



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.

"I shall ransom them from the power of Sheol; I shall redeem them from Death. O Death, where are your plagues? O Sheol, where is your sting?" ~Hosea 13:14

"knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence." ~2 Cor. 4:14

"And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power." ~1 Cor. 6:14

April 4, 2021

Expressing Our Love and Praise: Worship in Song

Declaring What We Believe: Heidelberg Catechism, Question #45

Question: How does Christ's resurrection benefit us?

Answer: First, by his resurrection he has overcome death, so that he might make us share in the righteousness he obtained for us by his death. Second, by his power we too are already raised to a new life. Third, Christ's resurrection is a sure pledge to us of our blessed resurrection.

Welcoming Each Other

Giving Worship to God: Offering

Hearing God's Word: Scripture Reading *Luke 7.11–17; 24.1–12, 36–49*

7.11–17

Soon afterward he went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. ¹² As he drew near to the gate of the town, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow, and a considerable crowd from the town was with her. ¹³ And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." ¹⁴ Then he came up and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." ¹⁵ And the dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. ¹⁶ Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited his people!" ¹⁷ And this report about him spread through the whole of Judea and all the surrounding country.

24.1–12, 36–49

¹ But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. ² And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. ⁵ And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? ⁶ He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷ that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise." ⁸ And they remembered his words, ⁹ and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰ Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, ¹¹ but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹² But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened.

³⁶ As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!" ³⁷ But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. ³⁸ And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate before them.

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶ and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷ and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

Understanding God's Word and Our Lives

Sermon: Christ More than Solves Our Greatest Problem

Outline:

1. Why We Need Jesus' Resurrection: the Dire Destruction of Death, 7.11–17
2. Why We Can Believe Jesus' Resurrection: not mere Idle Tales, 24.11
3. Who We Are Now Because of Jesus Resurrection: Death Defeated, Promises Fulfilled, Powerful Witnesses

Recognizing our Brokenness: Confession of Sin

Public Prayer

God, we confess death is an enemy too strong for us. We try to deny it, hide from it, ignore it. But our worries, fears, and grief over the last year show us our problem with death. Death spoils every party, end every friendship, dismantles every family. We confess we have sought to make peace with death. Forgive us for not turning to You, the author of life, to find freedom from our bondage to death.

Father, the moment death entered Your world, You have been fighting it. And You are utterly victorious in the resurrection of Christ. As Christ was raised from the dead, You declare that You will raise us Your people from the dead. In Christ, death will neither steal Your glory nor our life with You. Glory! Thank You! But why would You do all this for us? You are a God of true love, and powerful mercy, conquering our sin and our enemy death, so we might worship You in joyful relationship forever.

Private Reflection

The Grace and Forgiveness of Christ

But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself. ~ Phil. 3.20–21

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 this Week: Have a joyful Easter Sunday in Christ with family and friends**
- **Note:** GH Session encourages everyone to get the Covid 19 vaccine as soon as you are able. It is, of course, your decision, but it can be a tool that will enable us to more quickly gather together as a full church. Here is the link for the Duke waiting list: <https://www.dukehealth.org/covid-19-update/join-waiting-list>
- **Shower the Elniffs!**
 1. Purchase a gift card to Walmart, Once Upon A Child in Durham, Weaver Street Market, or Amazon.
 2. Send a note or a written prayer for their family encouraging them during this transition time. Their address: 626 Freeland Drive, Hillsborough, NC 27278.
- **Called to Lead: Yourself and Others. Leadership/Discipleship Monthly Meeting:** The Session invites everyone to Called to Lead meeting this Tuesday, 4/27/21.
- **Worship in Offering:** Three ways to worship the Lord with your tithes and offerings
 1. Use your bank's BillPay system to give to Grace Hill
 2. Send a physical check
 3. 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.
- **Resurrection Renews Our Proper Scope: All Nations.** Ready for a Missions Challenge? Sign up to pray for Muslims during Ramadan (4/12 – 5/12) at Lovemuslims.org using the videos of Prayercast.com. In a time when they are seeking God, pray for Christ to be revealed to them.



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 Youth Director is Daniel Havener, daniel@gracehillnc.org. Our Worship Music Director is Kayli Havener, kayli@gracehillnc.org. Our Communications Coordinator is Andrea Sterling, andrea@gracehillnc.org. Address: 515 Meadowlands Drive, Suite 500, Hillsborough, North Carolina 27278 www.gracehillnc.org; Facebook: Grace Hill Church; Twitter: @gracehillchurch; Instagram: gracehillnc