



# 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.*

“The consolation Jesus brings in fulfillment of Simeon's hopes is the application of God's tenderness to a war-weary people. It is the application of God's pardon for a sin-sick and guilty people. When Jesus was born, the voice of God became flesh and dwelt among us. And what the voice said was, "Console, console my people." The consolation that God's anger is past . . . the consolation that our heavenly Father has a tender affection for us in our weakness . . . the consolation that our sins are pardoned and "cast into the depths of the sea" (Micah 7:19)—this is the "consolation of Israel" that Simeon was looking for. And it is the consolation that you are looking for too, if you haven't found it yet in Christ.” ~John Piper, Sermon Archive 12/21/1986

“so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.” ~Hebrews 9:28

“After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” ~Revelation 7:9-10

December 27, 2020

## **Expressing Our Love and Praise: Worship in Song**

### **Declaring What We Believe: Heidelberg Catechism, Question #36**

**Question:** What profit do you receive by Christ's holy conception and nativity?

**Answer:** That He is our Mediator; and with His innocence and perfect holiness, covers in the sight of God, my sins, wherein I was conceived and brought forth.

## **Welcoming Each Other**

### **Giving Worship to God: Offering**

#### **Hearing God's Word: Scripture Reading *Luke 2.25–35***

Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup> And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. <sup>27</sup> And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, <sup>28</sup> he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

<sup>29</sup> “Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word;

<sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation

<sup>31</sup> that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

<sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.”

<sup>33</sup> And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup> And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed <sup>35</sup> (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

## **Understanding God's Word and Our Lives**

### **Sermon: A Promise Keeping God**

### **Series: The Thirst That Could Only Be Quenched by the Incarnate Christ: Lessons from Luke**

Outline:

1. A Promise Fulfilled
  - a. A Promise-Fulfillment Praise (v. 29)
2. A Promise Offered
  - a. A Reason for Praise—Salvation (v. 30)
3. A Promise Anticipated
  - a. Light for the Nations, Glory for Israel (vs. 31–32)

*The Vision of Grace Hill Is to Love God and Love Our Neighbor and Love God and ...*

## **Recognizing our Brokenness: Confession of Sin**

### **Public Prayer**

Father God, what shall I render to You for the gift of gifts, Your own dear Son, begotten, not created, my Redeemer, substitute? When I was undone, with no will to return to Him, He came, God-incarnate, to save me to the uttermost, as a man to die my death, to shed satisfying blood on my behalf, to work out a perfect righteousness for me.

Let me, with Simeon, clasp the new-born child to my heart, embrace Him with undying faith, exulting that He is mine and I am His. (adapted from *The Valley of Vision*)

### **Private Reflection**

#### **The Grace and Forgiveness of Christ**

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

~Titus 3:4–7

### **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)

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#### **Announcements:**

- **CORE Zoom Pin: 989209**
- **Help Support Grace Hill Family:** Grace Hill would love to be able to help support the Carrs as they bring home their new baby boy, Elijah James. Please find here some suggested ways that you can contribute financially, alongside an abundance of prayer.
  - Gift cards to Walmart, The Wooden Nickel, and Weaver Street Market
  - Donations to their adoption fundraising campaign:  
<http://adopttogether.org/families/?fundraiser=creatingthecarrs>
- **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
    - <https://tinyurl.com/ul68txo>, or
    - Simply text the word Give with the amount (e.g. Give 100) 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](mailto:ross@gracehillnc.org) or by cell phone at 919.593.2169. Our Youth Director is Daniel Havener, [daniel@gracehillnc.org](mailto:daniel@gracehillnc.org). Our Worship Music Director is Kayli Havener, [kayli@gracehillnc.org](mailto:kayli@gracehillnc.org). Our Communications Coordinator is Andrea Sterling, [andrea@gracehillnc.org](mailto:andrea@gracehillnc.org). Address: 515 Meadowlands Drive, Suite 500, Hillsborough, North Carolina 27278 [www.gracehillnc.org](http://www.gracehillnc.org); Facebook: Grace Hill Church; Twitter: @gracehillchurch; Instagram: gracehillnc