

# Grace and Peace Presbyterian Church

Order for the Worship of God — 10:30 a.m. on November 29<sup>th</sup> 2020

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## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP

I Corinthians 1:30,31

### PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

### OPENING HYMN

We Gather Together (TH# 363)  
Netherlands folk hymn

1 We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;  
he chastens and hastens his will to make known;  
the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing;  
sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.

2 Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,  
ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;  
so from the beginning the fight we were winning:  
thou, Lord, wast at our side: all glory be thine!

3 We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,  
and pray that thou still our defender wilt be.

Let thy congregation endure thro' tribulation:  
thy name be ever prais'd! O Lord, make us free

### Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
the Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord:  
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
He descended to the dead.  
The third day He arose again from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church;  
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

## FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

John 13:1-11

### PRAYER OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in 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

### SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 10

### SERMON

*The Heart of the Gospel*

Rev. Jake Susek

### PRAYER

### THE LORD'S SUPPER

### CLOSING HYMN

May the Mind of Christ My Savior (TH# 644)  
Kate B. Wilkinson (1925)

1 May the mind of Christ my Savior  
live in me from day to day,  
by his love and pow'r controlling  
all I do and say.

3 May the peace of God my Father  
rule my life in everything,  
that I may be calm to comfort  
sick and sorrowing.

5 May his beauty rest upon me  
as I seek the lost to win,  
and may they forget the channel,  
seeing only him.

### BENEDICTION

CCLI: 11601899

SERMON NOTES

**“The Heart of the Gospel”**

Hebrews 10:14

**Reflections:**

Jesus, Your mercy is all my plea,  
Jesus, Your mercy is all my boast,  
Jesus, Your mercy is all my rest,  
Jesus, Your mercy is all my joy.  
Praise the King who bore my sin  
took my place when I stood condemned.  
Oh how good You've always been to me.  
I will sing of Your mercy.  
*Jesus, Your Mercy by Sovereign Grace Music*

“I will never forget the moment, when like Luther five hundred years earlier, I discovered justification by faith alone through union with Christ. I was sitting in my dorm room by myself. I had been assigned Luther’s *Explanations of the Ninety-Five Theses*, and I expected to find it facile. A year or two prior, I had decided that Trent was right about justification: It was entirely a gift of grace consisting of the gradual perfecting of the soul by faith and works – God instigating and me cooperating. For years, I had attempted to live out this model of justification. I had gone to Mass regularly, prayed the rosary with friends, fasted frequently, read the Scriptures daily, prayed earnestly, and sought advice from spiritual directors. I had begun this arduous cooperation with God’s grace full of hope; by the time I sat in that dorm room alone, I was distraught and demoralized. I had learned just how wretched a sinner I was: No good work was unsullied by pride, no repentance unaccompanied by expectations of future sin, no love free from selfishness.

In this state, I picked up my copy of that arch-heretic Luther and read his explanation of Thesis 37: “*Any true Christian, whether living or dead, participates in all the blessings of Christ and the church; and this is granted him by God, even without indulgence letters.*” With these words, Luther transformed my understanding of justification: Every Christian possesses Christ, and to possess Christ is to possess all of Christ’s righteousness, life and merits. Christ had joined me to himself.

His was not an uncertain mercy; his was not a grace of parts, which one hoped would become a whole; his was not a salvation to be attained, as though it were not already also a present possession. At that moment, the joy of my salvation poured into my soul. I wept and showed forth God’s praise. I had finally discovered the true ground and power of Protestantism:

“*My beloved is mine, and I am his.*” (Song 2:16).

From *Catholicism Made Me Protestant* by Onsi Kamel in “First

Things”

**Introductory Thoughts:**

Fatigue...Covid, Political.... Contending for the faith... “weary....”

\*Hebrews is an Apologetic  
-A defense to Jews

\*Hebrews is a Polemic  
-A critique of Rome

\*Justification  
A Declaration

\*Sanctification  
A Progressive Reality

(distinct but never separated)

**Goal:** To understand Hebrews 10:14 and to show its relevance to our lives.

**Hebrews 10:1-4**

[a] The O.T. “rituals” were “shadows”. They were *ineffective* in and of themselves – they were meant to be pointers to the *effective* sacrifice of Jesus.

[b] Note the presence of three words that are connected in meaning...

Illustration: Hungry / Starved / Famished = three words that mean the same thing

Vs. 1 make perfect - τελειωω

Vs. 2 having once been cleansed - κεκαθαρισμενους

NOTE: this word is in the “perfect tense”...it describes something that has occurred and as a result still continues to exist.

Aorist (past) tense would be: I have been cleansed

Future tense would be: I will be cleansed

Present tense would be: I am being cleansed

Perfect tense would be: I have been cleansed and as a result I continue to be cleansed

Vs. 3 take away sins - αφαιρειν , i.e., to remove (John 1:29 αφω)

**POINT:**

What does it mean to be made perfect? It means to be cleansed.

What does it mean to be cleansed? It means to have our sin “taken away” / “removed”

**Hebrews 10:5-10**

Psalm 40:6-8 from the LXX

Yes and No – God commanded sacrifices, but they weren’t the final solution

There was an EXPRESSED purpose for the Lord’s coming...

[Liberals: Jesus was a Radical Teacher against Domination Systems – Temple/Rome]

He inaugurates the New Covenant which brings the Mosaic Cov. to a close / fulfillment

Vs. 10:

What does it mean to be “sanctified” / “consecrated” (αγιαζω)

[a] To be set apart

[b] To be transformed in character

**POINT:**

Whatever has been “set apart” for God’s use, had to be “cleansed”....

Cf. Lev. 16 – The things “set apart” for worship, had to be “cleansed”

\*\*\*By the one sacrifice of Jesus, in which he bore the sins of those who would believe, which was in accordance with the ultimate plan of God, those who do believe have been cleansed and set apart (sanctified) for God.

**Hebrews 10:11-14**

Vs. 14

My translation: “For by a single offering of himself up to God as an atoning sacrifice for our sins, he has cleansed (perfect tense) for all time those who are being (present tense) cleansed.

\*When a person believes in Jesus, they are declared “clean” because of the merit, the righteousness of Christ who annuls and takes away the stain of our sin. And *then* God begins to finish the work He has started by transforming their character into the image of Christ.

**WHEN WILL THIS BE COMPLETED?**

Either – At the moment when Jesus comes again – I John 3:2

Or, when the Lord calls us to our temporary home in heaven – Heb 12:23

*If this doesn’t “ring your bell” – something’s wrong with your clapper.*