

Worship

Sunday, October 3, 2010

There's something unbelievable about "Thomas Jefferson," the icon. He's either a national hero or a national disgrace, a champion of American liberty in all imaginable forms or a hypocrite who refused to free his slaves. (Jefferson, Real and Imagined, by Pauline Maier, New York Times, nytimes.com)

"Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. ... And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. (Mt 6.2,5)

Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle him in his words. And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. (Mt 22.15-19)

Welcome

Prelude and Time for Reflection

Expressing Our Love and Praise: Worship in Song (see sheet)

Declaring What We Believe: Confession of Faith (Apostle's Creed, 4th c.)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: Who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand Of God the Father Almighty, from where He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy *catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen. (* Universal church)

Welcoming Each Other (Kids may go to their classrooms)

Giving Back to God: Offering

Please use the tear off section on the back and place it in the offering plate and we will let you know about up coming events.

Hearing God's Word: Scripture Reading Galatians 2.11-14

11 But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. 12 For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, fearing the circumcision party. 13 And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy. 14 But when I saw that their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, "If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?"

Understanding God's Word and Our Lives: Sermon

Free to be Hypocrites

Outline:

1. We are Hypocrites
2. Why We are Hypocrites
3. What to Do about it

Discussion:

What questions do you have of the text or what application do you see in it?



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Recognizing our Brokenness: Confession of Sin

Public Reading

Father, we confess that we make decisions that are out of accord with both your law and your gospel. We find it easy to be strict with laws to others but lax to ourselves. We fear others' opinions more than yours and their threats more than your glory. We've chosen our own way and the way of ease, instead of the harder work of understanding how your gospel leads the way, calms our fears, gives us courage, and then even provides forgiveness when we fail.

But you know all about us--that's why even Peter falling into hypocrisy is part of your revelation to us. Teach us to love your law and You, even more. Help us to adore your gospel and You, even more. Discipline us that with you there is an abundance of truth for our every situation, plentiful grace when we fail and unbroken relationship with You always, because of your son Jesus, who lived a perfect life for us and was crucified to satisfy our sin.

Private Reflection

Words of Forgiveness

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"— 14 so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith. (Gal 3.13,14)

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.

Juice is in the outer ring; wine is in inner rings.

On the first and third Sundays of the month, we come forward as families, groups and individuals to receive the bread and cup and for a prayer of blessing. The second, fourth and fifth Sundays, we remain 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 either come forward for prayer or use the time for personal reflection about your relationship with Jesus.

Responding with Song

Taking hold of the Good Word: Benediction ("the good word")

"May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word." 2 Thess. 2: 16, 17

Prayers for Those Not Taking the Bread and Cup

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reason for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me and open me to the reality of your identity. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am more wicked and sinful than I ever dared allow, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, to give me complete forgiveness and rightness with God. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, in joy I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Covenant Children (Not Yet Confirmed)

Lord Jesus, thank you for placing me inside your family, the church. Help me more and more to know you, to love you, and to follow you as your faithful disciple. Amen.



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Grace Hill is a church that seeks to live by and testify to the grace and truth of Jesus Christ (see John 1.14-18). We are affiliated with the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, a denomination with a rich history of Christ's grace and truth. Our pastor is Ross Durham and can be reached by email at ross@gracehillchurch.net or by cell phone at 919.593.2169. Our Worship Director is Michael Musser and our Children's Ministry Co-Directors are Robyn Musser and Kaylyn Fernandez.

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Web: www.gracehillchurch.net **Facebook** Grace Hill Church News **Group:Twitter:** Gracehillchurch

Please let us know about your visit with us! Also feel free to ask any questions about Grace Hill:

Please send your name, email address, and mailing address via txt to 919 593 2169 or email to info@gracehillchurch.net.

Or, fill out the form to the right and place in the offering basket during "Giving back to God."

Your Name _____

Email Address _____

Phone Number _____

Mailing Address _____
