



grace community church

Delighting in God | Demonstrating Mercy | Declaring Grace

Order of worship
5 JULY 2020
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Welcome!

Welcome back to worship in person! We have been sustained by the amazing grace of God working in and through online worship services. I am thankful for all the many people who have worked hard to make our online worship possible. The Lord has indeed been good to GCC through this time, but we have been apart for far too long. We are confident that the Lord is using this time to strengthen and refine us as individuals and as a community of grace. It has been hard for sure, and it may get harder still. There is a lesson in the sufficiency of the grace of Jesus in all of this. "The Lord your God is in your midst, He is mighty to save (Zeph. 3:17)."

Thank you for joining us for worship, today. No matter what circumstance we find ourselves in, we seek to celebrate God's grace through Jesus Christ, who came to give us life, today and for eternity. We also seek to cultivate a safe environment for the convinced and unconvinced to hear the free offer of the gospel in Jesus Christ. Whether you are a follower of Jesus, or it has been a while since you've considered your relationship to Him, or you are exploring His claims for the first time, we are delighted to have you with us today.

For Your Children

Jesus once told his disciples, *"Let the little children come to Me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven."* In light of this spirit, we welcome children to attend and participate in the corporate worship by singing, praying, and offering responses as they are able. We do so with the understanding that kids are kids. As one congregation has put it, "God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house."

We are so thankful you have brought your children into our sanctuary for worship. We are a covenant family of faith and believe children belong in worship. This is an opportunity to teach our children to worship their Heavenly Father by modeling worship for them. We also understand that staying through the entire service may be new for some of the younger ones without a nursery or Children's Church. The Nursing Mothers Room is available for one family at a time, and the service will be on the speakers in the Fellowship Hall if you need to step out with a child at any time.

Prelude

We rest our hearts in God's presence as we prepare for worship.

THE GOD OF ABRAHAM PRAISE

by Thomas Olivers

Call to Worship

God invites us to worship with Him in Spirit and in Truth.

PSALM 85:10-11, JAMES 1:17-18

Leader: Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;
righteousness and peace kiss each other.

**Congregation: Faithfulness springs up from the ground,
and righteousness looks down from the sky.**

Leader: Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from
the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due
to change.

**Congregation: Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we
should be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.**

Prayer of Invocation

We celebrate God's presence with us and ask for His Spirit to work powerfully among us.

Hymn of Praise

We sing praises to God for who He is and what He has done.

FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

Words & music by Conrad Kocher and Foliott Pierpoint; chorus by Philip Himebook
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For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,
For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,

5
for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies,
9 for the mys - tic har - mon - y, link - ing sense and sound and sight,

14
Lord of all, to Thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.
Lord of all, to Thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

18
For the beau - ty of each hour of the day and of the night,
For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
FINAL VERSE: For each per - fect gift of Thine to our race so free - ly giv'n,

22
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light,
friends on earth and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild,
grac - es hu - man and di - vine, flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n,

27
Lord of all, to Thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.
Lord of all, to Thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.
Lord of all, to Thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

CHORUS: Lord of — all, Lord of — all, to You we raise our grate - ful praise. —

(Repeat Chorus after final verse)

Corporate Confession of Sin

We acknowledge our need of forgiveness and renewal through the cleansing blood of Jesus.

from LUKE 5

Leader: Jesus said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick;

Congregation: For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."

Leader: Let us confess our sins before God.

Congregation: Merciful God, You pardon all who truly repent and turn to You. We humbly confess our sins and ask for Your mercy. We have not loved You with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with You, our God. Have mercy upon us, O God. In Your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us clean hearts, so we may love and serve You all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

We acknowledge our personal need of forgiveness and renewal through the cleansing blood of Jesus.

Assurance of Pardon

God reminds us of His promise of forgiveness in Christ.

from JOHN 10

Leader: I am the Good Shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of My hand.

Hymn of Assurance

We give God praise for the salvation that we have experienced in Christ.

BY FAITH

Words & music by Keith & Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend

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By faith we see the hand of God; in the
By faith our fa - thers roamed the earth, with the
By faith the pro - phets saw a day when the
By faith the church was called to go; and the
By faith this moun - tain shall be moved and the
light of cre - a - tion's grand de - sign, in the lives of those who prove His
pow'r of His pro - mise in their hearts, of a Ho - ly Ci - ty built by
longed for Mes - si - ah would ap - pear with the pow'r to break the chains of
pow'r of the Spir - it to the lost; to de - li - ver cap - tives and to
pow'r of the gos - pel shall pre - vail; for we know in Christ all things are
faith - ful - ness; who walk by faith and not by sight. CHORUS:
God's own hand: a place where peace and jus - tice reign. We will
sin and death, and rise tri - um - phant from the grave. earth. We will
preach good news, in ev - 'ry cor - ner of the earth. name.
pos - si - ble for all who call up - on His name.

stand as child - ren of the pro - mise; we will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's re - ward. 'Til the
race is fin - ished and the work is done; we'll walk by faith and not by sight.

