



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.

March 31, 2024

Expressing Our Love and Praise: Worship in Song

(During the prelude, the first song at 10:00am, please use the music to prepare your hearts for worship.)

Declaring What We Believe: Belgic Confession: Article 21

Question: What do we believe concerning the Atonement?

Answer: We believe that Jesus Christ is a high priest forever and that he presented himself in our name before his Father, to appease his Father's wrath with full satisfaction by offering himself on the cross and pouring out his precious blood for the cleansing of our sins, as the prophets had predicted.

So, he paid back what he had not stolen, and he suffered— “the righteous for the unrighteous,” in both his body and his soul—in such a way that when he sensed the horrible punishment “required by our sins” his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground.” He cried, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” And he endured all this for the forgiveness of our sins.

Because of this, we find comfort in his wounds and have no need to seek or invent any other means to reconcile ourselves with God than this one and only sacrifice, once made, which renders believers perfect forever.

Welcoming Each Other

Giving Worship to God: Offering

Hearing God's Word: Scripture Reading

Acts 17:32-24

³² Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked. But others said, “We will hear you again about this.” ³³ So Paul went out from their midst. ³⁴ But some men joined him and believed.

Acts 26:8

⁸ Why is it thought incredible by any of you that God raises the dead?

Acts 26:23-25

²³ ...that the Christ must suffer and that, by being the first to rise from the dead, he would proclaim light both to our people and to the Gentiles.”

²⁴ And as he was saying these things in his defense, Festus said with a loud voice, “Paul, you are out of your mind; your great learning is driving you out of your mind.” ²⁵ But Paul said, “I am not out of my mind, most excellent Festus, but I am speaking true and rational words.

Luke 20:33-38

³³ In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had her as wife.”

³⁴ And Jesus said to them, “The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage, ³⁵ but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and to the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage, ³⁶ for they cannot die anymore, because they are equal to angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection.

³⁷ But that the dead are raised, even Moses showed, in the passage about the bush, where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham and the

God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. ³⁸ Now he is not God of the dead, but of the living, for all live to him.”

Luke 14:12-14

¹² He said also to the man who had invited him, “When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴ and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.”

1 Corinthians 15:52-58

⁵² For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. ⁵³ For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴ When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

⁵⁵ “O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?”

⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

Understanding God's Word and Our Lives

Sermon: Our Life Is in Jesus' Resurrection

1. Many People Mock the Resurrection of Jesus, Acts 17 and 26
2. Many Benefits Flow to Us from the Resurrection of Jesus
 - a. Belonging (Luke 20), Generosity (Luke 14), Courage (1 Cor 15)

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

Recognizing Our Brokenness: Confession of Sin

Public Prayer

God, some of us doubt the resurrection but we are willing to listen. Speak to our minds and hearts. Give us open eyes to see the evidence. Others of us believe in the resurrection of Jesus, but it is not making a difference right now in our lives. Help us to listen to Jesus and find in Him and His resurrection belonging, generosity, courage, and confidence.

Father, You sent Your Son, You raised Your Son from the dead. In Him is life where otherwise there is death. But also Jesus says His resurrection means radical belonging and generosity. The Scriptures say resurrection means courage and confidence. Help us to see how Jesus' words can transform our future and our today.

Private Reflection

The Grace and Forgiveness of Christ

For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet." *1 Cor. 15:21–27*

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. *Hebrews 13:20–21*

Sermon quote

We now see the people called Christians, though they have drawn their faith from mere allegories, sometimes acting like true philosophers. For their lack of fear of death and of what they will meet thereafter is something we can see every day, and likewise their restraint in cohabiting. from Galen (renowned 2nd-century pagan doctor), quoted in N. T. Wright, *The Resurrection of the Son of God*, 551.

- (No CORE today, but usually classes for children to adults follow the worship service, 11:15 am-noon)
- **QR Link:** Please share your prayer requests, needs, praises, new ideas, feedback, suggestions, or improvements with the Session, deacons, and staff.
- **Potluck today following the service. Stay and join us!**
- **Family Fun Day at the Sportsplex:** Saturday, April 20, 11am-2pm. Grace Hill will host a booth to meet Hillsborough neighbors. Contact Aaron Carr to volunteer.
- **Community Closet Event at Grace Hill Church (Prep: May 17-18, Event: May 19)** You can help by praying, donating items, and especially by sorting and serving in person: **setup** Friday, May 17 (5:30-7:30pm), **sorting** Saturday, May 18 (10am-1pm), and hands-on help and hospitality during the event Sunday, May 19 (12:30-3:30pm). Sign up via the link on the Thursday email or contact Lindsay Day.
- **Worship in Offering.** Three ways to worship the Lord in giving: Bank BillPay system, physical check, mobile: giving.servantkeeper.com/grace-hill-church



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. Deacons: 743.241.0760. Director of Ministries and Youth: Aaron Carr, aaron@gracehillnc.org. Worship Music Director: Abby Hummel, abby@gracehillnc.org. Children's Ministry Director: Kristen Carter, kristen@gracehillnc.org. Communications Coordinator: Mary Erickson, tworstaggering@yahoo.com. Church address: 515 Meadowlands Drive, Suite 500, Hillsborough, North Carolina 27278
www.gracehillnc.org; Facebook: Grace Hill Church; X: @gracehillchurch; Instagram: gracehill