



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.

As I looked, thrones were placed, and the Ancient of Days took his seat; his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames; its wheels were burning fire. *Daniel 7:9*

His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like flaming torches, his arms and legs like the gleam of burnished bronze, and the sound of his words like the sound of a multitude. *Daniel 10:6*

And when they went, I heard the sound of their wings like the sound of many waters, like the sound of the Almighty, a sound of tumult like the sound of an army. When they stood still, they let down their wings. *Ezekiel 1:24*

And behold, the glory of the God of Israel was coming from the east. And the sound of his coming was like the sound of many waters, and the earth shone with his glory. *Ezekiel 43:2*

April 14, 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 37

Question: What do we believe concerning the final judgment?

Answer: Finally, according to the Word of God, when the time appointed by the Lord comes and the number of the elect is complete, our Lord Jesus Christ will come from heaven, bodily and visibly, as He ascended, with great glory and majesty to declare Himself Judge of the living and the dead.

Then all will personally appear before this great Judge, men, women and children, the dead being raised, and their souls joined and united with their bodies.

This judgment is terrible and dreadful to the wicked and ungodly, but most desirable and comfortable to the righteous and elect. The faithful and elect shall be crowned with glory and honor; and the Son of God will confess their names before God His Father and His angels; all tears shall be wiped from their eyes.

So, we long for that great day with a most ardent desire, to the end that we may fully enjoy the promises of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. AMEN. *Amen, come, Lord Jesus.*

Welcoming Each Other

Giving Worship to God: Offering

Hearing God's Word: Scripture Reading

Revelation 1:9-20

⁹I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet ¹¹saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

¹²Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. ¹⁴The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, ¹⁵his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. ¹⁶In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

¹⁷When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, ¹⁸and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades. ¹⁹Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this. ²⁰As for the mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden lampstands, the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Understanding God's Word and Our Lives

Series: Revelation: Christ Calls Us to Worship As We See His Glory

Sermon: Gaze upon Our Glorious King!

1. Approaching our Glorious King (1:9-11)
2. Gazing upon our Glorious King (1:12-16)
3. Responding to our Glorious King (1:17-20)

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

Our Father, we confess that we are far too easily distracted by the world that surrounds us. When things are going well, we fix our eyes on our treasures and not on the Gift Giver. When things are difficult, we allow fear, depression, and anxiety to direct our paths. We rarely take time to simply gaze upon our Glorious King Jesus and worship.

Father, thank You for giving John this revelation of Your glorious Son so that he might share it with us and that we may receive a glimpse of the glory of Jesus. Holy Spirit, in times of tribulation and distress, give us the strength to remain in the Spirit and gaze upon Jesus, our majestic King and Priest. Amen.

Private Reflection

The Grace and Forgiveness of Christ

For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. *John 1:16-17*

Remembering Jesus with Bread and Cup: Lord's Supper

God is to us as a kind and compassionate parent, and knowing our needs, he provides help and affectionate support throughout our lives as He promises in Scripture. But he is pleased to give us an additional assurance of His ongoing abundant generosity in the Lord's Supper. The Lord's Supper is the further sacramental promise to his Church by the hand of his only-begotten Son to give us his love, compassion, and strength. As Christ is Living Bread (John 6.51), it is a spiritual feast on which our souls feed, for a true and blessed life with God through eternity. Calvin, *Institutes*, 4.17.1.

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. While Jesus spent time with everyone, he also shared the bread and cup only with those who followed him. Children who have not yet become *communing members* should not take the bread and cup but talk with our pastor or an elder about their personal faith.

*Juice is in the outer rings; wine is in the inner rings. Gluten-free crackers are in the small cups.

Prayer for Those Not Taking the Bread and Cup, 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 let me know the reality of your love and glory. Give me an understanding of you that is captivating and convincing—that leads to You Yourself and the life You promise. Amen.

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*

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- **CORE:** classes for children to adults follow the worship service, 11:15 am-noon, Zoom code: 989209
 - **QR Link:** Please share your prayer requests, needs, praises, new ideas, feedback, suggestions, or improvements with the Session, deacons, and staff.
 - **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. Please donate children's books for us to give away at the event.
 - **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