



8989 Woodlands Pkwy, The Woodlands TX. 77382 / Phone: 281-296-0911 / [www.gracewoodlands.org](http://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.*

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*Church Staff & Officers*

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**David J. Wilcher**

*Lead Pastor*

**Kyle Bobos**

*Children's Ministries*

**Elders**

*Dan Brink*

*Jon Green*

*Mark Moore*

*Andy Yung*

**Deacons**

*Matt Bradshaw*

*Mike Bellin*

*Jeff Cranford*

*Mark Hill*

*Scott Johnston*

*Rob McIntosh*

*Mike Ryan*

*Sunny Yung*

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

## --- *Reflections* ---

Easter recognizes that I am living in a prison of my own making, and that God is in the demolition business.

— Craig D Lounsborough

Easter tells us of something children can't understand, because it addresses things they don't yet have to know: the weariness of life, the pain, the profound loneliness and hovering fear of meaninglessness.

— Frederica Mathewes-Green

Every woman's path is difficult, and many mothers were as equipped to raise children as wire monkey mothers. I say that without judgment: It is, sadly, true. An unhealthy mother's love is withering.

— Anne Lamott

Throughout my life, there were a few hard days. Days where even when I tried to be happy, my heart still cracked, and Mother's Day was one of those. For others, it stood as a celebration. For me, it spoke of loss and failure.

— Brittainy C. Cherry  
*Disgrace*

# Grace Presbyterian Church

*Fourth Sunday of Easter*

May 12, 2019

10:30 a.m.

**Prelude**

**Words of Welcome**

**Preparation for Worship<sup>1</sup>**

\_\_\_\_\_ *Praise* \_\_\_\_\_

**Call to Worship**

**1 Corinthians 5:7,8**

Leader: Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed!

*ALL: Therefore, let us keep the festival!*

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

**Song of Praise**

*Let the Whole Creation Cry*

**Prayer of Adoration**

**Song of Adoration**

*I Will Sing Praise*

**Private Praise and Adoration**

\_\_\_\_\_ *Renewal* \_\_\_\_\_

**Scripture Reading**

**1 Corinthians 13:4-7**

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

*"A mother is a chalice, the vessel without which no human being has ever been born. She is created to be a life-bearer, cooperating with her husband and with God in the making of a child. What a solemn responsibility. What an unspeakable privilege--a vessel divinely prepared for the master's use. . . Mothers are shapers of destiny."*

— Elisabeth Elliot

**Confession of Sin**

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord for our mothers.

All: *Father, we give you thanks for your goodness in giving to us our mothers. Forgive us for neglecting them and failing to honor them more fully out of reverence for our Lord Christ.*

## Private Confession and Reflection

*Silently pray, giving thanks for your mother and confessing the ways you've failed to love her.*

## Words of Encouragement

## 1 Corinthians 15:20-22

But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

## Song of Thanksgiving

*Jesus, Lover of My Soul*

Jesus, lover of my soul,  
Let me to Thy bosom fly,  
While the nearer waters roll,  
While the tempest still is high.  
Hide me, O my Savior, hide, '  
Til life's storm is past;  
Safe into the haven guide;  
Receive my soul at last.

Other refuge have I none,  
Hangs my helpless soul on Thee  
Leave, ah leave me not alone,  
Still support and comfort me.  
All my trust on Thee is stayed,  
All my help from Thee I bring;  
Cover my defenseless head  
With the shadow of Thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, are all I want,  
More than all in thee I find;  
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,  
Heal the sick, and lead the blind.  
Just and holy is Thy Name,  
I am all unrighteousness;  
False and full of sin I am;  
Thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with Thee is found,  
Grace to cover all my sin;  
Let the healing streams abound;  
Make and keep me pure within.  
Thou of life the fountain art,  
Freely let me take of Thee;  
Spring Thou up within my heart;  
Rise to all eternity.

## Honoring the Women

## The Peace of God and Announcements

Minister: The peace of the Lord be with you!

