jesus"

1. Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus! His the scep - ter, his the throne. Al - le -
 2. Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, thee the Lord of lords we own; Al - le -

5
 lu - ia! His the tri - umph, his the vic - t'ry, his a - lone. Hark! The
 lu - ia! Born of Ma - ry, earth thy foot - stool, heav'n thy throne. Al - le -

9
 songs of peace-ful Zi - on thun-der like a might-y flood; Je - sus
 lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our food and stay! Al - le -

13
 out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood. Al - le -
 lu - ia! Here the sin - ful flee to thee from day to day. Al - le -

17
 lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in sor-row now. Al - le -
 lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus! His the scept - er, his the throne. Al - le -

21
 lu - ia! He is near us; faith be - lieves, nor ques-tions how.
 lu - ia! His the tri - umph, his the vic - t'ry, his a - lone.

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

God declares our sin and what it has earned us: death

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...Sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned... For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 3, 5, and 6

We confess our sin, coming to God in repentance and rest in him rather than our own deeds

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.

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 declares our victory in Christ's death

"Death is swallowed up in victory."

"O death, where is your victory?"

O death, where is your sting?"

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ...We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

1 Corinthians 15

Romans 6

He had no form or
majesty that we
should look at
him, and no
beauty that we
should desire him.
He was despised
and rejected by
men, a man of
sorrows and
acquainted with
grief; and as one
from whom men
hide their faces he
was despised, and
we esteemed him
not.
Isaiah 53

We rest and rejoice in the One who reigns victorious

"Who is This, So Weak and Helpless"

1. Who is this, so weak and help - less, child of low - ly He - brew
 2. Who is this, a Man of Sor - rows, walk - ing sad - ly life's hard
 3. Who is this? Be - hold him shed - ding drops of blood up - on the
 4. Who is this that hangs there dy - ing while the rude world scoffs and

5
 maid, rude - ly in a sta - ble shel - tered, cold - ly in a man - ger
 way, home - less, wea - ry, sigh - ing, weep - ing o - ver sin and Sa - tan's
 ground! Who is this, des - pised, re - ject - ed, mocked, in - sult - ed, beat - en,
 scorns, num - bered with the mal - e - fac - tors, torn with nails, and crowned with

9
 laid? 'Tis the Lord _____ of all cre - a - tion, _____ who this
 sway? 'Tis our God, _____ our glo - rious Sav - ior, _____ who a -
 bound? 'Tis our God, _____ who gifts and grac - es _____ on his
 thorns? 'Tis our God _____ who lives for - ev - er _____ 'mid the

12 3
 won - drous path _____ has trod; he is God _____ from ev - er -
 bove _____ the star - ry sky; is for us _____ a place pre -
 church _____ is pour - ing down; who shall smite _____ in ho - ly
 shin - ing ones on high, in the glo - - rious gold - en

15
 last - ing, and to ev - er - last - ing God.
 par - ing, where no tear can dim the eye.
 ven - geance all his foes be - neath his throne.
 cit - y, reign - ing ev - er - last - ing - ly.

GOD SPEAKS WITH US BY HIS GRACE

¹⁴But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. ¹⁵For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, ¹⁶to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life. Who is sufficient for these things? ¹⁷For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God's word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ.

2 Corinthians 2:14-17

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Per Almquist

Trophies of Divine Grace

Led in triumph in Christ, we spread the fragrance of knowledge of him

1) What is the fragrance spread? (**15-16**)

2) How is the fragrance spread? (**17**)

3) Who spreads the fragrance? (**14, 16b-17**)

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."

“Yet Not I, But through Christ in Me”

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Galatians 2

Galatians 2

GOD STRENGTHENS US BY HIS GRACE

God leads us in triumph as we share in Christ's death through celebrating 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 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.

1 Corinthians 15

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive...

When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

"Death is swallowed up in victory."

"O death, where is your victory?"

O death, where is your sting?"

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Clothed with our
flesh he
vanquished death
and sin together
that the victory
and triumph might
be ours.
John Calvin

Led in triumph, God spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him as we give our lives as offerings to him

Leader: Blessed are the poor in spirit,
People: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Leader: Blessed are those who mourn,
People: for they shall be comforted.

Leader: Blessed are the meek,
People: for they shall inherit the earth.

Leader: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
People: for they shall be satisfied.

Leader: Blessed are the merciful,
People: for they shall receive mercy.

Leader: Blessed are the pure in heart,
People: for they shall see God.

Leader: Blessed are the peacemakers,
People: for they shall be called sons of God.

Leader: Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
People: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Leader: Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.
People: Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Leader: You are the salt of the earth,
People: but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

Leader: You are the light of the world.
People: A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.

Leader: In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

As God's people we declare our faith in him with our words, proclaiming the substance of our faith. We declare our faith in deed as we give our offerings to God, trusting in his promise. And we declare our faith as we seek him in prayer, asking that he would work in us, his church, our community, and the world.

