

# GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WATERTOWN, NEW YORK

## The Gospel

There are few things as precious to the Jesus Movement as the gospel. The word *gospel* means “good news.” It is the sermon of the Jesus Movement. Its central proclamation is the good news of God’s love and initiative not only to save us from hell, but also to bring us into a healthy relationship with Himself. The point of this book is that the gospel is good news, and its core is a restored relationship with God... [This message of good news] stands at the center of the church’s mission in the world. If we ask what message Jesus brought, the short answer is simply this: He brought the good news that God’s promised rule of deliverance has arrived.

Darrell L. Bock

~ *Recovering the Real Lost Gospel:  
Reclaiming the Gospel as Good News*

JANUARY 12, 2024  
FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

# WELCOME

We are glad you decided to come and worship our God and Father through his Son Jesus Christ by His Spirit with us today! We are a mission church of the Presbyterian Church in America, with deep roots in the reformed catholic<sup>1</sup> tradition. Our mission is to glorify and enjoy God through faithful worship and proclamation of the Gospel, and our goal is to embody the love of God in Christ through our words and deeds, including practical, generous acts of love and service.

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We want you to feel welcome, and we've prepared this guide to help you enter body and soul into worship. We deeply believe that worship is not just watching and listening; we are called to be active and engaged in the dialog between the covenant God who speaks and his people who respond. Please note:

- the words of Scripture are in *italics*,
  - **boldface type** indicates congregational participation,
  - words in *red* are guides to what's happening, and
  - the † symbol means everyone stands, as able.
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We have coffee and snacks in the fellowship hall following worship. We hope you will stay for a while so that we can get to know one another a little bit.

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If you would like to seek prayer or physical help for any need; if you have questions about anything you have heard or about

- who Jesus is,
- what he has done, or
- why that matters;

or if you would simply like to connect with our pastor, feel free to reach out after the service, or email Pastor Frank at [gracepreswt@gmail.com](mailto:gracepreswt@gmail.com).

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**[gracepcawatertown.org](http://gracepcawatertown.org)**

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<sup>1</sup>We are catholic Christians because we are in communion with that Church from which the Gospel is spread throughout the world (St. Augustine, 2<sup>nd</sup> Homily on 1 John).

# LORD'S DAY DIVINE SERVICE

## The Welcome and Announcements

Jesus proclaimed, *“The time is fulfilled,  
and the kingdom of God is at hand;  
repent and believe in the gospel.”*

~ Mark 1:15

## The Prelude

*Take a moment to prepare in silence for worship  
and to pray for God's assistance to worship him rightly.*

GOD CALLS US | WE GATHER TOGETHER AND PRAISE HIM

## The Apostolic Greeting

*Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!*

## † The Call to Worship

Isaiah 40:9-11

*In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost,*

***Amen!***

*The LORD be with you!*

***And with your spirit!***

*Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, “Behold your God!”*

***Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.***

*He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms;*

***he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.***

*Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. Let us worship God.*

## † The Hymn of Praise, p. 10

Holy, Holy, Holy

† Please stand, as able

## †The Opening Prayer

*Prayers for Common Worship (1936)*

*The LORD has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations. (Psalm 98:2)*

**Almighty God, who has said, Seek and you shall find, and who leads all souls who seek your face: Purify our minds that, firmly holding the truth we have received and believed, and being ready to go on as you guide us, we may be kept one with all those who in every age and place have sought you and found you. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.**

## †The Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. AMEN.**

## GOD CLEANSSES US | WE CONFESS OUR SINS

### The Call to Confession

*Psalm 86:5-6*

Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us lift up our prayers and humbly confess our sins to God our Father, seeking and imploring his grace through Jesus Christ our Mediator.