*People: And also with you.*

*If parents prefer, children 4 years old – 2nd grade  
are invited to attend Children's Church in the Education Building at this time.*

## 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 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 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

**2 Timothy 3:16,17; Hebrews 4:12,13**

16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

12 For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. 13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

A SACRED STORY  
WHAT IS SACRED?

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COMMUNION

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*Guidelines for Reception of Communion*

*Communion is a family meal for Christians. We welcome all committed followers of Jesus Christ to partake of this sacrament: those who are baptized members of a congregation which proclaims the gospel, who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer using the prayers that follow as guidelines. We hope that this time is helpful as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ, and with his people, the church.*

**The Great Thanksgiving**

Minister:           Therefore, lift up your hearts.

*People:           We lift them up to the Lord!*

Minister:           Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

*People:           It is right to give him thanks and praise!*

**Song of Communion**

*Jesus, I Come*

**Prayer of Consecration and the Words of Institution**

**Prayer for those not communing:**

*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.

*Prayer for Those Searching for Truth*

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you, as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.



### Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior. Amen.

### Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my needs, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking only to you, the author and finisher of my faith. Amen.

### Prayer of Commitment

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

## **Distribution of the Bread and the Cup**

Grace Presbyterian uses wine in the celebration of Holy Communion. If you prefer non-alcoholic grape juice, please take a cup from the outer circle of the tray. Gluten-free wafers are provided in cups in the center of the cup trays. Please hold the elements until all have received so we can celebrate this meal together.

## **Song of Commitment**

*How Firm a Foundation*(1,3,4)

## **Benediction<sup>2</sup>**

**1 Corinthians 15:58**

My dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

## **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.

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<sup>2</sup> The 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.

## **Worship Music<sup>3</sup>**

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

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### *Sermon Notes*

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**2 Timothy 3:16,17; Hebrews 4:12,13**

*A SACRED STORY*

**WHAT IS SACRED?**

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<sup>3</sup>All songs except hymns are copied under CCL # 1214497. The hymns are reprinted from *Trinity Hymnal* (© 1990, Great Commission Publications). Used by permission. All Scripture is quoted from, unless otherwise indicated, the *THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION*®, NIV® Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission

**Welcome, Guests!** We are excited you're here with us today. We hope that you were warmly welcomed and would love for you to be a part of Grace. Please take a moment to fill out the visitor information on the back of the bulletin, tear it off and drop it in the offering plate or give it on to an usher.

**Parents of Infants - Three-Yr Olds:** Our nursery and early-childhood classes provide a warm, nurturing, and well-supervised environment. Our workers welcome the opportunity to love your child! When using the nursery, please check in and label all items (bags, cups, etc.) with your child's name. If you need assistance or have any questions about the Nursery, please contact our Nursery Coordinator, Kate Weimar, at [mothersdayout@gracewoodlands.org](mailto:mothersdayout@gracewoodlands.org).

**Cry Room:** A cry room is available for the comfort of our new parents in order to ensure that everyone enjoys our services. It is located in the back of the sanctuary and it is well equipped (comfortable rockers, changing table, etc.) but if you are in need of anything, one of our ushers will be glad to assist.

### **Sunday Mornings at Grace**

8:30 am Prayer

9:30 am Christian Education Classes

10:15 am Coffee Break

10:30 am Worship

11:45 am Intercession

**Sunday Morning Prayer Ministry:** To clasp hands in prayer is the beginning of an uprising against the disorder of the world. We would like to invite you to be a part of this uprising at 8:30 each Sunday morning in the Prayer Room (114). Join us as we pray for the expansion of God's Kingdom.

**Stated Consistory Meeting:** The Consistory is the combination of all the elected officers (deacons and elders) of GPC. On May 13th, at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall, we will be having a stated meeting. Anyone is welcome to attend.

**Community Groups:** To be part of the church is to be part of a community. Community is where we connect, build relationships, study, and serve together. Groups consisting of 8-15 people meet regularly on Sundays and through out the week. If you are interested in joining a group or need more information, please email the church office at [admin@gracewoodlands.org](mailto:admin@gracewoodlands.org).

