

8989 Woodlands Pkwy, The Woodlands TX. 77382 / Phone: 281-296-0911 / www.gracewoodlands.org

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to all who will come, this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

_Church Staff & Officers

Kyle Bobos Assistant Pastor Children's Ministries

Caleb McDuffee Student Ministries Elders Brent Allmon Dan Brink Jon Green Rob McIntosh Mark Moore Andy Yung

Deacons

Matt Bradshaw Mike Bellin Rhonnie Bellin Jeff Cranford Mark Hill Scott Johnston Mike Ryan Joe Tison Sunny Yung

Grace Church is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).

Reflections____

Christ leads us not only to the treasure but through painful encounters with the falseness of what is within us.

- John Philip Newell One Foot In Eden

Circumstances can force guilt to the surface in any of us. We know that Joseph's actions do that in his brothers, but one cannot help thinking that there are times when God does the same thing to us. In his providential care, he so arranges our circumstances that we are forced to face things we have suppressed or tried to forget that we need to deal with in order to grow as believers both morally and spiritually.

– John C. Lennox Joseph

The reason some of us struggle to forgive others is that we fail to understand that forgiveness and reconciliation are not the same thing. Forgiving someone does not mean acting as if nothing happened...real reconciliation involves the rebuilding of trust when both parties to a broken relationship approach each other in forgiveness and true repentance.

- Iain M. Duiguid & Matthew P. Harmon *Living in the Light of Inextinguishable Hope*

We can ignore even pleasure. But pain insists upon being attended to. God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pains: it is his megaphone to rouse a deaf world.

- C.S. Lewis The Problem of Pain

Grace Presbyterian Church

Second Sunday in Eastertide

April 19, 2020

10:30 a.m.

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Preparation for Worship¹

_____Praise_____

Call to Worship

based on Romans 6:9-10

Leader:	Christ is risen from the dead. Alleluia!
People:	We know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him.
Leader:	The death he died, he died for sin once for all;
All:	but the life he lives, he lives to God.

¹ As a courtesy, please program all communication devices to silent mode. Thank you!

Song of Praise

In Christ Alone Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend



In Christ alone! Who took on flesh Fullness of God in helpless babe! This gift of love and righteousness Scorned by the ones He came to save: Till on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied For every sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay Light of the world by darkness slain: Then bursting forth in glorious day Up from the grave He rose again! And as He stands in victory Sin's curse has lost its grip on me, For I am His and He is mine -Bought with the precious blood of Christ. No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the power of Christ in me; From life's first cry to final breath. Jesus commands my destiny. No power of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand; Till He returns or calls me home, Here in the power of Christ I'll stand. Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Prayer of Adoration

Renewal

Scripture Reading

Proverbs 28:13-14

Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy. Blessed is the one who always trembles before God, but whoever hardens their heart falls into trouble.

Confession of Sin

Minister & People:

O Lord, our God, help us and heal us. We are stubborn, blind people who repeatedly and willfully stray from you. Like children who rip their hands away from their parents on a busy street, we will not stay near you. In our blindness, even our ability to confess has been distorted. Some of us are unaffected by the fact that we are helpless sinners without your mercy. We are indifferent to the cost of our rebellion. We confess out of duty or habit, but not out of a deep awareness of our need for your overwhelming grace. Others of us are so undone by our repeated failures that we can barely lift our heads to you for help. Lost in the anxiety of our unbelief, we confess our of fear, desperation, hopelessness, but seldom out of confidence that you love us and have invited us into a real relationship with you through repentance and forgiveness. Loving Father, create in us clean hearts that are truly broken for our struggles with sin, yet utterly confident that your love is more than enough to transform the foulest sinner who trusts in you.

Private Confession and Reflection

Words of Encouragement

Lamentations 3:21-24

Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope:Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail.They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him."

Peace of God

Minister: The peace of the Lord be with you!

People: And also with you.

The Prayers of the People (concluded 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 out 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 for ever. Amen!

_____Commitment_____

The Offering

The offering is a way for members and friends of Grace Church to support the church's mission and ministry. If you are our guest today, please feel under no compulsion to give.

Scripture Reading

When Jacob learned that there was grain in Egypt, he said to his sons, "Why do you just keep looking at each other?" 2 He continued, "I have heard that there is grain in Egypt. Go down there and buy some for us, so that we may live and not die."

3 Then ten of Joseph's brothers went down to buy grain from Egypt. 4 But Jacob did not send Benjamin, Joseph's brother, with the others, because he was afraid that harm might come to him. 5 So Israel's sons were among those who went to buy grain, for there was famine in the land of Canaan also.

6 Now Joseph was the governor of the land, the person who sold grain to all its people. So when Joseph's brothers arrived, they bowed down to him with their faces to the ground. 7 As soon as Joseph saw his brothers, he recognized them, but he pretended to be a stranger and spoke harshly to them. "Where do you come from?" he asked.

"From the land of Canaan," they replied, "to buy food."

8 Although Joseph recognized his brothers, they did not recognize him. 9 Then he remembered his dreams about them and said to them, "You are spies! You have come to see where our land is unprotected."

10 "No, my lord," they answered. "Your servants have come to buy food. 11 We are all the sons of one man. Your servants are honest men, not spies."

12 "No!" he said to them. "You have come to see where our land is unprotected."

13 But they replied, "Your servants were twelve brothers, the sons of one man, who lives in the land of Canaan. The youngest is now with our father, and one is no more."