*For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.*

***Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer; listen to my plea for grace.***

### The Confession of Sin, *in unison*

**Almighty God, whose salvation is never far from the contrite: Have mercy on us, for our hope is in you. We plead only the blood and righteousness of Christ. Forgive us for what we have done or said, desired or planned against your Holy Will; for the particular sins we remember and confess, and for those we have forgotten; for all our lack of faith in the teaching of your Word; for all our lack of hope in your sure promises; for all our lack of love for you and for others: Lord have mercy on us. For Jesus' sake. AMEN.**

***Take a moment of silence to confess your particular sins to God through Jesus Christ our Advocate and Shield who sits at the God's right hand.***

### The Proclamation of Forgiveness

*Acts 13:38-39*

*Let it be known to you, brothers and sisters, that through this man, Christ Jesus, forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you, and by him everyone who believes is justified from everything from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses.*

## The Law of God

from *Exodus 20*

How are we to respond to God's forgiveness? We are to live as children of the Most High God, in the obedience that flows from faith. And this is God's revealed will for our life: *And God spoke all these words, saying, I am the LORD thy God, who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.*

*Thou shalt have no other gods before me.*

*Thou shalt not make unto thee a graven image.*

*Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain.*

*Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*

*Honor thy father and thy mother.*

*Thou shalt not murder.*

*Thou shalt not commit adultery.*

*Thou shalt not steal.*

*Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.*

*Thou shalt not covet.*

## The Prayer for Grace, *in unison* Order of Worship for the Reformed Church in the U.S.

*Let us lift up our hearts to God in heaven.*

*To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.*

Let us pray together to the Lord:

Receive, O Lord, with compassionate kindness, the prayers of your suppliant people, and bestow upon us bountifully the aids of your heavenly grace; that we may both know what things we ought to do, and be strong also to do what we know. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. AMEN.

GOD CONSECRATES US | WE RESPOND IN PRAYER AND OFFERING

The Offering Prayer and Collection of Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory

GOD SPEAKS TO US | WE HEAR IN FAITH

**The Scripture Readings for the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

The Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 52:7-15*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

The Epistle Reading: *Romans 10:5-17*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

† The Gospel Reading: *Matthew 9:35-38*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

**The Hymn, p.11**

In Christ Alone

**The Sermon Text: 1 Corinthians 15:1-5**

*Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you...*

**The Prayer for Illumination**

**The Sermon**

GOD COMMUNES WITH US | WE EAT AND DRINK  
WITH THE LORD AND ONE ANOTHER

**The Invitation to the Meal and Fencing of the Table**

† **The Hymn of Preparation, p. 12**

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross, vv.1-3

† **The Confession of Our Faith, p. 13, *in unison***

The Nicene Creed

### †The Passing of the Peace

*1 Corinthians 6:11; Romans 5:1*

*You were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.*

**And also with you.**

### †The Words of Institution

*Matthew 26:26-29*

### †The Prayer of Humble Access, *in unison*

*Book of Common Prayer (1552)*

**We do not presume to come to this your table, O Merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your many and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord who ever loves to show mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his cup, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. AMEN.**

### The Prayer of Consecration

*Book of Common Prayer (1552)*

### The Serving of the Elements

*Brothers and sisters, lift your eyes from the visible elements and lift up your heart to heaven, where Christ is now, seated at the right hand of the Father, from where he will come again to complete our redemption. In him alone are all the promises of God fulfilled and all Spiritual blessings found.*

*Come to the Table now in joy of heart, in Spirit-wrought unity, in holy love, and partake of the Feast of Christ, giving thanks for the great love that God has shown us.*

### The Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;  
for his steadfast love endures forever!*

†The Hymn of Response, p. 12

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross, v. 4

## The Prayer of Intercession

The Lord's Prayer, *in unison*

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. AMEN.*

GOD COMMISSIONS AND BLESSES US | WE GO OUT TO SERVE GOD

†Closing Hymn, p. 14

May the Grace of Christ Our Savior

†The Song of Simeon, p. 14, *in unison*

*Luke 2:29-32*

†The Commission

*Matthew 28:18-20*

*All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.*

†The Benediction and the People's Amen

*1 Thessalonians 5:23-24, 28*

*May the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. AMEN.*

## Sermon Notes

## Holy, Holy, Holy

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!  
 2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,  
 3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,  
 4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.  
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;  
 though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see,  
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!  
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,  
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee  
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
 who wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.  
 per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pur - i - ty.  
 God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