**Adult Christian Education:** Join us in a Sunday Morning class next week as we seek to better know, love and serve Jesus Christ. Classes are held in rooms 201 & 209 at 9:30 am.

- **Imagine the Unimaginable - The Resurrection Narratives**

Andy Yung

"He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried." How empty that would be if the story ended there; how hopeless. This is where we find the followers of Jesus on Holy Saturday. But then something happened that radically upset the expected outcome. How often have we immersed ourselves in the reality of these events, placed ourselves in the shoes of His followers, and been captivated by the unimaginable wonder of the empty tomb? Join us as we explore the Resurrection through the eyes of the disciples on that first Easter.

- **A Study of Hell - That We Might Better Know the Light**

Dan Brink

Our Lord had much to say about what He termed "outer darkness". Yet, understandably, we rarely think about the doctrine of Hell, but neglecting it is to our detriment. C.H. Spurgeon said, "Think lightly of Hell, and you will think lightly of the cross." No doubt it is a difficult subject, but you may be surprised as to how this study can give you a deeper appreciation for our Lord's work on our behalf and a greater heart for those who do not yet know Him. Come join Dan on this worthwhile journey to see what Scripture says (and doesn't say) about this important doctrine.

**Women's Ministry Events and More!** Please join the Women's Ministry on E-Connect to get involved.

- **Rain Walks** is a grief support group for women who are dealing with the loss of a loved one, either recently or in the past. Please come to listen (and share if you like) as we discuss our journeys and ways to "walk" through our loss. Rain Walks meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 8:30 am at Black Walnut Cafe in The Woodlands. Contact Sabrina Amell for more information.

- **Girls' Night Out:** Join us at the Black Walnut Café (9000 New Trails), Thursday, June 6th we'll meet at 6:30 pm. Come and go as you like! Questions, contact Courtney Lott.
- **Women's Bible Study** has wrapped up for the Spring; new classes will begin in September.

#### **Men's Fraternal:**

- **Men's Discipleship Breakfast Bible Study** Our next meeting will be on May 14th at 6:30 am at 2445 Technology Forest Blvd, Suite 510, WDLDS 77381. For more information please contact Steve Wilmoth.
- **Brew Night:** Our next monthly men's gathering is set for Thursday, May 16th for dinner and fellowship starting at 6:30 pm. Join us at Wings 'N More (16580 I-45 South) for dinner and fellowship starting at 6:30 pm.

**Student Ministry** is designed for students 7th grade through 12th grade. If you have any questions, contact Courtney Lott.

- **Christian Education:** On Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:15, we gather to know more deeply about our Lord and Savior and who we are in Christ. Join us on Sunday mornings in Room 206.
- **SNF (Sunday Night Fellowship):** On Sundays during the school year we gather to eat, fellowship, and to see the person and work of Jesus more clearly in our lives together. Sr. High meets 3:30-4:30 pm and Jr. High meets from 5-7 pm. If you have any questions, contact Courtney Lott. **Please note, there will be no SNF tonight for Mother's Day.**
- **Jr. High RYM** will be June 24th-28th at Laguna Beach Retreat Center in Florida. This is for all Junior High students (incoming 7th graders to outgoing 8th graders). See Kyle for more details and to sign up.
- **Sr. High RYM** will be July 8th-13th at Laguna Beach Retreat Center in Florida. This is for all High School students (incoming 9th graders - graduating Seniors). See Kyle for more details and to sign up.

**Children's Christian Education** classes are offered for Preschoolers (2-3yrs old), Pre-K and Kindergarten, 1st-2nd Grade, 3rd-4th Grade, and 5th-6th Grade. Classes meet in the Education Building at 9:30 am 2nd Grade and under are on the 1st floor, 3rd Grade and above meet on the 2nd floor.