14 Joseph said to them, "It is just as I told you: You are spies! 15 And this is how you will be tested: As surely as Pharaoh lives, you will not leave this place unless your youngest brother comes here. 16 Send one of your number to get your brother; the rest of you will be kept in prison, so that your words may be tested to see if you are telling the truth. If you are not, then as surely as Pharaoh lives, you are spies!" 17 And he put them all in custody for three days.

18 On the third day, Joseph said to them, "Do this and you will live, for I fear God: 19 If you are honest men, let one of your brothers stay here in prison, while the rest of you go and take grain back for your starving households. 20 But you must bring your youngest brother to me, so that your words may be verified and that you may not die." This they proceeded to do.

21 They said to one another, "Surely we are being punished because of our brother. We saw how distressed he was when he pleaded with us for his life, but we would not listen; that's why this distress has come on us."

22 Reuben replied, "Didn't I tell you not to sin against the boy? But you wouldn't listen! Now we must give an accounting for his blood." 23 They did not realize that Joseph could understand them, since he was using an interpreter.

24 He turned away from them and began to weep, but then came back and spoke to them again. He had Simeon taken from them and bound before their eyes.

25 Joseph gave orders to fill their bags with grain, to put each man's silver back in his sack, and to give them provisions for their journey. After this was done for them, 26 they loaded their grain on their donkeys and left.

27 At the place where they stopped for the night one of them opened his sack to get feed for his donkey, and he saw his silver in the mouth of his sack. 28 "My silver has been returned," he said to his brothers. "Here it is in my sack."

Their hearts sank and they turned to each other trembling and said, "What is this that God has done to us?"

29 When they came to their father Jacob in the land of Canaan, they told him all that had happened to them. They said, 30 "The man who is lord over the land spoke harshly to us and treated us as though we were spying on the land. 31 But we said to him, 'We are honest men; we are not spies. 32 We were twelve brothers, sons of one father. One is no more, and the youngest is now with our father in Canaan.'

33 "Then the man who is lord over the land said to us, 'This is how I will know whether you are honest men: Leave one of your brothers here with me, and take food for your starving households and go. 34 But bring your youngest brother to me so I will know that you are not spies but honest men. Then I will give your brother back to you, and you can trade in the land.'"

35 As they were emptying their sacks, there in each man's sack was his pouch of silver! When they and their father saw the money pouches, they were frightened. 36 Their father Jacob said to them, "You have deprived me of my children. Joseph is no more and Simeon is no more, and now you want to take Benjamin. Everything is against me!"

37 Then Reuben said to his father, "You may put both of my sons to death if I do not bring him back to you. Entrust him to my care, and I will bring him back."

38 But Jacob said, "My son will not go down there with you; his brother is dead and he is the only one left. If harm comes to him on the journey you are taking, you will bring my gray head down to the grave in sorrow."

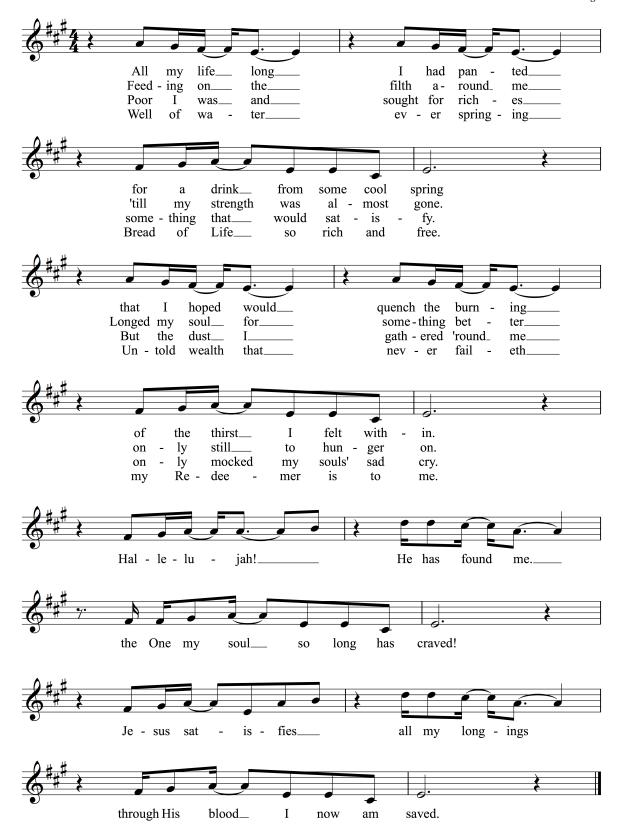
Sermon

Mr. Kyle Bobos

GOD AND THE UNEXPECTED **THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOSEPH**

Song of Commitment

Satisfied Clara T. Williams & Karl Digerness



Benediction²

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

Dismissal

Minister:	Now, let us go forth to serve this community and the world as those who love our Lord Jesus Christ.
ALL:	Thanks be to God!

The pastoral staff and other church leaders are available following the service to pray with you or to answer your questions about the Christian faith or Grace Church.

Worship Music³

Thank you for sharing your gifts and talents with Grace Presbyterian Church.

Brent Allmon, saxophone David Fox, keyboard Damon Henrichs, guitar Debra Moses, flute Rae Moses, piano Jennifer Reddick, flute

²The benediction is much more than a wish or even a prayer. It is a renewed ordination of the people of God to their service to each other, to their community and the world. God declares his own favor toward his people.

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