(Repeat Chorus after final verse)

Offerings of Prayer and Thanksgiving

As recipients of His grace, we give thanks to God for His mercy and ask for his continued help.

Leader: Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits.

Congregation: For the Lord is good, His steadfast love endures forever.

** To make an online contribution, visit gccmemphis.com/give.*

Scripture Reading

God speaks to us through the reading of His Word.

GENESIS 15:7-21

⁷ And he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess." ⁸ But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" ⁹ He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰ And he brought him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other. But he did not cut the birds in half. ¹¹ And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹² As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. And behold, dreadful and great darkness fell upon him. ¹³ Then the LORD said to Abram, "Know for certain that your offspring will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs and will be servants there, and they will be afflicted for four hundred years. ¹⁴ But I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve, and afterward they shall come out with great possessions. ¹⁵ As for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. ¹⁶ And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."

¹⁷ When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸ On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates, ¹⁹ the land of the Kenites, the Kenizzites, the Kadmonites, ²⁰ the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, ²¹ the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites and the Jebusites."

Sermon

God speaks to us through the preaching of His Word.

“THE NAIL-SCARRED HANDS OF THE COVENANT GOD”

Rev. Ashley Dusenbery

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Response

We give God thanks and praise for feeding us from His Word.

Invitation to the Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper, which is also called Communion or the Eucharist, was instituted by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The purpose of this sign is to confirm God's covenant promises to His people and feed them spiritually by faith. It is a family meal of Christians, and so anyone who has believed the good news of the gospel, has repented of their sins, and is seeking to follow Jesus as a baptized member in good standing in the Lord's Church is invited to come to this table and to partake of this sacrament.

We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper today using individual, prepackaged communion elements. The communion packs are already in the pew racks in front of you. We will all open our communion packs and take each element together as directed. If your row does not contain enough packs to serve everyone, please raise your hand and an usher will bring additional elements to you.

If you are not a follower of Jesus Christ, or if you find yourself unprepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer and thoughtful reflection. To that end, we have provided the following prayers.

A Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might understand the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

A Prayer for Awakening

Lord Jesus, I have heard teaching from the Bible for years, and have been in the church for years, but very little of this seems real to me. Please show me the reality of what you are saying. Unnerve me with the badness of the bad news. Enthral me with the goodness of the good news. Make what is familiar seem new. Amen.

A Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life to me. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

Confession of Faith

As we approach the table, we proclaim what we believe.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Leader: Fellow believer in Jesus Christ, what do you believe?

**Congregation: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into Hell.*
The third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
And sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.
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.**

** Meaning that Jesus suffered the pains of Hell as He endured God's punishment for sin.*

*** Referring to the universal church at all times and in all places.*

Prayer of Consecration and Access

We ask God to set apart the elements and feed us spiritually by faith.

Words of Institution

Leader: On the night in which He was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took the bread; and when He had given thanks for it, He broke it and handed it to His disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." In the same manner after supper, He took the cup, and having given thanks for it, He handed it to His disciples and said, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Drink from it all of you in remembrance of Me."

Communion Hymn

MAN OF SORROWS

by Philip Bliss

Man of Sorrows! What a name for the Son of God, who came
Ruined sinners to reclaim: Hallelujah! What a Savior!
Bearing shame and scoffing rude, in my place condemned he stood,
Sealed my pardon with his blood: Hallelujah! What a Savior!
Guilty, vile, and helpless, we; spotless Lamb of God was he;
Full atonement! Can it be? Hallelujah! What a Savior!
Lifted up was he to die, "It is finished!" was his cry;
Now in heav'n exalted high: Hallelujah! What a Savior!
When he comes, our glorious King, all his ransomed home to bring,
Then anew his song we'll sing: Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give God thanks and praise for feeding us at His table.

Hymn of Response

We respond to God's grace to us through singing.

ALL FOR JESUS (Hymn #565)

Words & music by Mary James

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All for Je - sus! All for Je - sus! All my be - ing's
Let my hands per - form His bid - ding, let my feet run
World - lings prize their gems of beau - ty, cling to gild - ed
Since my eyes were fixed on Je - sus, I've lost sight of
O what won - der! How a - maz - ing! Je - sus, glo - rious

4
ran - somed pow'rs, all my thoughts and words and do - ings,
in His ways; let my eyes see Je - sus on - ly,
toys of dust, boast of wealth and fame and plea - sure;
all be - side; so en - chained my spir - it's vi - sion,
King of kings, deigns to call me His be - lov - ed,

7
all my days and all my hours.
let my lips speak forth His praise.
on - ly Je - sus will I trust.
look - ing at the Cru - ci - fied.
lets me rest be - neath His wings.

