

Sunday Service with Communion

Uncomfortable in Culture - Daniel 1

August 11, 2019

UNCOMFORTABLE

VISIONS AND STORIES OF DANIEL

Grace Lutheran Church

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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: Uncomfortable in Culture

Daniel and his 3 friends are the best of the best. They are all royal Hebrews: handsome and filled with wisdom. But when they are taken captive by Babylon, they are put in a place meant to demean them. They are given new names glorifying false gods and are given food sacrificed to those gods. How would you handle this situation? It's interesting to see what Daniel does.

-THE OPENING HYMN

All Hail the Power of Jesus Name (LW 272) vs 1-4

1. *All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown Him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown Him Lord of all!*

3. *O seed of Israel's chosen race,
now ransomed from the fall;
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,
and crown Him Lord of all;
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,
and crown Him Lord of all!*

2. *Crown Him, you martyrs of our God,
who from His altar call;
Extol the stem of Jesse's rod
and crown Him Lord of all.
Extol the stem of Jesse's rod
and crown Him Lord of all.*

4. *Hail Him, you heirs of David's line,
whom David Lord did call,
The God Incarnate, man divine,
and crown Him Lord of all.
The God Incarnate, man divine,
and crown Him Lord of all.*

--RESPONSE OF THE DAY

Taken From Psalm 139

Pastor: O Lord, You have explored my heart and know exactly who I am

PEOPLE: YOU KNOW MY SMALL DETAILS, WHEN I TAKE A SEAT AND WHEN I STAND UP AGAIN.

Pastor: Lord, You know what I'm going to say long before I say it.

PEOPLE: YOU HAVE SURROUNDED US ON EVERY SIDE, AND HAVE PLACED YOUR HAND GENTLY ON MY SHOULDER.

Pastor: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me

PEOPLE: PRAISE THE LORD, HE HAS MADE US HIS PEOPLE.

--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

Jesus, Your Name

1. Jesus Your name is power,
Jesus Your name is might.
Jesus Your name will break ev'ry
stronghold; Jesus Your name is life.
2. Jesus Your name is healing,
Jesus Your name gives sight.
Jesus Your name will free ev'ry captive;
Jesus Your name is life.
3. Jesus Your name is holy,
Jesus Your name brings light.
Jesus Your name above ev'ry other,
Jesus Your name is life.

-- 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.

Merciful Father, your Son Jesus Christ gave up his life so that we might die to self and live in him. Give us such close fellowship with him that in all doubts and dangers our faith may not fail. We ask this 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 1:8-21

Nebuchadnezzar seizes the wisest, strongest, and most powerful people in each land he conquers and deports them to Babylonia. It gives the government an unending supply of capable people, rendering them helpless, and it ensures the conquered nation will not want to retaliate because their own loved ones live in the conquering land.

But Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself with the king's food, or with the wine that he drank. Therefore he asked the chief of the eunuchs to allow him not to defile himself. And God gave Daniel favor and compassion in the sight of the chief of the eunuchs, and the chief of the eunuchs said to Daniel, "I fear my lord the king, who assigned your food and your drink; for why should he see that you were in worse condition than the youths who are of your own age? So you would endanger my head with the king." Then Daniel said to the steward whom the chief of the eunuchs had assigned over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, "Test your servants for ten days; let us be given vegetables to eat and water to drink. Then let our appearance and the appearance of the youths who eat the

king's food be observed by you, and deal with your servants according to what you see." So he listened to them in this matter, and tested them for ten days. At the end of ten days it was seen that they were better in appearance and fatter in flesh than all the youths who ate the king's food. So the steward took away their food and the wine they were to drink, and gave them vegetables.

As for these four youths, God gave them learning and skill in all literature and wisdom, and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams. At the end of the time, when the king had commanded that they should be brought in, the chief of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar. And the king spoke with them, and among all of them none was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. Therefore they stood before the king. And in every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters that were in all his kingdom. And Daniel was there until the first year of King Cyrus.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD.

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 12:1-2

Paul urges those who read and hear his letter to respond to the good news by offering their bodies—eyes, ears, mouths, hands, feet—to God as a "living sacrifice."

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the
Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 17:14-21

In this great prayer that Jesus prays for His disciples, He returns repeatedly to the gathering of believers unified with the Father and the Son.

I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the

world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

“I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST

THE APOSTLES CREED

HYMN OF THE DAY

Hark the Voice of Jesus Calling (LW 318) VS 1 - 4

1. Hark, the voice of Jesus calling,
“Who will go and work today?
Fields are white and harvests waiting,
who will bear the sheaves away?”
Loud and long the master calls you;
rich reward He offers free.
Who will answer, gladly saying,
“Here am I, send me, send me!”
2. If you cannot speak like angels,
if you cannot preach like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus;
you can say He died for all.
If you cannot rouse the wicked with the
judgment’s dread alarms,
You can lead the little children to the Savior’s
waiting arms.

