*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.*

*(Sermon quote on back)*

 **September 25, 2022**

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

**Declaring What We Believe: A Gospel Alphabet** (*Grounded in the Gospel* by J. I. Packer and Gary Parrett)

 “The Gospel is not the ABC’s of the Christian life; it is the A through Z of the Christian life.” (Keller)

Alignment; Belief; Contextualization; Depth; Evangelism; Fidelity; Grace; Hope; Intimacy; Jealousy; Knowledge; Love

**M - Mission**

*2 Corinthians 5:18-19*   All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

 “God is actively engaged in the wondrous work of reconciling all things to himself. It was for this that the Son of God came forth. And this work continues in and through us, the body of Christ, gathered and dispersed throughout the world today. Being in his presence must be taken as seriously as doing the work of true mission, for mission can only have power and a cutting edge when Christ is indwelling us and we him.”

**Welcoming Each Other**

**Giving Worship to God: Offering**

**Hearing God’s Word: Scripture Reading** *Hebrews 2:5-13*

 **5**For it was not to angels that God subjected
the world to come, of which we are speaking. **6**It has been testified somewhere,

 “What is man, that you are mindful of him,
 or the son of man, that you care for him?

**7** You made him for a little while lower than
 the angels;

 you have crowned him with glory and honor,

 **8** putting everything in subjection under his feet.”

Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. **9**But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the

suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

 **10**For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. **11**For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, **12**saying,

 “I will tell of your name to my brothers;

 in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise.”

**13**And again,

 “I will put my trust in him.”

And again,

 “Behold, I and the children God has given me.”

**Understanding God’s Word and Our Lives**

 **Sermon:** The Divine Son Made Man

1. The Promise (2:5-8)
	1. Men and women were created in the image of God, “for a little while lower than the angels.”
	2. We were created to be crowned with “glory and honor.”
	3. We were created to have dominion over all creation.
2. The Problem (2:8)
	1. Our image is distorted and our glory appears lost.
	2. Evil, suffering, and pain appear to have dominion over all creation.
3. The Perfect Plan of Redemption (2:9-13)
	1. Jesus humbled himself and became man in order to bring about salvation.
	2. Jesus willingly suffered on our behalf.
	3. Jesus identifies with us and is not afraid to call us brothers and sisters.

**Recognizing our Brokenness: Confession of Sin**

**Public Prayer**

Father, we confess we often forget the promises you have given us in Your word. You promised us salvation, glory, and honor through the death, burial, and resurrection of your Son. You promised that creation would be rightly ordered. Yet we are discouraged because things are not what they were meant to be. We often look elsewhere for a better solution. Forgive us.

Thank you, Father, for establishing the perfect plan for our salvation, the only plan that could truly heal, save, sanctify, and glorify us. Jesus, thank You for humbly leaving Your place of glory to become like us, suffer for us, and to bring us into Your family as brothers and sisters. Holy Spirit, help us to live in humility and faith because of Jesus’ loving sacrifice.

**Private Reflection**

**The Grace and Forgiveness of Christ**And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying, “This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds,” then he adds, “I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.” Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin. Heb 10:15-18

**Remembering Jesus with Bread and Cup: Lord’s Supper**

Jesus called those who find their life in His death and resurrection to receive the bread and cup as a tangible sign to remember and be strengthened by His Gospel. It is a spiritual meal for all who believe in Him. While Jesus spent time with everyone, he also shared the bread and cup only with those who followed him. Children who have not yet become *communing members* should not take the bread and cup but talk with our pastor or an elder about their personal faith.

We are currently celebrating the Lord’s Supper by remaining seated, with time to personally remember Jesus’ death and resurrection for us with the bread and cup. Whether you take the elements or not, we encourage you to use the time for personal reflection about your relationship with Jesus.

\*Juice is in the outer rings; wine is in the inner rings.

**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. ~ Hebrews 13.20–21

*Sermon quote*The Lord Jesus is the best of elder brothers. He is a source of inspiration for younger members of God’s family, a source of help and salvation for spiritual siblings he loves with sacrificial care. The most important blessing we gain by having Jesus as our elder brother is entry into the family of God. He is not only the elder brother, but he is also the natural-born Son of God. By grace we are adopted into the family to which Jesus belongs as the rightful Son. We are not his brothers and sisters because we are children of God; rather, we are children of God because we are his brothers and sisters.
 Richard Phillips*, Hebrews REC*

* **Youth parents’ meeting**, today after Core. A 45-minute meeting for Youth and their families. A light lunch will be provided.
* **CORE** is the name for our “Sunday School,”, following the worship service, 11:15am-noon. There is a place for everyone, from infants through adults. Please stay and join us! **Zoom PIN**: 989209.
* **Women’s Bible Study** on Wednesdays, 9:30-11:30 am at Grace Hill
* **Marriage Dinner** on Saturday, October 8, from 6-8pm with guest speakers Bobby and Cindy Shriner. Dinner and child-care will be provided. Invitations & envelopes available for you to invite others.
* **Worship in Offering:** Use your bank’s BillPay system to give to Grace Hill, Send a physical check, or Use our mobile giving <https://faithlife.com/grace-hill-church/give> or text “Give” to 919 296 1330.
* **Missions**: Camp Joy, one-week special needs camp, Summer 2023. Details: campjoycem.com
* **Missions**: Urbana 22 Missions Conference, December 28-31, 2022. Details: urbana.org



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.
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