Sunday Service with Communion

Trusting with Lions - Daniel 6

September 15, 2019



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Welcome…

We are so happy that you are here with us today. Our desire is to be like another home for you. We encourage you to register your name on the fellowship pad which you will find at the end of the row where you are sitting. If you are new to Grace or to the area and are looking for a church home, we hope you will consider joining our family here at Grace. A Fellowship Hour is held after the Worship Service, and we invite you to stay for a few minutes so we can get acquainted.

HOLY COMMUNION

is celebrated in our worship service today. This meal is weird and wonderful: weird because we actually believe that the bread and wine are the Body and Blood of Jesus the Christ; wonderful because Jesus is with us. We take this meal very seriously here at Grace. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out and allow us to answer your questions. ***Children*** who have not been instructed in the meaning of the Sacrament may come to the Lord's Table with their parents for a blessing but are asked to fold their arms across their chests to indicate they are to receive a blessing.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE COMMUNION: The wine is made available in both the individual glasses and the common cup. Following the distribution of the bread, the individual cups will be offered. Then the common cup will be offered to those who do not have an individual cup in their hand. The acolyte will then gather the individual glasses. ***For those who have an intolerance to wine, grape juice is lighter colored in the individual communion glasses.*** Those who find it difficult to walk to the altar can be communed in the pew. Please inform the usher of your need.

UNCOMFORTABLE: Visions and Stories of Daniel

God's people have been drug into exile. They are no longer independent; they are back in slavery like they were in Egypt so many years ago. So how should they live in this foreign culture? Should they revolt and scream or try to escape? The truth is, Daniel shows us how we tarnish the image of God, and in so doing this, we diminish our own humanity. But Daniel also gives us hope that God will defeat all evil and bring back his image to full glory.

TODAY: Trusting with Lions

Babylon is over; the Persians are no longer in charge. King Darius loves Daniel because he has an amazing spirit of the Lord and is able to help the king do his job well. But the other leaders don't like Daniel and create a rule to bring him down. How will Daniel react; will it be with panic and anger, or will he trust in the Lord no matter what may come?

----THE OPENING HYMN

"Now Thank We All Our God"

1. Now thank we all our God
with hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
in whom His world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms
has blest us on our way
With countless gifts
of love and still is ours today.

2. Oh, may this bounteous
God through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us
And keep us in His grace
and guide us when perplexed
And free us from all harm in this
world and the next!

3. All praise and thanks
to God the Father now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns with
them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God, whom earth
and heav'n adore;
For thus it was, is now, and shall be
ever-more.

--RESPONSE OF THE DAY Taken From **Psalm 23**

Pastor: The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.
PEOPLE: HE MAKES ME LIE DOWN IN GREEN PASTURES, AND LEADS ME BESIDE CALMING WATERS.

Pastor: Even though I walk through the darkest valleys,
PEOPLE: I WILL FEAR NO EVIL, FOR YOU ARE ALWAYS WITH ME.

Pastor: You prepare a fine dinner for me and my enemies together.
PEOPLE: YOU ANOINT MY HEAD WITH OIL AND MAKE MY CUP OVERFLOW.

Pastor: Your goodness and love will follow me all my days.
PEOPLE: I WILL DWELL IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD FOREVER.

--THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

PEOPLE: AND ALSO WITH YOU.

(We greet one another with the handshake of peace and with the words "The Peace of the Lord be with you.")

----THE HYMN OF PRAISE

In Moments Like These (sing twice)

In moments like these, I sing out a song;
I sing out a love song to Jesus.
In moments like these, I lift up my hands,
I lift up my hands to the Lord,
Singing, "I love You, Lord".
Singing, "I love You, Lord."
Singing, "I love You, Lord. I love You."

-- THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

(Take a moment of silent reflection upon our need for God's forgiveness)

Pastor: O Almighty God,

PEOPLE: GOD, OUR LOVING FATHER,
WE CONFESS THAT WE ARE OFTEN IMPATIENT AND RUSH TO CRITICIZE.
WE TAKE OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOR GRANTED.
WE ARE OFTEN UNGRATEFUL AND NOT GRACIOUS.
WE OFTEN EXPECT CHURCH TO MIRROR OUR OWN BIASES.
WE FORGET TO ASK FOR OUR CHURCH TO MIRROR YOU.
WE OFTEN USE YOUR SCRIPTURES TO SUPPORT OUR OPINIONS.
WE FORGET THAT THEY ARE A LAMP TO OUR FEET AND A LIGHT TO OUR PATH.
OUR HOPE IS CENTERED ON OURSELVES AND NOT ON YOU.
RENEW US, LORD, THAT WE MAY DELIGHT IN YOUR WILL AND WALK IN YOUR WAYS, TO THE GLORY OF YOUR HOLY NAME.
AMEN.

