



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.

Then Amos answered and said to Amaziah, “I was no prophet, nor a prophet’s son, but I was a herdsman and a dresser of sycamore figs. But the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’ ~ Amos 7:14-15

“If your brother becomes poor beside you and sells himself to you, you shall not make him serve as a slave: he shall be with you as a hired worker and as a sojourner. He shall serve with you until the year of the jubilee. Then he shall go out from you, he and his children with him, and go back to his own clan and return to the possession of his fathers. For they are my servants, whom I brought out of the land of Egypt; they shall not be sold as slaves. You shall not rule over him ruthlessly but shall fear your God. ~ Lev. 25:39-43

If ever you take your neighbor's cloak in pledge, you shall return it to him before the sun goes down...~ Ex. 22:26

For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs. ~ I Tim. 6:10

August 8, 2021

Expressing Our Love and Praise: Worship in Song

Declaring What We Believe: New City Catechism, Question #30

Question: What is faith in Jesus Christ?

Answer: Faith in Jesus Christ is acknowledging the truth of everything that God has revealed in his Word, trusting in him, and also receiving and resting on him alone for salvation as he is offered to us in the gospel.

Welcoming Each Other

Giving Worship to God: Offering

Hearing God’s Word: Scripture Reading *Amos 2.6-16*

Thus says the Lord:

“For three transgressions of Israel,
and for four, I will not revoke the punishment,
because they sell the righteous for silver,
and the needy for a pair of sandals—

⁷ those who trample the head of the poor into
the dust of the earth

and turn aside the way of the afflicted;
a man and his father go in to the same girl,
so that my holy name is profaned;

⁸ they lay themselves down beside every altar
on garments taken in pledge,
and in the house of their God they drink
the wine of those who have been fined.

⁹ “Yet it was I who destroyed the Amorite before
them,

whose height was like the height of the
cedars

and who was as strong as the oaks;
I destroyed his fruit above
and his roots beneath.

¹⁰ Also it was I who brought you up out of the
land of Egypt

and led you forty years in the wilderness,
to possess the land of the Amorite.

¹¹ And I raised up some of your sons for
prophets,
and some of your young men for Nazirites.
Is it not indeed so, O people of Israel?”
declares the Lord.

¹² “But you made the Nazirites drink wine,
and commanded the prophets,
saying, ‘You shall not prophesy.’

¹³ “Behold, I will press you down in your place,
as a cart full of sheaves presses down.

¹⁴ Flight shall perish from the swift,
and the strong shall not retain his strength,
nor shall the mighty save his life;

¹⁵ he who handles the bow shall not stand,
and he who is swift of foot shall not save
himself,

nor shall he who rides the horse save his life;
¹⁶ and he who is stout of heart among the
mighty

shall flee away naked in that day,”
declares the Lord.

Understanding God’s Word and Our Lives

Sermon: *Amos’s Cry to Israel: You Should Have Shown Mercy!*

Outline:

1. Our Sinful State (v. 6-8, 12)
2. Our Savior Has Been Merciful Towards Us (v. 9-11)
3. Our Choice is Mercy or Judgement (v. 13-16)

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

Lord we confess that the words of the prophet are hard to hear. Weekly we have entered into Your presence, but daily we so often deny Your commands. We have brought our tithe to the temple, but we have not examined our means of gaining wealth closely enough. Please help us, Lord.

Father, You have always stood with the poor and hurting. Your son came to invite us to a Kingdom where oppression would be no more. We are received by faith in his work on the cross. Open our eyes, by Your Spirit, that we may see where we are called to offer mercy. Give us wisdom as we align ourselves with Your mission.

Private Reflection

The Grace and Forgiveness of Christ

Seek good, and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, as you have said. Hate evil, and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph. ~Amos 5.14-15

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. 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.

We are currently celebrating the Lord's Supper by remaining 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 use the time for personal reflection about your relationship with Jesus.

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

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 let me know the reality of your love and glory. Give me an understanding of you that is captivating, 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. (Heb. 13.20–21)

No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money. ~ Matt. 6:24

"A confident nation took comfort in its military prowess and ignored its exploitation of the needy and the growing disparity between privilege and poverty. Religion per se was enthusiastically practiced (2:8; 5:21-23) but by a people whose fidelity to the covenant was a sham. The nation was characterized by religious hypocrisy. Israel was a people often orthodox in style of worship but disobedient in personal and social behavior." ~Douglas Stuart (*Word Biblical Commentary*)

Announcements:

- **CORE Zoom Pin: 989209**
- **Renewed Covid Policy III. Starts 7/5/21. Goal: robust, Christ-centered, gathered worship**
 - Starting 7/5/21, our COVID policy is that masks are optional. (Please see our website for more details.)
- **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 text the word "Give" to 919 296 1330.



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 Kayli Havener, kayli@gracehillnc.org. Address: 515 Meadowlands Drive, Suite 500, Hillsborough, North Carolina 27278 www.gracehillnc.org; Facebook: Grace Hill Church; Twitter: @gracehillchurch; Instagram: gracehillnc