We pray for God, through us, to spread the fragrance of the knowledge of him
"Jesus, with Thy Church Abide"

1. Je - sus, with thy church a - bide; be her Sav - ior,
2. Keep her life and doct - rine pure; grant her pa - tience
3. May she one in doct - rine be, one in truth and
4. May she guide the poor and blind, seek the lost un -

4
Lord, and guide, while on earth her faith is tried:
to en - dure, trust - ing in thy prom - ise sure:
char - i - ty, win - ning all to faith in thee:
til she find, and the bro - ken - heart - ed bind:

8
we be - seech thee, hear us. we be - seech thee, hear us.
we be - seech thee, hear us, we be - seech thee, hear us.
we be - seech thee, hear us, we be - seech thee, hear us.
we be - seech thee, hear us, we be - seech thee, hear us.

That prayer is most
likely to pierce
heaven which first
pierces one's own
heart.
Thomas Watson

GOD SENDS US BY HIS GRACE

We sing out to spread the fragrance of the knowledge of him

"O for a Thousand Tongues"

Sing praises to the
LORD, who sits
enthroned in Zion!
Tell among the
peoples his deeds!
Psalm 9

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in six lines, corresponding to the six parts of the hymn. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and bar lines. Chord symbols are provided above the staff: F/A, C, F, C, Dm, C, F, C7, F, C, F, F/A, Bb, F/C, C7, F. The lyrics are: 1.O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise, the 2.My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim, to 3.Je-sus, the name that charms our fears, that bids our sor-rows cease; 'tis 4.He breaks the pow'r of reign-ing sin, he sets the pris-'ner free; his 5.He speaks and, list-'ning to his voice, new life the dead re-ceive; the 6.Hear him, ye deaf, his praise, ye dumb, your loos-en'd tongues em-ploy; ye glo-ries of my God and King, the tri-umphs of his grace. spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of thy name. mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace. blood can make the foul-est clean, his blood a-vailed for me. mourn-ful bro-ken hearts re-joice, the hum-ble poor be-lieve. blind, be-hold your Sav-ior come; and leap, ye lame, for joy!

We go out in the promise of God at work in us

2 Corinthians 2
Micah 5

Leader: Now may God, who in Christ, always leads us in triumphal procession, spread through you the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. May you dwell secure in his greatness and may he be your peace.

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*

This Week In Focus:

ALL THIS MONTH

Deacon Fund- *Please prayerfully consider giving to the deacons fund (green envelope)*

Ministry Relief Fund- *During the season of Advent*

Sunday, November 16th

Prayer Meeting- 6:00pm at the church

Tuesday- November 18th

Free Grace English@ The Root Cellar- 6:30-7:30pm

Wednesday- November 19th

Conversations in Grace- CANCELLED THIS WEEK

Saturday, November 29th

Decorating the church for Advent- *Please let Linda know if you can be the coordinator for this.*

If you do not know the address of any event, or the contact information for any event, please contact either Pastor Adam at adam.lee@freegrace.us or Linda at the email address below.

If you would like to be added to our church-family email where you can keep in touch through the week, or if you would like to be added to the church directory, please email Linda at linda.morris@freegrace.us

If you are a member of Free Grace and are not using the church directory app, you are missing out on a very useful tool. Please reach out to Linda to see how to download it to your phone.

Regular Rhythms of Grace

Weekly Gatherings

Free Grace English @ the Root Cellar -Tuesdays 6:30- 7:30pm

Conversations in Grace -Wednesday 7:00pm – *At the church(conversation about the weekly devotional).*

Youth Group - Fridays, 7:00pm – *At the church*

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

Monthly or Biweekly Gatherings

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

Session Meetings- 2nd Thursday, 9am- *Pastor's office (visitors are welcome to sit in)*

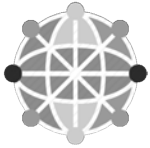
Women's Breakfast - 2nd Saturday, 9:30am – *Cosgrove Family Home*

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



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
Brian Cosgrove
Rev. Adam Lee
Ken Morris
Ben Van Dyke



Credits

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

"Crown Him with Many Crowns" Public Domain. Words: Matthew Bridges, 1851, and Godfrey Thring (v. 3), 1874. Music: George Elvey, 1868.

"Alleluia, Sing to Jesus" music ©2013 The Hymn Collective. Words: William C. Dix, 1867. Music: Jeff Koonce, 2013.

"Who is This, So Weak and Helpless" ©1997 Christopher Miner Music. Words: William How, 1867, alt. 1990, mod. Music: Christopher Miner, 1997.

"Yet Not I, But Christ Through Me" ©2018 CityAlight Music. Words and Music: Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, and Michael Farren.

"Jesus, with Thy Church Abide" ©1997 Christopher Miner Music. Words: Thomas Pollock, 1871. Music: Christopher Miner, 1997.

"O for a Thousand Tongues" Public Domain. Words: Charles Wesley, 1739; alt. 1961. Music: Carl Glaser, arr. by Lowell Mason, 1839.

Some things are so fragrant that the very mention of them calls the aroma to mind:

burnt food, Limburger cheese, newly mown grass, and freshly baked apple pie.

The question isn't whether your life spreads a fragrance, but what aroma is it?

broken people
bound together in Christ
for God's glory