Pastor: The story of Jesus is about life and forgiveness.
You are God's beloved; you are a child of the resurrection. Live in the hope of new life. God loves you, and God is the restorer of hope. Your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN**

--THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.
Lord, we pray that your grace may always go before and follow after us, so that we may continually be devoted to all good works; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN.**

THE FIRST LESSON
Daniel 6:16-24

King Darius can hardly wait to see what has happened to Daniel, who has become indispensable to the king.

Then the king commanded, and Daniel was brought and cast into the den of lions. The king declared to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve continually, deliver you!" And a stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel. Then the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; no diversions were brought to him, and sleep fled from him.

Then, at break of day, the king arose and went in haste to the den of lions. As he came near to the den where Daniel was, he cried out in a tone of anguish. The king declared to Daniel, "O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to deliver you from the lions?" Then Daniel said to the king, "O king, live forever! My God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths, and they have not harmed me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no harm." Then the king was exceedingly glad, and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him, because he had trusted in his God. And the king commanded, and those men who had maliciously accused Daniel were brought and cast into the den of lions—they, their children, and their wives. And before they reached the bottom of the den, the lions overpowered them and broke all their bones in pieces.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD.

THE SECOND LESSON
Acts 7: 54-60

According to Stephen, those who reject Jesus are following the same path as the people who rejected Moses to follow idols. Such a strong message strikes a nerve, and Stephen becomes the first martyr of the church because of it.

Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

THE HOLY GOSPEL
Matthew 10:16-23

Jesus is preparing to send the disciples into the harvest field to do His Father's work.

"Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles. When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.
PEOPLE: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST

THE APOSTLES CREED

--- THE SERMON

Trusting with Lions

---THE OFFERTORY

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
And fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
That we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
Unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with Your presence, and give us
A foretaste of the feast to come.

The Apostles Creed
I believe in God,
the Father Almighty,
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,
died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day
He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the
right hand of God,
the Father, Almighty.
From thence
He will come to judge
the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

---PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(after each petition)

Pastor:. . . Lord, in your mercy,

PEOPLE: HEAR OUR PRAYER.

---THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heav'n
Hallowed be Thy name
Thy kingdom come
Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heav'n
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those
Who trespass against us
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil
For Thine is the kingdom
And the power and the glory
Forever and ever.
Amen

----THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor: May the Lord be with you!
PEOPLE: AND ALSO WITH YOU.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
PEOPLE: WE LIFT THEM UP TO THE LORD.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
PEOPLE: IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE OUR THANKS AND PRAISE.

Pastor: The tree of life in the midst of the garden was the tree of our defeat.
Christ was lifted up on the tree of victory; and where life was lost, there life has been restored.
And so we praise you ....

PEOPLE: HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD,
GOD OF POWER AND MIGHT,
HEAVEN AND EARTH
ARE FULL OF YOUR GLORY.
HOSANNA, HOSANNA
HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST.
BLESSED IS HE THAT COMES
IN THE NAME OF THE LORD.
HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST.

-- THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

---- THE DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Your Table I Approach LW # 249

1. Your table I approach;
Dear Savior, hear my prayer.
Oh, let no unrepented sin
Prove hurtful to me there.

2. Lord, I confess my sins
And mourn their wretched bands;
A contrite heart is sure to find
Forgiveness at your hands.

3. Your body and your blood,
Once slain and shed for me,
Are taken a your table, Lord,
In blest reality.

4. Search not how this take place,
This wondrous mystery;
God can accomplish vastly more
Than what we think could be.

5. Oh, grant, most blessed Lord,
That earth and hell combined
May not about this sacrament
Raise doubt within my mind.

6. Oh, may I never fail
To thank you day and night
For your true body and true blood,
O God, my peace and light.

"How Great Thou Art" (LW 519)

1. O Lord my God,
when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works
Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars,
I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout
the universe displayed;

CHORUS
THEN SINGS MY SOUL,
MY SAVIOR GOD, TO THEE,
HOW GREAT THOU ART!
HOW GREAT THOU ART!
THEN SINGS MY SOUL,
MY SAVIOR GOD, TO THEE,
HOW GREAT THOU ART!
HOW GREAT THOU ART!

