



the
servant
kingdom

Gracehill
CHURCH

May 9, 2021

ORDER OF WORSHIP

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Song of Gathering *Ancient of Days*

Though the nations rage
Kingdoms rise and fall
There is still one King
Reigning over all
So I will not fear
For this truth remains:
That my God is, the Ancient of Days

Chorus:

None above him, none before him
All of time in His hands
For His throne it shall remain and ever stand
All the power all the glory
I will trust in His name
For my God is, the Ancient of Days

Though the dread of night
Overwhelms my soul
He is here with me
I am not alone
O His love is sure
And He knows my name
For my God is, the Ancient of Days

Though I may not see
What the future brings
I will watch and wait
For the Savior King
Then my joy complete
Standing face to face
In the presence of the Ancient of Days

Song of Gathering: This first song of the service is meant to prepare our minds and hearts for worship. Feel free to sing along or simply meditate as we begin our time worshipping God.

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Psalms 138:1-5

Leader: I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise.
I bow down toward your holy temple and give
thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your
faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things
your name and your word.

People: **On the day I called, you answered me; my strength
of soul you increased. All the kings of the earth
shall give you thanks, O Lord, for they have heard
the words of your mouth,
And they shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for
great is the glory of the Lord.**

Call to Worship: We worship because we are called to do so. This call, usually taken from a psalm, is an invitation into the presence of God; to worship and praise him.

Song of Praise

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy
Lord, God Almighty
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee
Holy, holy, holy
Merciful and mighty
God in three persons blessed Trinity

Holy, holy, holy
Though the darkness hide Thee
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see
Only Thou art holy;
there is none beside Thee
Perfect in power, in love, and purity

Holy, holy, holy
Lord, God Almighty
All Thy works shall praise Thy name
in earth and sky and sea
Holy, holy, holy
Merciful and mighty
God in three persons blessed Trinity

Prayer of Adoration *(concluding with the Lord's Prayer)*

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.

Song of Praise: We enter into God's presence praising him for who he is, and delighting in his desire to be in relationship with us.

Prayer of Adoration: Praying is essential to worship. As we pray, we begin by adoring God for who he is and what he has done through his son Jesus. We conclude this prayer by reciting together the Lord's Prayer.

Call to Confession *Jeremiah 4:1-2*

Leader: If you return to me, O Israel, declares the Lord, to me you should return.

All: If you remove your detestable things from my presence, and do not waiver.

Leader: And if you swear, 'As the Lord lives,; in truth, in justice, and in righteousness,

All: Then nations shall bless themselves in him, and in him they shall glory.

Prayer of Confession *from Colossians 2:6-12* *(followed by Silent Confession)*

Leader: Lord, we come confessing. Although we have received Christ Jesus, our Lord, we do not walk in him.

All: We so often separate from him, uprooting ourselves and tearing down the work that has been done in our hearts. Our faith is weak and groundless, and we live lives contrary to what we have been taught.

Leader: In our ingratitude, we are taken captive by human tradition and by the ambitions of this world. Our lives do not accord with Christ.

All: We take on the body of the flesh, with all of its desires and evil habits, and we forget the circumcision that is ours in Christ. Forgive us, O Lord, and remind us again of the new life we have in Christ, which you are so powerfully working in us. We ask this for the sake of Christ Jesus your Son.

Call to Confession: As we praise God, and through the Spirit showing us, we become aware of our own imperfections in light of our perfect God. In love, God calls us to freely and openly confess our sins before him.

Confession of Sin: Sin is not only something that we've done wrong. Rather, it's a state of being that we're born into, and that we need saving from. It is impossible to conquer sin on our own, or make amends for it by our own actions. Our only hope is to turn to Christ, asking that he forgive and conquer sin for us, and - by grace alone and through faith alone - save us.

