



the  
servant  
kingdom

Gracehill  
CHURCH

June 13, 2021

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

June 13, 2021

### **Song of Gathering**     *Praise the Lord ye Heavens*

Praise the Lord Ye heavens adore him  
Praise him angels in the height  
Sun and moon, rejoice before him  
Praise him, all ye stars of light

Praise the Lord for he hath spoken  
Worlds his mighty voice obeyed  
Laws which never shall be broken  
For their guidance he hath made

#### *Chorus:*

All creation join the song of praise  
Let every tongue declare His mighty ways  
And we will sing of Your goodness and mercy all of our days

Praise the Lord for he is glorious  
Never shall his promise fail  
God hath made his saints victorious  
Sin and death shall not prevail

Glory! Glory! All glory to You Lord!

Praise the God of our salvation  
Hosts on high, his power proclaim  
Heaven and earth, and all creation  
Laud and magnify his Name

**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 *from Psalm 29*

Leader: Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**All: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name. Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.**

Leader: The Lord sits enthroned over the flood. The Lord sits enthroned as King forever.

**All: May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace!**

Leader: Come! Let us worship.

**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**

## *Only a Holy God*

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven?  
Who else could make every king bow down?  
Who else can whisper and darkness trembles?  
Only a Holy God.

What other beauty demands such praises?  
What other splendour outshines the sun?  
What other majesty rules with justice?  
Only a Holy God.

### *Chorus:*

Come and behold Him,  
The One and the Only.  
Cry out, sing holy;  
Forever a Holy God;  
Come and worship the Holy God.

What other glory consumes like fire?  
What other power can raise the dead?  
What other name remains undefeated?  
Only a Holy God.

Who else could rescue me from my failing?  
Who else would offer His only Son?  
Who else invites me to call Him Father?  
Only a Holy God,  
Only my Holy God!

## **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      *Romans 2:3-5*

Do you suppose, O man—you who judge those who practice such things and yet do them yourself—that you will escape the judgment of God? Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.

## Prayer of Confession      *(followed by Silent Confession)*

Leader: Heavenly Father, we humbly pray to you in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. We confess that we have sinned against you by trusting in ourselves and our strength. We have been deceived into thinking our hope for life, joy, significance, and peace is found in our accomplishments and what we can attain for ourselves.

**All:      Please forgive us for our pride. Our sin has resulted in our lives being plagued with fear and anxiety instead of confidence and trust in you. Please have mercy on us and give us repentant hearts and renewed minds. Search our hearts, test our minds, and lead us on new paths.**

Leader: Help us to see you in your strength and majesty, your power and kindness, and your goodness and love. Plant us by the refreshing streams of your grace that we may be deeply rooted and rest securely in you. We ask all of this in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**All:      Amen.**

**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**    *Galatians 2:19-20*

For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

**Song of Thanks**            *O Love That Will Not Let Me Go*

O love that will not let me go,  
I rest my weary soul in thee.  
I give thee back the life I owe,  
that in thine oceans depths its flow.  
May richer fuller be.

O light followest all my way,  
I yield my flickering torch to thee.  
My heart restores its borrowed ray,  
that in thy sunshine's blaze its day.  
May brighter fairer be.

O joy that seekest me through pain,  
I cannot close my heart to thee.  
I chase the rainbow through the rain,  
and feel the promise is not vain.  
That morn shall tearless be.

O cross that liftest up my head,  
I dare not ask to fly from thee.  
I lay in dust's life's glory dead,  
and from the ground there blossoms red.  
Life that shall endless be.

**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.

**Congregational Prayer** *Our Source of Rest*

based on a prayer  
from The Valley of Vision

O Glorious Father,  
The thought of your infinite serenity cheers me,  
For I am toiling and tired, troubled and distressed,  
but you are for ever at perfect peace.

Your designs cause you no fear or concern of unfulfilment,  
they stand fast as the eternal hills.  
Your power knows no bond, your goodness no limit.  
You bring order out of confusion, and my defeats are your victories:

We come to you tired and anxious.  
Revive in our hearts a deep and abiding rest;  
Let us live near the great Shepherd,  
hear his voice, know its tones, follow its call.

Keep us from deception by having us walk in truth,  
from fear by having us walk in the power of the Spirit.

Let us never be ashamed of the truth of the gospel,  
that we may see Jesus as its essence,  
know in it the power of the Spirit.  
Lord, help us, for we are often lukewarm in our faith;  
doubt mars our confidence, sin makes us forget and grow tired.

Grant us to know that we truly live only  
when we live to you, that all else is trifling.  
Your presence alone makes us holy, secure, forgiven, and at rest.  
Abide in us, our gracious God,  
We ask this in the name of Jesus, your son and our savior,  
Amen.

## Sermon (Mis)understanding Rest

**Central text** *Mark 2:23-3:6*

<sup>23</sup> One Sabbath he was going through the grainfields, and as they made their way, his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. <sup>24</sup> And the Pharisees were saying to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath?" <sup>25</sup> And he said to them, "Have you never read what David did, when he was in need and was hungry, he and those who were with him: <sup>26</sup> how he entered the house of God, in the time of Abiathar the high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and also gave it to those who were with him?" <sup>27</sup> And he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. <sup>28</sup> So the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath."

<sup>31</sup> Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there with a withered hand. <sup>2</sup> And they watched Jesus, to see whether he would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse him. <sup>3</sup> And he said to the man with the withered hand, "Come here." <sup>4</sup> And he said to them, "Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save life or to kill?" But they were silent. <sup>5</sup> And he looked around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. <sup>6</sup> The Pharisees went out and immediately held counsel with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God!**

Prayer

**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 *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

**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** *from 1 Peter 4:11*

However we may speak or serve, may we do so by the strength that God supplies, so that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belongs glory and dominion, forever and ever. 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.

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If you'd like to meet to find out more about Gracehill, or ways to get connected, or if you have specific prayer requests, please contact Ben Seneker at: 616-227-8813, or email [benseneker@gracehillgr.church](mailto:benseneker@gracehillgr.church); or contact elder Ken Morse at [gkmorse60@gmail.com](mailto: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:

Mark your calendars for the **All-Church event, Music & Memories, on Saturday, June 26, 6pm-7:30pm for live music and storytelling in the park (where we meet for worship)** as we hear Gracehill folks sing songs and share the memories associated with them. Anyone and all skill levels are welcomed, but we do ask that you sign-up at <https://christchurchgr.breezechms.com/form/4bedb8> to let us know the song title and artist and what instrument(s) will be played. For more information please email: [office@gracehillgr.church](mailto:office@gracehillgr.church)

**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](mailto:office@gracehillgr.church)

**Ben would love to hear from you!** What was something from today's service that struck you? Was there something said, sung, or prayed that encouraged you - or challenged you - in a particular way that you'd like to share? Feel free to email him at [benseneker@gracehillgr.church](mailto:benseneker@gracehillgr.church)