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.

3. If you cannot be a watchman,
standing high on Zion's wall,
Pointing out the path to heaven, off'ring
life and peace to all,
With your prayers and with your
bounties you can do what God demands;
You can be like faithful Aaron,
holding up the prophet's hands.

4. Let none hear you idly saying,
"There is nothing I can do,"
While the multitudes are dying
and the Master calls for you.
Take the task He gives you gladly;
Let His work your pleasure be.
Answer quickly when He calls you,

--- THE SERMON

Uncomfortable In Culture

---THE OFFERTORY

We Give Thee but Thine Own (LW 405) vs 1 and 6

1. *We give You but Your own
in any gifts we bring;
All that we have is Yours alone,
a trust from You, our King.*

2. *And we believe Your Word,
though dim our faith, it's true;
What we do for Your people, Lord,
we do it all for You.*

--- 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

O Jesus, Blessed Lord, My Praise (LW 245) Vs 1 & 2

- 1. O Jesus, blessed Lord, my praise, my heartfelt thanks to You I raise;
You have so lovingly bestowed on me
Your body and Your blood.*
- 2. Break forth, my soul, in joy and say:
What wealth has come to me today,
What health of body, mind, and soul!
Christ dwells within me makes me
whole.*

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds (LW 279) vs 1, 2, 5 & 7

- 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.*
- 5. O Jesus, shepherd, guardian, friend,
my Prophet, Priest, and King,
My Lord, my life, my way, my end,
accept the praise I bring.*
- 7. Till then I would your love proclaim
with ev'ry fleeting breath;
And may the music of your name
refresh my soul in death!*

Chief of Sinners Though I Be (LW 285) Vs 1, 2, 4 & 5

1. *Chief of sinners though I be,
Jesus shed his blood for me,
Died that I might live on high,
lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine,
I am his, and he is mine.*
2. *Oh, the height of Jesus' love,
higher than the heav'ns above,
Deeper than the depths of sea,
lasting as eter-nit-y!
Love that found me - wondrous thought
– found me when I sought him not.*
4. *Chief of sinners though I be,
Christ is all in all to me;
All my wants to him are known,
all my sorrows are his own.
He sustains the hidden life,
safe with him from earthly strife.*
5. *O my Savior, help afford by your Spirit
and your word!
When my wayward heart would stray,
keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply
while I live and when I die.*

----- 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

All Hail the Power of Jesus Name (LW 272) vs 5 & 6

5. *Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
the wormwood and the gall,
Go, spread your trophies at His feet
and crown Him Lord of all.
Go, spread your trophies at His feet
and crown Him Lord of all.*
6. *Let every kindred, every tribe
on this terrestrial ball,
To Him all majesty ascribe,
and crown Him Lord of all;
To Him all majesty ascribe,
and crown Him Lord of all.*

----- SENDING

Pastor:  *Go in peace. Serve the Lord.*

PEOPLE:  **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

Today**August 11, 2019**

Sunday School & Adult Bible Study

8:45 am

Worship

10:00 am

Fellowship

Immediately following worship

Korean Church Worship

1:00 pm

AA

7:30 pm

This Week

Via de Cristo @ Bock's home

Monday, 6:30 pm

Adopt-a-Mile

Tuesday, 8:30 am

Korean Church Bible Study

Tuesday, 7:00 pm

Mahjongg

Wednesday, 12:00 noon

Bible Study @Perkins Restaurant

Thursday, 7:30 am

Scripture Narration

Thursday, 11:00 am

Surviving Spouses

Thursday, 12:30 pm

Brownies

Thursday, 6:30 pm

Korean Prayer Service

Saturday, 6:00 am

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| For complete calendar information, go to www.gracelutheranpsl.com/calendar . |
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ANNIVERSARIES Tom & Mary Roksvold, 8/16 (50).**BIRTHDAY GREETINGS** Roy Cuellar & Hatha Brown, 8/15; Roger Clemente, 8/16: Cindy Lynch & Thomas Piotrowicz, 8/17.**THE FLOWERS** adorning the altar are given to the glory of God by Tom & Mary Roksvold in honor of their anniversary.**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. What, in today's world, makes it difficult for you to live out your faith?
2. Read Daniel 1:1-7. What do the Babylonians do to try and strip Daniel and his friends of their identity of God's people? If you were Daniel's friend, how would you be tempted to respond?
3. Read Daniel 1:8-21. How does Daniel respond to the Babylonians? What does God give him and us that enables us to respond in this way?
4. Read 1 Peter 2:13-25. Here Peter speaks of submitting to authorities who we might sometimes not agree with. What wisdom does Peter give to you in these verses?