Benediction

God sends us out with His blessing.

ZEPHANIAH 3:17

The LORD your God is in your midst,
a mighty one who will save;
He will rejoice over you with gladness;
He will quiet you by His love;
He will exult over you with loud singing.

Dismissal

Leader: Let us go out to serve our neighbors and the world
as those who love and are loved
by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, Amen.

Postlude

We go out with joy and purpose in the Lord.

FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

by Maltbie Babcock; chorus by P. Himebook

Announcements

In-Person Worship Schedule

Date	9 AM Service	11 AM Service
July 12	Riley's/Hall's	Wunrow's/Weaver's
July 19	Riley's/Weaver's	Wunrow's/Hall's
July 26	Wunrow's/Hall's	Riley's/Weaver's

Let Us Know What You Need

The deacons would like to hear from you. Just follow the link at the top of our online worship webpage (GCCMemphis.com/online-worship) and fill out the short form. There is also space to let us know if there's anything we can do to help. All responses go directly to the elders and deacons and are completely confidential.

Wednesday Night Ladies Bible Study: Wednesday nights at 6PM. Contact Barbara Riley (barbara.ellen.riley@gmail.com).

Youth Summer Activities

We will strive to maintain safe social distancing practices as we meet together for youth activities this summer. As many activities as possible will take place outdoors, including our weekly Youth Group gatherings at GCC.

Pool Parties at the Childs' home (4110 Pine Hill Cove, Lakeland TN 38002). On Tuesdays, July 7th & 21st from 1 – 4 PM, the youth are invited to come swim, play, and enjoy some safe outdoor fellowship at the home of Craig and Michelle Childs. Please RSVP to Michelle at michelleschilds@yahoo.com if your student(s) would like to attend.

Wednesday Youth Group at GCC. Bring your students to our summer youth group Bible studies and outdoor hangout time at GCC July 8th, 15th, 22nd, & 29th. Contact Paul Husband at husband@belhaven.edu with any questions.

Dinner & Devo Strikes Back! Sunday, July 25th, from 6 – 7:30 PM, we will meet at the home of Mark and Amy Fruitt (291 Walnut Leaf Dr, Cordova TN 38018) for the return of Dinner & Devo.

Announcements...

Special Missions Giving Opportunity

Due to complications from the quarantines, Tony and Amber Elswick have had an unexpected financial need in getting their visas extended so that they can remain on the field in Panama. Next Sunday, there will be an opportunity to give a special offering to help meet this need for the Elswicks. Please prayerfully consider giving.

How to Tithe

GCC will still offer a means to present tithes and offerings through the use of mailed physical checks to our church office, or the use of the online platform Tithe.Ly. You may also drop your tithe checks in the offering box located in the back of the sanctuary.

Please send checks to the below:

Attn: Church Accountant
455 N. Houston Levee Rd
Cordova, TN 38018

There are a few ways to access Tithe.Ly:

- Visit www.gccmemphis.com/give, or
- Go to TITHE.LY/Give, or
- Download the app from your Apple or Android device

Church Name: GCC Memphis

We encourage you to "Cover the Fees" if you are able.

Pray for One Another

We pray for one another because we are connected in an authentic community of faith.

Each day this week, take a moment to pray for some of the people God has planted in our community. Thank God for calling them to be members of our church family. Pray for His help and provision for their needs. Ask Him to encourage and grow them in their faith. If you have an opportunity, take a moment and send them a word of encouragement this week.

Monday: Carole Shanklin

Tuesday: Steve and Elizabeth Short

Wednesday: Lindsey Stephens

Thursday: David and Denise Stewart

Friday: Phillip and Dee Stubblefield (George, Michael)

Saturday: Harley Thompson

Sunday: Pat and Cindy Tobin

GCC Staff

Ashley Dusenbery, Pastor
ashley@gccmemphis.com

Philip Himebook, Music Director
phimebook@gmail.com

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Church Officers

Ruling Elders:

Rick Hall
Frank Riley
Daniel Weaver
Dave Wunrow

Deacons:

Mark Fruitt (operations)
Peter Himebook (finance)
Michael Joyner (chairman)
Calvin Morris (secretary)
Phillip Stubblefield (mercy/benevolence)
Taylor Trezevant (facilities)



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