



# 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 appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world.” ~Romans 12:1–2

“And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved.” ~Romans 8:23–24

“And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.” ~Romans 8:30

“Christ’s return is the next event in God’s plan; Paul knew it could take place at any time and sought to prepare Christians—both in his generation and in ours—for that ‘blessed hope.’” ~D. Moo, *The Epistle to the Romans*, 822.

“Then, as he stood, darkness about him and a blackness of despair and anger in his heart, it seemed to him that he saw a light: a light in his mind, almost unbearably bright at first as a sun-ray to the eyes of one long hidden in a windowless pit. ... Far off, as in a little picture drawn by elven-fingers, he saw the Lady Galadriel standing on the grass in Lorien, and gifts were in her hands. *And you, Ring-bearer*, he heard her say, remote but clear, *for you I have prepared this. ... A light when all other lights go out!* And now indeed light alone can help us.” ~J.R.R. Tolkien, *Lord of the Rings*, p. 703–4

April 5, 2020

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

### **Declaring What We Believe:** Heidelberg Catechism, Question #86

**Question:** Since we have been delivered from our misery by grace through Christ without any merit of our own, why then should we do good works?

**Answer:** Because Christ, having redeemed us by his blood, is also restoring us by his Spirit into his image, so that with our whole lives we may show that we are thankful to God for his benefits, so that he may be praised through us, so that we may be assured of our faith by its fruits, and so that by our godly living our neighbors may be won over to Christ.

### **Welcoming Each Other** (Parents may take young children to Nursery and Pre-K)

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

## **Hearing God’s Word: Scripture Reading** *Romans 13:11–14*

Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup> The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. <sup>13</sup> Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

**Sermon:** The God's Future Is to Direct Our Present

**Series:** The Gospel Encouragements and Commands of Romans 12–13

1. God's Time: His Future Is to Direct Our Present
  - a. Images: Night and Day, Darkness and Light
2. God's Call: He Used This Passage to Call Augustine to Faith
3. God's Commands: Putting Off Darkness and Putting On the Lord Jesus Christ



*The Vision of Grace Hill Is to Be a  
Hope*

*Community of Faith, Living in*

*for the Love and Glory of Christ*

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

### **Public Prayer**

God, we confess we often fail to reflect on the future aspect of our salvation and how You want it to call us to live faithfully and fruitfully today. We are fixed on our present, or we may think that history and time are purely cyclical. But actually, God, You are moving history, each day, towards the Day of the Lord—the day of Your perfect peace, joy, and justice, and our full salvation.

Father, You want us to live today in light of Your future. Help us to walk each day in the imminent light of the Day of Jesus' return. Because true light is coming, lead us to put off the dark things around us. Let us be skilled with the armor of light today. Empower us to put on the Lord Jesus Christ: feel His love, remember the promise of His grace, hear His words to follow, and perceive His glory as eminently beyond any desires of our flesh.

### **Private Reflection**

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

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!" Rev. 7.9–10

## **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:**

- If you have children in your home, please consider having them create and send letters and artwork to Brookshire nursing home (now called Peak Resources Brookshire). They are obviously not taking visitors, but have requested mail from kids for their residents. Mailing address: 300 Meadowlands Drive, Hillsborough, NC 27278
- Women's Bible Study is meeting on Wednesdays, at 10:00 am through Zoom video conference. <https://zoom.us/j/352410652> It is open for others to join even if you weren't previously attending. Contact Cathy or Kaylyn for more information.

- Sign Up to be part of Grace Hill's site at FaithLife.com. To enhance communication and resources, we are encouraging everyone to sign up for the Grace Hill Church site at Faithlife.com. Steps:
  - Go to the weblink: <https://faithlife.com/grace-hill-church/activity>,
  - Register (blue "register" button),
  - Click blue "Follow" button.
- 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). Address: 515 Meadowlands Drive, Suite 500, Hillsborough, North Carolina 27278 [www.gracehillnc.org](http://www.gracehillnc.org) Facebook: Grace Hill Church Twitter: [@gracehillchurch](https://twitter.com/gracehillchurch) Instagram: [gracehillnc](https://www.instagram.com/gracehillnc)