



Grace Hill Church

The Mission of Grace Hill Is to Gather People to the Table of Christ, Who Is the Bread of Life, to Be Transformed by His Grace, Renewed in His Truth, and Sent on His Mission.

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. ~Ephesians 5:1-2

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. ~Philippians 2:12-13

But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ~Galatians 5:18-24

For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. 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. ~Gal. 2:19-20

As for me, I am poor and needy,
but the Lord takes thought for me.
You are my help and my deliverer;
do not delay, O my God! ~Psalm 40:17

January 2, 2022

Expressing Our Love and Praise: Worship in Song Declaring What We Believe: New City Catechism, Question #51

Question: Of what advantage to us is Christ's ascension?

Answer: Christ physically ascended on our behalf, just as he came down to earth physically on our account, and he is now advocating for us in the presence of his Father, preparing a place for us, and also sends us his Spirit.

Welcoming Each Other

Giving Worship to God: Offering

Hearing God's Word: Scripture Reading Galatians 6:7-18

⁷Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. ⁸For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. ⁹And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. ¹⁰So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

¹¹See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. ¹²It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who would force you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³For even those who are circumcised do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. ¹⁴But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. ¹⁶And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

¹⁷From now on let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus.

¹⁸The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.

Understanding God's Word and Our Lives

Sermon: Three Images of Growing in Christ for 2022

Outline:

1. Three Spiritual Images to Begin 2022:
 - a. What Will We Invest In? v.7-9
 - b. What Will We Boast In? v.13-15
 - c. What Will We Be Crucified To? v.14
2. What Do They Mean and How Can We Do Them?
- 3.

Recognizing our Brokenness: Confession of Sin

Public Prayer

God, coming through the holidays and the end of the year, we might find ourselves either content with Your blessings, sluggish from too many celebrations, frustrated with unmet longings, or wounded by relational pains. Help us in each of these to look to You. Help us find at least one image that can direct us today and for the year ahead.

Father, investing, boasting, living and dying--these are the realities of life, but they are spiritual realities as well. Thank you, Jesus, that You can lead us along a path of great spiritual blessings. May Your grace so work within us that our investing would bring forth true life now and eternal life to come. Teach us to boast in Christ and find in Him our deepest longings. It would be Your mercy to show us what we need to die to so that we might live more fully to You.

Private Reflection

The Grace and Forgiveness of Christ

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. ~1 Timothy 1:15-17

Responding to the Lord with Worship

Taking hold of the Good Word: Benediction (“the good word”)

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. Amen. (Heb. 13.20–21)

Announcements:

- **No Core today**
- **Congregational Meeting Next Sunday, January 9, 2022, to elect Mike Musser as Elder.**
- **Next Sunday we restart Luke with Luke 10:1-16**
- **Worship in Offering:** Three ways to worship the Lord with your tithes and offerings
 - Use your bank's BillPay system to give to Grace Hill
 - Send a physical check
 - Use our mobile giving option (either as a guest or by setting up an account):
 - <https://faithlife.com/grace-hill-church/give> or text the word "Give" to 919 296 1330.



Grace Hill seeks to live by and testify to the grace and truth of Jesus Christ (John 1.14–18). We are affiliated with the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, a Presbyterian denomination with a rich history of living in Christ's grace and truth. Our pastor is Ross Durham. He can be reached at ross@gracehillnc.org or by cell phone at 919.593.2169. Our Worship Music Director is Abby Hummel, abby@gracehillnc.org. Our Communications Coordinator is Mary Erickson, tworstaggering@yahoo.com. Our Youth Director is Ben Ashby, ben_ashby@med.unc.edu. Address: 515 Meadowlands Drive, Suite 500, Hillsborough, North Carolina 27278
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