Assurance of Forgiveness *Colossians 2:13-15*

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

Song of Thanks *My Soul Finds Rest*

Oh my God hear my cry
From the depths I call out to you
You give your mercy and light
In the dark, in the wilderness

My soul finds rest in God alone
My salvation comes from him
My soul finds rest, God is my home
I will not be shaken, I will not be shaken

You are my shield and my strength
Train my feet for this battle
Our God is mighty to save
I will wait, I will wait for him

O my strength, I sing praise to you
O my strength, I sing praise to you
In joy or pain, I sing praise to you
Night or day, I sing praise to you

Assurance of Forgiveness: As we confess our sin, God offers us the assurance that, in Jesus, we are forgiven and loved regardless of what we've done in the past. Because of Jesus, we are no longer condemned by our sin, but are brought into new life by the Spirit.

Song of Thanks: Knowing that we are forgiven, and knowing that Jesus has reconciled us with God the Father, we sing with thankful hearts.

Statement of Faith

from Colossians 1:15-20

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation;
in him all things in heaven and on earth were created,
things visible and invisible.
All things have been created through him and for him.
He himself is before all things,
and in him all things hold together.
He is the head of the body, the church;
he is the beginning,
the firstborn from the dead,
so that he might come to have first place in everything.
For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things,
whether on earth or in heaven,
by making peace through the blood of the cross.

Central text *Mark 1:21-28*

²¹ And they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath he entered the synagogue and was teaching. ²² And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. ²³ And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out,

²⁴ "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God."

²⁵ But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!"

²⁶ And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷ And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." ²⁸ And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: Though spoken by a person, we are to hear the sermon as God speaking to us. A sermon is a study in God's Word, the announcement of the good news in Christ, and an invitation to apply the truth of God's Word to our daily lives. At Gracehill, our sermons are not generally based on certain themes; rather, we study through individual books of the Bible.

Communion

Song of Response *Jesus Strong and Kind*

Jesus said
That if I thirst
I should come to him
No one else can satisfy
I should come to him

Jesus said
If I am weak
I should come to him
No one else can be my strength
I should come to him

Chorus:
For the Lord is good and faithful
He will keep us day and night
We can always run to Jesus
Jesus, strong and kind

Jesus said
That if I fear
I should come to him
No one else can be my shield
I should come to him

Jesus said if I am lost
He will come to me
And he showed me on that cross
He will come to me

Song of Response: We sing in response to the hearing of God's faithfulness and love for his people, as revealed in his son Jesus.

Benediction *Jude vv24-25*

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

If you'd like to meet to find out more about Gracehill, or ways to get connected, please contact Ben Seneker at: 616.227.8813, or email benseneker@gracehillgr.church; or contact elder Ken Morse at gkmorse60@gmail.com

Benediction: As we conclude the service, the benediction is a blessing by God, as found in Scripture, for us individually and as a united church. We take this blessing with us as we - carrying the light of the gospel - go out into a dark world, that others may see the Light.

Doxology: In the Greek - doxologia, a word (logos) of glory (doxa). The doxology is an ancient hymn of praise, and has been part of the worship service in many churches for centuries. It is sung in response to the Lord's abundant grace for us and his church.

Announcements:

Get Connected: If you would like to be added to the weekly email list, learn of ways to serve, schedule a time to meet with Ben, or would like to submit prayer requests, please send an email to office@gracehillgr.church

Sermon Discussion Questions - Mark 1:21-28

1. How do you generally respond to those who have authority over you? Are you naturally skeptical, naturally obedient, or somewhere in-between? Why?
2. The scribes (and even the demon!) in our passage seem to have no problem acknowledging the authority with which Jesus spoke. Why do you think this is? What was different about it?
3. How does Jesus reveal his authority in both word and deed?
4. What are your initial responses to Jesus's encounter with the unclean spirit in vv23-26?
5. What would you say is the ultimate source of authority in your life: revelation, reason, experience, or tradition? As Christians, why must revelation (e.g. the inspired Word of God) be our ultimate source?
6. In what ways does this passage motivate you to listen more carefully and obediently to Jesus's teaching?
7. How does this passage encourage you as a follower of Christ?