- **Children's Church** is offered for children ages 4 years old through 2nd grade. During passing of the peace, the children line up with their leader in the back of the sanctuary to exit worship. During the song of communion, children will rejoin their families to observe communion with the rest of the church body. We gather in room 108 in the Education Building to sing songs, pray, and hear a children's sermon. We also collect a children's offering during the service. This format is designed to model worship for our children and teach them the importance of meeting together as the body of Christ.
- **SNiCK and 56ers:** All children, 8 weeks through 6th Grade, are invited to join us on Sunday nights from 5-7 pm. We eat and laugh and play during our time together. The goal is to have fun at SNiCK through friendship and fellowship. Invite your friends and neighbors! **Please note, there will be no SNiCK/56ers tonight for Mother's Day.**
- **VBS will be June 3rd-7th.** Mark your calendars! Praise God, Registration is full! If you still want to sign up, please contact the church office to be put on the wait list! VBS Set-Up Week will be May 27th - May 31st. See Kyle if you are interested in volunteering in any way.
- **PlayGroup** is an active gathering of moms and dads making space for fun, friendship, and adventure for our young children. We meet on the 2nd & 4th Friday of the month. To get involved, contact Natalie Webster. Since locations and times can change, please join the PlayGroup in E-Connect for updates.

**GraceCares:** Caring for the church and the community: If you are interested in helping with GraceCares and the needs of the church and the community, please contact Joe Tison.

- **Autumn Grove:** Just a few minutes drive from Grace, Autumn Grove Cottage, a sixteen resident assisted living home, provides care to men and women with Alzheimer's. A small group from Grace visits roughly once a month for about 30 minutes or so to sing, pray and visit with the residents. Contact Laurel Stevens or Dan Brink for more information.
- **Meals Ministry:** There are events in life when we all need the help and encouragement of our community. The Meals Ministry seeks to enter into these times by providing meals. If you are in need of meals, or would like to help provide meals for others, please contact our Meals Coordinator, Rhonnie Bellin.
- **Giving:** If you would like to know the best way to support those who might have needs in our church and community, we would encourage you to consider giving to the Deacon's Fund. It is through the

deacons and their ministry that Grace church provides for, supports and comes alongside those who are in need. If you have questions, please contact Matt Bradshaw.

- **Prayer Ministry:** Our desire at Grace is that we take seriously the privilege of prayer and there are several ways you can participate. If you become aware of a prayer need, please communicate this to us in one of the following ways:

- **In writing:** Fill out the back page of the bulletin and place it in the offering plate.

- **By phone:** 281-296-0911 (Church Office)

Your requests will be communicated to our Church Staff, Officers, and our Prayer Team. If you would like to be on our Prayer Team, please let us know.

**Missions Service Opportunities & Events:** Contact John Zeigler for more information or to be added to our GraceMissions email list or to connect with a missions team advocate.

- **May Prayer Partners:**

- Ms. Karen Gould, Pregnancy Assistance Center North, The Woodlands, TX

- Rev. Joe & Ms. Felicity Congdon, MTW, Yokkaichi, Japan

- **Thank you!** Many thanks to all who came to the Tamina Spring Festival and to those who helped in so many ways. Shirley Grimes is grateful for Grace's longtime support.

- **Local Missions Partners**

- Cornerstone of Houston Team Counseling | The Woodlands, TX
- Interfaith Family Services | The Woodlands, TX
- Montgomery County Women's Center | Montgomery County, TX
- Pregnancy Assistance Center North | The Woodlands, TX
- Redeemed Ministries | The Woodlands, TX
- Tamina Community Center | Conroe, TX
- Oaklawn Presbyterian Church | Houston, TX
- Juan Carlos & Samara Martínez | RUF | Rice University
- Brooks & Meredith Harwood | RUF | University of Houston
- Grace Presbyterian ESL Ministry
- Grace Presbyterian Diaconate

