



Grace Hill Church

The Mission of Grace Hill Is to Gather People to the Table of Christ, Who Is the Bread of Life, to Be Transformed by His Grace, Renewed in His Truth, and Sent on His Mission.

July 14, 2024

Expressing Our Love and Praise: Worship in Song

(During the prelude, the first song at 10:00am, please use the music to prepare your hearts for worship.)

Declaring What We Believe: The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, begotten from the Father before all ages, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and was made human. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried. The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead. His kingdom will never end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life. He proceeds from the Father and the Son, and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and to life in the world to come. Amen.

Welcoming Each Other

Giving Worship to God: Offering

Hearing God's Word: Scripture Reading

Revelation 9

¹ And the fifth angel blew his trumpet, and I saw a star fallen from heaven to earth, and he was given the key to the shaft of the bottomless pit. ² He opened the shaft of the bottomless pit, and from the shaft rose smoke like the smoke of a great furnace, and the sun and the air were darkened with the smoke from the shaft. ³ Then from the smoke came locusts on the earth, and they were given power like the power of scorpions of the earth. ⁴ They were told not to harm the grass of the earth or any green plant or any tree, but only those people who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads. ⁵ They were allowed to torment them for five months, but not to kill them, and their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it stings someone. ⁶ And in those days people will seek death and will not find it. They will long to die, but death will flee from them.

⁷ In appearance the locusts were like horses prepared for battle: on their heads were what looked like crowns of gold; their faces were like human faces, ⁸ their hair like women's hair, and their teeth like lions' teeth; ⁹ they had breastplates like breastplates of iron, and the noise of their wings was like the noise of many chariots with horses rushing into battle. ¹⁰ They have tails and stings like scorpions, and their power to hurt people for five months is in their tails. ¹¹ They have as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit. His name in Hebrew is Abaddon, and in Greek he is called Apollyon.

¹² The first woe has passed; behold, two woes are still to come.

¹³ Then the sixth angel blew his trumpet, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar before God, ¹⁴ saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates." ¹⁵ So the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour, the day, the month, and the year, were released to kill a third of mankind. ¹⁶ The number of mounted troops was twice ten thousand times ten thousand; I heard their number. ¹⁷ And this is how I saw the horses in my vision and those who rode them: they wore breastplates the color of fire and of sapphire and of sulfur, and the heads of the horses were like lions' heads, and fire and smoke and sulfur came out of their mouths. ¹⁸ By these three plagues a third of mankind was killed, by the fire and smoke and sulfur coming out of their mouths. ¹⁹ For the power of the horses is in their mouths and in their tails, for their tails are like serpents with heads, and by means of them they wound.

²⁰ The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands nor give up worshiping demons and idols of gold and silver and bronze and stone and wood, which cannot see or hear or walk, ²¹ nor did they repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.

Understanding God's Word and Our Lives

Series: Revelation: Christ Calls Us to Worship As We See His Glory

Sermon: The Hardness of the Human Heart

1. What Is the State of the Human Heart towards God?
2. Why Does the Natural Heart Respond Like This?
3. We Are Shown What We Must Do
4. We See the Context in Which We Live

The Vision of Grace Hill Is to Love God and Love Our Neighbor and Love God and ...

Recognizing Our Brokenness: Confession of Sin

Public Prayer

God, we confess our hearts are woefully stubborn and obstinate unless You renew them with Your grace. We admit we are inclined to various irrational, false worship practices unless You show us Your glory. Lord, have mercy on us.

Father, You are the creator who sees and hears us and is working for Your purposes in us. Jesus took on human flesh and went to the cross so that we might see, hear, and walk with You. Initiate and continue Your work of grace in our lives so that we repent and mature in true worship. Give us abounding joy and contentment as we worship You today, and equip us for a lifetime of true, joyful worship.

Private Reflection

The Grace and Forgiveness of Christ

And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.” *Acts 2:38-39*

Remembering Jesus with Bread and Cup: Lord’s Supper

God is to us as a kind and compassionate parent, and knowing our needs, he provides help and affectionate support throughout our lives as He promises in Scripture. But he is pleased to give us an additional assurance of His ongoing abundant generosity in the Lord’s Supper ... to give us his love, compassion, and strength. Calvin, *Institutes*, 4.17.1.

Jesus called those who find their life in His death and resurrection to receive the bread and cup as a tangible sign to remember and be strengthened by His Gospel. It is a spiritual meal for all who believe in Him. While Jesus spent time with everyone, he also shared the bread and cup only with those who followed him. Children who have not yet become *communing members* should not take the bread and cup but talk with our pastor or an elder about their personal faith.

*Juice is in the outer rings; wine is in the inner rings. Gluten-free crackers are in the small cups.

Prayer for Those Not Taking the Bread and Cup, 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 let me know the reality of your love and glory. Give me an understanding of you that is captivating and convincing—that leads to You Yourself and the life You promise. Amen.

Responding to the Lord with Worship

Taking hold of the Good Word: Benediction (“the good word”)

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. *Hebrews 13:20–21*

Sermon Quotes

No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice they offer to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be participants with demons. *1 Corinthians 10:20*

[B]ut you have lifted up yourself against the Lord of heaven. And the vessels of his house have been brought in before you, and you have praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood, and stone, which do not see or hear or know, but the God in whose hand is your breath, and whose are all your ways, you have not honored. *Daniel 5:23*

- **QR Link:** Please share your prayer requests, needs, feedback, new ideas, etc.
- **CORE classes resume** August 11
- **Worship in Offering.** Three ways to worship the Lord in giving: Bank BillPay system, physical check, mobile: giving.servantkeeper.com/grace-hill-church



Grace Hill seeks to live by and testify to the grace and truth of Jesus Christ (John 1.14–18). We are affiliated with the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, a Presbyterian denomination with a rich history of living in Christ’s grace and truth. Our pastor is Ross Durham. He can be reached at ross@gracehillnc.org or by cell phone at 919.593.2169. Deacons: 743.241.0760. Director of Ministries and Youth: Aaron Carr, aaron@gracehillnc.org. Worship Music Director: Abby Hummel, abby@gracehillnc.org. Children’s Ministry Director: Kristen Carter, kristen@gracehillnc.org. Communications Coordinator: Mary Erickson, tworstaggering@yahoo.com. Church address: 515 Meadowlands Drive, Suite 500, Hillsborough, North Carolina 27278 www.gracehillnc.org; Facebook: Grace Hill Church; X: @gracehillchurch; Instagram: gracehill