



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.

"[T]he earliest Christian historical accounts...[they] issue an invitation to understanding in faith." Hengel, *Acts*, p. 49.

"These fulfilled events from the past continue to color how one should see the present. The effect of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection lives on." ~Bock, *Luke*, p. 57.

"All the history writers in the New Testament are agreed in this aim [=that you may believe]; even the 'recognition' of the reliability of the Jesus tradition in Luke 1.4 amounts to an acknowledgment which involves, rather than excludes, faith." ~Hengel, *Acts*, p. 49.

"Early in 1926 the hardest boiled of all the atheists I ever knew sat in my room on the other side of the fire and remarked that the evidence for the historicity of the Gospels was surprisingly good. 'Rum thing ... All that stuff ... about the Dying God. Rum thing. It almost looks as if it had really happened once.' ... If he, the cynic of cynics, the toughest of the toughs, were not—as I would still have put it—'safe,' where could I turn? Was there then no escape? (Lewis, *Surprised by Joy*, 223-4).

September 13, 2020

Expressing Our Love and Praise: Worship in Song

Testimony of Faith and Vocation: Craig LaTorre

Welcoming Each Other

Giving Worship to God: Offering

Hearing God's Word: Scripture Reading *Luke 1.1–4; 5.4–11*

Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished [NIV: fulfilled] among us, ² just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, ³ it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past [NIV: from the beginning], to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, ⁴ that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught.

And when he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." ⁶ And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking. ⁷ They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸ But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." ⁹ For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish that they had taken, ¹⁰ and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." ¹¹ And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

Understanding God's Word and Our Lives

Sermon: *An Invitation to Jesus*

Series: *Luke's Historic Account of Jesus: An Invitation to Faith and Following*

1. Something Exceedingly Great Has Occurred! (v.1)
2. How It Has Come to Us: the Eyewitnesses and Luke's Account (v.2–3)
3. The Goal: We Can Have Confidence (v.3–4)
4. Confidence in Jesus Is Scary and Exceedingly Satisfying

**Recognizing our Brokenness:
Public Prayer**

God, we understand that You are inviting Jesus Christ. We want to say Yes to Your have barriers of skepticism (Can we lead us?), and time (Do we have time to reflect and respond?). Call us beyond our barriers to find You, for you have fulfilled great things for us through Jesus Your Son.



Confession of Sin

us to know You through Your Son invitation! But we confess that we believe it?), fear (Where will You lead us?). Call us beyond our barriers to find You, for you have fulfilled great things for us through Jesus Your Son.

Father, You have done a great work in the past through Jesus that now has the capacity to breath continuing life into our present reality. Enable us to have mental, emotional, and spiritual confidence in the person of Jesus! Let us behold Him; let what He fulfilled have its full effect in us as You enable us to draw near to him by testimony, evidence, and faith.

Private Reflection

The Grace and Forgiveness of Christ

For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." ~Rom. 10.11

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:

- **Next Outdoor Communion:** Tuesday, September 15th, 7pm. RSVP to Andrea at andrea@gracehillnc.org if you'd like to attend.
- **Women's Bible Study:** We will be having our kick off to bible study meeting at Gayle's house on Wednesday, Sept. 16th from 10–11:30am. Her address is:
Gayle Payne
2306 Buck Quarter Farm Road
Hillsborough, NC 27278

We will be outside and we are asking everyone to bring their own chairs and wear a mask. If you want a drink or food, please bring your own, and please be responsible about social distancing and no hugging. We know everyone will be excited to see each other, but we still need to be careful and mindful of others. Unfortunately, we cannot provide childcare due to COVID and our previous childcare workers are not available due to their nanny jobs. We are hoping to set up a computer on site so that those that cannot join us in person can join us via Zoom. Please contact Cathy Durham at cathyoodurham@gmail.com for zoom code. It is the same one as spring semester for those of you who previously attended.

- **In-Person Worship:** We've been having up to 10 people join us in-person for worship over the last several weeks. It is working well; we've been able to maintain physical health while we seek to grow spiritual health for those who desire to attend in-person! If you'd like to attend worship in-person, please email Andrea (andrea@gracehillnc.org) about your desire to worship in person at GH for upcoming Sundays. Please email or call Ross with any questions.
- **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.
- **World Witness (ARP Global Missions)** is hosting a virtual event on Thursday, Sept 24 from 7–7:30PM (EST). You can attend via computer or tablet by registering at <https://worldwitness.org/unchanginggospel>. The theme is "The Unchanging Gospel for an Ever-Changing World." Three missionaries will tell stories about changed lives in COVID and how God is working. They are excited to share and we will pray for them during the event.
- **CORE Sunday School Zoom Link:**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/990573690?pwd=R3poRVZmbzdaZkIHMKJxUEVpWVM3Zz09>
Also on the website: gracehillnc.org/live. **Meeting ID: 990 573 690 Passcode: 989209**

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



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, ross@gracehillnc.org or 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