- **National Missions Partners**

- Robbie & Kelly Mills | New City Fellowship Dallas | Dallas, TX
- David & Kelly Richter | Somerville Project | Boston, MA
- Way & Amy Rutherford | RUF | Baylor University
- William & Katherine Bondurant | RUF | Texas A & M University
- Ryan & Laura Anderson | RUF | Texas Christian University
- Wil & Mary Nettleton | RUF | Trinity University
- John & Chrissy Trapp | RUF | University of Texas
- Curtis & Marian Castleberry | RUF | University of Texas at San Antonio
- Francis A. Schaeffer Institute, Covenant Theological Seminary | St. Louis, MO
- Southwest Church Planting Network | Dallas, TX

- **International Missions Partners**

- Arab Baptist Theological Seminary / Lebanese Society for Educational and Social Development | Beirut, Lebanon
- Titus & Crystal Bagby | RUF International | Texas A & M University
- Terry & Mary Rose Dykstra | RUF International | University of Texas
- Charles & Bonita Davidson | MTW | Monterrey, Mexico
- Joe & Felicity Congdon | MTW | Yokkaichi, Japan
- Andy & Missy Shadburne | MTW | Fremantle, Perth, Australia
- David & Eowyn Stoddard | MTW | Berlin, Germany
- Kay Burklin | MTW | Refugee Liaison, Europe
- Mission to The World | Atlanta, GA

**Banners Explained:** Easter Sunday begins a fifty-day season of renewal known as Eastertide. This season is marked by white banners that will hang in the sanctuary until the Day of Pentecost.

The banner on the left is a reproduction of one found in ancient catacombs. The white background represents newness, freshness, and purity; the red of the cross symbolizes the work that Jesus did on our behalf. It is complemented with the first and last letters of the Greek name for Jesus (IC), the

first and last letters of the Greek word for Christ (XC), and the Greek word for Conqueror (NIKA). The short bars above the letters indicate that they are abbreviations.

On the right, the circle of the Celtic Cross is a symbol of eternity as well but emphasizing the endlessness of God's love as shown through Christ's sacrifice on the cross.

**Stewardship Update:** Grace thanks you so much for your generous gifts and offerings to our Savior for April 2019.

	<u>April</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Projected Budget	62,666	250,664
Actual General Fund	60,340	249,397
Variance	(2,326)	(1,267)

**Grace Online** gives users access to the church directory and event calendar. Users can also join groups, print giving statements and give online. If you need any online instructions contact Dianna in the office at 281-296-0911 or [admin@gracewoodlands.org](mailto:admin@gracewoodlands.org).

- **Website:** Grace Online directory link, [gracewoodlands.org](http://gracewoodlands.org) under the Connect tab.
- **Mobile App (Elexio Community):** can be found by clicking the Apple App Store and Google Play icons on the church website. To log on, replace "Domain" with [gracewoodlands](http://gracewoodlands.org) and use your directory username and password for the app.
- **Online Giving:** If you would like to give online, you will need to set up an account, the link is under the Care tab on our website.

We are glad to have you as our guest today. Please use this page to let us know of your visit and to make us aware of any ideas, suggestions or concerns you may have. You may deposit this page in the offering plate as it comes by, or give it to an usher or greeter. Have confidence that no one will call or drop by your home; this is for us to have a record of your visit or your prayer requests.

Name, Email & Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse, Email & Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Children, Age & Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Please let us know if you are:

☐ Visitor                      ☐ Regular Attendee                      ☐ One time visit from out of town

I am interested in learning about:

☐ Community Groups    ☐ Music                      ☐ Usher, Greeter  
☐ Sunday Volunteer    ☐ Children's Ministry    ☐ Women's Ministry  
☐ Student Ministry    ☐ Men's Ministry                      ☐ Membership

Prayer Request:

☐ I would like to speak with someone about this prayer request or other spiritual concern; please have someone contact me at: \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ I would like the prayer team to pray for the following needs or concerns:

*Prayer of Belief...*

*Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more  
sinful than I ever before believed, but through you, I am  
more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope.*

*I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, bearing my  
punishment and offering forgiveness.*

*Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn  
from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.*