

Worship

Oct 23, 2011

Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him." Gen 2.18
"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect." Matt 5.43-48.

Expressing Our Love and Praise: Worship in Song

Declaring What We Believe: Confession of Faith

Welcoming Each Other (Kids may go to Sunday School)

Giving Back to God: Offering

Please use the tear-off on the back so we can let you know about upcoming events. Gifts to Grace Hill support the life and work of our community; our budget maintains for twenty percent of gifts to go to works of local and global mission.

Hearing God's Word: Scripture Reading Proverbs and Ecclesiastes, John, Hebrews

Pr 18.24 A man of many companions may come to ruin, there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

17.17 A friend loves at all times, a brother is born for adversity.

13.20 Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.

22.24 Make no friendship with a man given to anger, nor go with a wrathful man,

3.3-4 Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man.

27.6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend; profuse are the kisses of an enemy.

28.23 Whoever rebukes a man will afterward find more favor than he who flatters with his tongue.

22.11 He who loves purity of heart, and whose speech is gracious, will have the king as his friend.

27.9 Oil and perfume make the heart glad, the sweetness of a friend comes from his earnest counsel.

27.17 Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

26.18-19 Like a madman who throws firebrands, arrows, and death is the man who deceives his neighbor and says, "I am only joking!"

John 15.12 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command you. 15 No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.

Heb 2.14 Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. 16 For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. 17 Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. 18 For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Understanding God's Word and Our Lives: Sermon

Friendship

1. The Complexity of Friendship
2. The Essence of Friendship
3. Being a Friend



Grace Hill Church

*To communicate a hopeful, credible, Biblical picture of God's grace and truth in Jesus Christ
and to grow together in maturity and mission.*

Recognizing our Brokenness: Confession of Sin

Public Reading

Father, forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. (Matthew 6.12,13)

Father, we confess that we fall short of friendship as you describes it. We run out of the resources to “love at all times;” we struggle to be “faithful” and constant; and we often lack the courage to speak the good that our friend needs to hear. Our lack of faithfulness is from rebelling against your perfect faithfulness and the good words to speak to us. Forgive us.

Private Reflection

The Grace and Forgiveness of Christ

We had fallen into a pit of trouble and of all who heard our cry, Jesus came. He left his comfort and beauty. We became his new preference; we were now what was on his calendar. We were of flesh and blood, so he put this on too and he came. With love and faithfulness he spoke the words we needed to hear. And when our rescue from death, from fear, from slavery required a substituting sacrifice, he did what true friends do, he laid down his life for us. He was not a companion, but our true friend. Jesus chooses to call us friend. In Him we are forgiven and in him we find the resources to be true friends.

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.

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.

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

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.



**Grace
Hill
Church**

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; he 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.

Address: 515 Meadowlands Drive, Ste. 500, Hillsborough, NC 27278 **Phone:** 919.617.1792
Web: www.gracehillchurch.net **Facebook** Grace Hill Church News **Group:Twitter:** Gracehillchurch