2. When through the woods
and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds
sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down
from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook
and feel the gentle breeze; (CHORUS)

3. But when I think that God,
His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross
my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin;
(CHORUS)

4. When Christ shall come
with shout of acclamation
And take me home,
what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim;
"My God, how great Thou art!" (CHORUS)

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds" (LW 279)

1. How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer's ear!
It soothes our sorrows,
heals our wounds,
and drives away all fear.

2. It makes the wounded spirit whole and calms the heart's unrest;
It's manna to the hungry soul and to the weary, rest.

3. Dear name! The rock on which I build, my shield and hiding place;
My never failing trea-sury filled with boundless stores of grace.

4. By you my prayers acceptance gain although with sin defiled.
The devil charges me in vain, and God calls me his child.

5. O Jesus, shepherd, guardian, friend, my Prophet, Priest, and King,
My Lord, my life, my way, my end, accept the praise I bring.

6. I praise in weakness from afar—how cold my warmest thought!
But when I see you as you are, I'll praise you as I ought.

7. Till then I would your love proclaim with ev'ry fleeting breath;
And may the music of your name refresh my soul in day

----- THE BLESSING

Pastor: *May the Lord bless you and keep you.*
May the Lord look upon you with grace and redemption.
May the Lord always walk before you and give you peace.

PEOPLE: AMEN

----THE CLOSING HYMN

"On What Has Now Been Sown" (LW 217)

1. On what has now been sown
Your blessing, Lord, bestow;
The pow'r is Yours alone
to make it sprout and grow.
O Lord, in grace the harvest raise,
and Yours alone shall be the praise!

----- SENDING

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD.

Today	***September 15, 2019***
Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	*8:45 am*
Worship	*10:00 am*
Voter's Meeting	*Immediately following worship*
Fellowship	*Following meeting*
Korean Church Worship	*1:00 pm*
AA	*7:30 pm*

This Week

Via de Cristo @ Bock's home	Monday, 6:30 pm
Olivet Academy	Tuesday, 9 AM - 1PM
Heatherwood HOA	Tuesday, 7:00 pm
Korean Church Bible Study	Tuesday, 7:00 pm
Mahjongg	Wednesday, Noon
Bible Study @ Perkins Restaurant	Thursday, 7:30 am
Scripture Narration	Thursday, 11:00 am
Surviving Spouses	Thursday, 12:30 pm
Korean Prayer Service	Saturday, 6:00 am

Grace Quarterly Voters Meeting
Today, immediately following the service

For complete calendar information, go to **www.gracelutheranpsl.com/calendar**.

ANNIVERSARIES Norm and Marge Neuberger 9/17 (69 years)

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS Melissa Bailey 9/15, Steven Glish & Courtney Becker 9/20.

THE FLOWERS adorning the altar are given by Pat and Claude Hesse in memory of Kevin, Claude's son.

REMEMBER THOSE ON THE PRAYER LIST In an effort to keep our prayer list up to date and be sure everyone is listed, please make your requests in writing or email. You can make your request:

- by email either to Midge Watts, meowatts@bellsouth.net
- *or* www.GraceLutheranPSL.com/pray
- *or* slip a completed prayer form under the office door.

Also, your loved one/ones will remain on the list for three weeks. If you wish someone to remain longer, you will need to make another request. By doing this, we will also ensure that Pastor Cris is aware of updates to the status of everyone's needs.

PRAYER REQUEST FORMS CAN BE FOUND ON THE COUNTER IN THE NARTHEX.

QUESTIONS TO REFLECT ON DURING THE WEEK

1. Share about a time when you had to deny yourself something.
2. Read Daniel 6:1-5. What is Daniel's job with the new King, who is still not known to follow the true God? What about this job surprises you? What does this tell us about our vocations/jobs?
3. Read Daniel 6:6-24. Compare and contrast what happens with Daniel to what happens with Jesus before the cross and His resurrection.
4. Read Daniel 6:25-28. What effect does God's deliverance of Daniel have on the king? How might you bear witness to Jesus who has delivered you?