## In Christ Alone



1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my  
 2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of  
 3. There in the ground his bo - dy lay, Light of the  
 4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the



light, my strength my song; This Cor - ner - stone, this sol - id  
 God in help - less babe! This gift of love and right - eous -  
 world by dark - ness slain. Then burst - ing forth in glor - ious  
 pow'r of Christ in me. From life's first cry to fi - nal



ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and  
 ness, scorned by the ones He came to  
 day up from the grave he rose a -  
 breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti -



storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace when fears are  
 save. 'Till on the cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of  
 gain. And as he stands in vic - to - ry sin's curse has  
 ny. No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ev - er



stilled, when striv - ings cease. My Com - fort - er, my All in  
 God was sat - is - fied. For ev - 'ry sin on Him was  
 lost its grip on me, for I am his and he is  
 pluck me from his hand. 'Till he re - turns or calls me



all, here in the love of Christ I stand.  
 laid; here in the death of Christ I live.  
 mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.  
 home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

## When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

1. When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the  
 2. For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the  
 3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and  
 4. Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

Prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
 death of Christ my God: all the vain things that  
 love flow min - gled down: did e'er such love and  
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

## The Nicene Creed

WE BELIEVE IN one God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
and of all things visible and invisible.

AND IN one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father;  
by whom all things were made;

Who for us, and for our salvation came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered and was buried;  
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;

And he shall come again, with glory,  
to judge both the living and the dead;  
whose kingdom shall have no end.

AND WE BELIEVE IN the Holy Ghost, the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;  
who with the Father and the Son  
together is worshipped and glorified;  
who spoke by the prophets;

AND WE BELIEVE IN one holy catholic and apostolic Church;  
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;

AND WE LOOK for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. AMEN.

## May the Grace of Christ our Savior

1. May the grace of Christ our Sav - ior and the  
2. Thus may we a - bide in un - ion with each

The first system of music consists of a treble and bass staff in G major and 3/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics provided below the notes.

Fa - ther's bound - less love, with the Ho - ly Spir - it's  
oth - er and the Lord, and pos - sess, in sweet com -

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are split across two lines, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across bar lines.

fa - vor, rest up - on us from a - bove.  
mun - ion, joys which earth can - not af - ford. A - men.

The third system concludes the piece with a double bar line. The lyrics end with 'A - men.' The musical notation includes a final cadence in both staves.

## The Song of Simeon – Luke 2:29-32

*Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel. AMEN.*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Men's Bible study on the book of Job will not meet this Thursday evening as the Harrymans are out of town.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

### NOTES ON COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper, or Holy Communion, is one of the means by which Christ graciously blesses his people. We believe that the whole Christ—body, soul, and divinity—is present to the believer by the power of his Spirit. In it, our Lord assures us of his atonement for us, the forgiveness of our sins, even as he strengthens and nourishes us in our life of faithful discipleship. Grace welcomes to Communion all who are willing to forsake their sin and trust in Jesus Christ alone for salvation, and who, having been baptized, are members of congregations that proclaim the Gospel. Children who have made a public profession of faith and been admitted by the elders to the Table are able to share in Communion.

Please note:

- The inner rings of cups contain wine, the outer ring grape juice.
- Gluten-free bread (rice and corn flour based) is available.
- Our custom is to wait until everyone has been served, whereupon we eat and drink together.
- After the service, please place your empty cup in the basket provided near the entrance.

*We are God's people.  
We proclaim Christ,  
who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.  
In him we are  
Taught by the Truth and  
Liberated by the Life to  
Walk in the Way.  
The goal of our instruction is love  
for God and neighbor  
that flows from a pure heart and  
a clear conscience and  
a sincere faith.*



*A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America*

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