



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.

But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men." ³⁰ The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him." ³³ When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them.
~Acts 5:29–33

The creation of the world seems to have been especially for this end, that the eternal Son of God might obtain a spouse, towards whom he might fully exercise the infinite benevolence of his nature, and to whom he might, as it were, open and pour forth all that immense fountain of condescension, love and grace that was in his heart, and that in this way God might be glorified. Edwards, Sermon on Isaiah 62.4-5, #839.

October 18, 2020

Expressing Our Love and Praise: Worship in Song

Declaring What We Believe: Heidelberg Catechism, Question #45

Question: What do you believe concerning "the holy catholic church"?

Answer: I believe that the Son of God through his Spirit and Word, out of the entire human race, from the beginning of the world to its end, gathers, protects, and preserves for himself, a community chosen for eternal life and united in true faith. And of this community I am and always will be a living member.

Welcoming Each Other

Giving Worship to God: Offering

Hearing God's Word: Scripture Reading *Luke 5.27–39*

After this he went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax booth. And he said to him, "Follow me." ²⁸ And leaving everything, he rose and followed him. ²⁹ And Levi made him a great feast in his house, and there was a large company of tax collectors and others reclining at table with them.

³⁰ And the Pharisees and their scribes grumbled at his disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?" ³¹ And Jesus answered them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ³² I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."

³³ And they said to him, "The disciples of John fast often and offer prayers, and so do the disciples of the Pharisees, but yours eat and drink." ³⁴ And Jesus said to them, "Can you make wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them? ³⁵ The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days."

³⁶ He also told them a parable: "No one tears a piece from a new garment and puts it on an old garment. If he does, he will tear the new, and the piece from the new will not match the old. ³⁷ And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the new wine will burst the skins and it will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed. ³⁸ But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins. ³⁹ And no one after drinking old wine desires new, for he says, 'The old is good.'"

Understanding God's Word and Our Lives

Sermon: *Jesus' Call to Follow Creates Conflict*

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

1. Jesus Calls Us to Follow Him in the Midst of Everyday Life, v.27–29
 - a. Listen for His Voice
 - b. Use this Image for Prayer
2. But Jesus' Call to Follow Creates Conflict, v.30-35
 - a. Incompatible Conflict: Separate or Eat together, Well or Sick, Righteous or Sinner, Fast or Eat?
 - b. Old and New are Incompatible, v.36–39
3. Follow Jesus: Let Us Live According to His Compass, v.29–32
 - a. Do Not Separate
 - b. Do Repent

Recognizing our Brokenness: Confession of Sin

Public Prayer

God, some of us confess that we have not taken Jesus seriously enough; if Levi, upon hearing him, left everything to follow, then we should be listening to His voice. Others of us realize that we are tempted either, on the one hand, to separate from certain peoples, or on the other, to deny the need for repentance. But those are Pharisee ways. Have mercy on us. Forgive us.

Father, Jesus is fulfilling all of Your purposes of salvation, begun in the Old Testament, bringing Your promises of a new heaven and new earth. Please, let us hear today His vivid, powerful voice to come and follow! Enable us to receive, engage, love many that You would bring to us. Give us grace to practice a life of repentance. Help us to gently but truly communicate that Jesus is the great physician for all who confess their need.

Private Reflection

The Grace and Forgiveness of Christ

And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself."

~Acts 2:38–39

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:

- **CORE Zoom Pin: 989209**
- **Next Missions Prayer Meeting:** Tuesday, October 20th, 6:30pm.
- **Next Outdoor Communion Service:** Tuesday, October 27th, 6:30pm (note earlier time)—This is the last Communion service before Daylight Savings Time, so please try to join if you can.
- **Women's Bible Study:** Wednesdays starting at 9:30 am on Zoom. We'll begin with fellowship and prayer at 9:30 am, and the study will begin at 10 am. Contact Cathy Durham at cathyoodurham@gmail.com for the Zoom code. It is the same one as spring semester for those of you who previously attended.
- **In-Person Worship:** 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.
- **Small Groups:** We have four small groups meetings during the week (Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays evenings)! Some in person, one online, and one hybrid. Contact Ross to join the right one for you!



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.
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