

WELCOME TO GRACE CHURCH

A people gladly serving the Lord Jesus and neighbors near and far

BECAUSE OF THE LORD'S GREAT LOVE, WE ARE NOT CONSUMED, FOR HIS COMPASSIONS NEVER FAIL, THEY ARE NEW EVERY MORNING, GREAT IS YOUR FAITHFULNESS.

We worship our Savior on March 16, 2025 (9 a.m.)

("Come as you are ... then go home different")

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PASTOR: W. Michael Langford

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Chris Peters (9 a.m.- 5 p.m. on Thursdays)

BLESSING US WITH MUSIC....Linda Langford

MINISTERS: All of us! (We are all ministers of God's grace and we're on-duty '24/7')



Love
your neighbor
as yourself.

Leviticus 19:18

GATHERING HYMN (U.M. # 147) “All Things Bright And Beautiful”

(REFRAIN) All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,

All things wise and wonderful: the Lord God made them all.

(1) Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors, and made their tiny wings.

(2) The purple-headed mountains, the river running by,
The sunset and the morning that brightens up the sky.

(3) The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden: God made them every one.

(4) God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty, who has made all things well.

A WELCOME from our liturgist: Janice Guy

A CALL TO WORSHIP Inspired by Revelation 5:11-14

...I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands

They encircled the Throne and the living creatures and the elders.

They sang: “worthy is The Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth ...

...and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!”

...I heard every creature in heaven and under the earth and used before on the sea...

They sang “to Him who sits on the Throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor”

They proclaimed: “To Him be glory and power, for ever and ever!”

These are praises we would also bring.

May our worship be a pleasing sacrifice unto The Lord, today and always.

The things written about The Lamb of God are true: Jesus is truly worthy to be praised!

I'm so glad that I belong to Him. This is why I worship Him today!

Come, friends...let's praise Him whose Throne will surely stand forever!

OPENING HYMN (U.M. # 380) “There's Within My Heart A Melody”

(1) There's within my heart a melody Jesus whispers sweet and low:
Fear not, I am with thee, peace, be still, in all of life's ebb and flow.

**(REFRAIN) Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, sweetest name I know,
Fills my every longing, keeps me singing as I go.**

(2) All my life was wrecked by sin and strife, discord filled my heart with pain;
Jesus swept across the broken strings, stirred the slumbering chords again. **(REFRAIN)**

(3) Though sometimes he leads through waters deep, trials fall across the way,
'Tho sometimes the path seems rough and steep, see his footprints all the way. **(REF)**

(4) Feasting on the riches of his grace, resting neath his sheltering wing,
Always looking on his smiling face, that is why I shout and sing. **(REFRAIN)**

(5) Soon he's coming back to welcome me far beyond the starry sky;
I shall wing my flight to worlds unknown; I shall reign with him on high. **(REFRAIN)**

INVITATION OF GOD’S PRESENCE

Offer your own “GOD IS GOOD” greeting to those seated nearby!

PRAISE SONG “People Of God”

*(1) With our lips let us sing one confession, with our hearts hold to one truth alone,
For He has erased our transgressions, claimed us and called us His own, His very own.*

**(CHORUS) We’re the people of God, called by His name,
called from the dark and delivered from shame**

One holy race, saints everyone, because of the blood of Christ, Jesus the Son.

(2) Hear us, O spirits of darkness so you will know where we stand.

*We are His servants, purchased with scars,
bought by the blood of Lamb, the blood of the Lamb (CHORUS)*

BODY BUILDING Joys, Announcements and testimonies of God’s grace

PRAYER CONCERNS

PRAYER SONG “Shine On Us”

(1) Lord, let Your LIGHT, Light of Your Face shine on us. (repeat line)

*That we may be saved, that we may have life to find our way in the darkest night,
Let Your LIGHT shine on us.*

(2) Lord, let Your GRACE, Grace of Your Hand fall on us. (repeat line)

*That we may be saved, that we may have life to find our way in the darkest night,
Let Your GRACE fall on us.*

(3) Lord, let Your LOVE, Love with no end come over us. (repeat line)

*That we may be saved, that we may have life to find our way in the darkest night,
Let your LOVE come over us. Let Your GRACE fall on us. Let Your LIGHT shine on us.*

PRAYER

GOD’S HOLY WORD

*Selected Scriptures are 1 Corinthians 3:6, Psalms 49:14-15,
Acts 2:24, 1 Samuel 23:14 and Romans 5:6-8*

**“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this:
While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”**

TODAY’S MESSAGE Pastor Mike Langford

“Didn’t See That One Coming!”

A Lenten sermon series on the Lord who turns things around in a big way.

“BUT GOD”

CLOSING HYMN (# 163) “Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know”

- (1) Ask ye what great thing I know, that delights and stirs me so?
What the high reward I win? Whose the name I glory in?
Jesus Christ, the crucified.
- (2) Who defeats my fiercest foes? Who consoles my saddest woes?
Who revives my fainting heart, healing all its hidden smart?
Jesus Christ, the crucified.
- (3) Who is life in life to me? Who the death of death will be?
Who will place me on his right, with the countless hosts of light?
Jesus Christ, the crucified.
- (4) This is that great thing I know; this delights and stirs me so:
Faith in him who died to save, him who triumphed o'er the grave:
Jesus Christ, the crucified.

A BENEDICTION

We thank you for presenting your tithes and offerings in the plates found at the exits.

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This worship service is over. NOW BEGINS our Christian service in Jesus' Name!



We are **not** on a “167-hour vacation from faith” after this worship ends. We show the grace daily!

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MINISTRY CHALLENGE...Saint Patrick is said to have introduced the Christian faith to Ireland. This “humble-minded man” thanked God for having made him a witness. May we, too, help move people from idol-worship into relationship with Jesus Christ.

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LAST WEEK ... A certain trucker flew his lawn-chair way up into the sky with the help of some helium weather balloons. Such an experience would give us a whole new view! Jesus went up a hill with Peter, James & John, who then saw Jesus as He truly was: a shining and transfigured Messiah. Peter piped up: “let’s make this moment last”. The Heavenly Father told the disciples to obey His Son. That means to do His Will. Moses and Elijah (“the Law” and “the Prophets”) were also present, but Jesus outshines them and all other “pretty good guys”. Like some hospice patients, we are comforted when we know “everything is going to be fine”. Yes, we like our “religious experiences”: our mountaintop moments. But we weren’t meant to stay there. Just as Jesus and his disciples came down that hill and immediately were confronted with a challenge and controversy, holy-time equips us for ministry “in the valley”. Beyond our ‘mountaintop moment’, let’s reflect God’s love in our own shining witness. There will be a learning curve to it. So, let’s get started! After all, “you just can’t sit there” when there’s a great **JESUS TO SHOW: In All His Glory!** (Mark 9:2-9)