

SUNDAY MORNINGS @ GRACE

Adult Ministry

Adult Sunday School: Meets in the lower level at 9:20am, childcare is provided. We are studying faithful figures from church history such as Hallie Winsborough, George Mueller, J. Gresham Machen and many more. Join us as we learn from the mistakes and positive examples of Christians from the past.

Children's Ministry

Gracekids (1st– 2nd Grade) & **Gracelittles** (PreK-K) Children's Church: Offered during the sermon in the lower level. The children are dismissed during the offertory.

Gracebabies (0-3 years old) Nursery: In the lower level and is provided during both services beginning at 8:45AM.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Children's Christmas Pageant	December 22, 12:15pm
Lessons & Carols Candlelight Service	December 24, 5 or 7pm
Communicants' Class	Wednesdays in January
Global Outreach Conference	January 31

- **GraceKids' Christmas Pageant**– TODAY! Stick around after church to enjoy or annual children's pageant.
- **ESL Ministry Deadline** – Begins January 21! If you are interested in volunteering in this new ministry, please contact Jesse (newmanej@outlook.com) by January 5.
- **Communicants' Class** – Wednesdays in January at 4pm beginning January 8. This class is for children who have made a profession of faith and are ready to take communion. Email admin@gracefortcollins.org to sign up!
- **Save the Date: Grace Church Global Outreach Conference** – Friday January 31, 2025 from 6:00-8:00 PM. Dinner and a kids program provided.
- **ChurchSuite** – Email admin@gracefortcollins.org to be added to the online directory!

CONTACT INFO // GET INVOLVED

Pastor: Rev. Gavin Lymberopoulos//gavin@gracefortcollins.org

Elders: Jon Hoppin, Bruce Jenkins, Glenn Nelson, Josh Ooms, Gary Scott, Kevin Simmons

Deacon/Deaconess: Karen Holcomb, Eli Schnoor, Jen Smela

Admin: Stephanie Mikkelsen//admin@gracefortcollins.org

Gracekids: Stephanie Mikkelsen//admin@gracefortcollins.org

Music Ministry – Dan Delaney//dan@gracefortcollins.org

Grace Women– gracewomen@gracefortcollins.org

Graceyouth – Jesse Newman// newmanej@outlook.com &

Ellis Holcombe// c.ellis.holcombe@gmail.com

grace.churchsuite.co.uk/my – Online Photo Directory (*Printed upon request*)

www.gracefortcollins.org – Facebook.com/gracefortcollins ~ Instagram: @Gracefoco

Weekly E-Newsletters— Sign up at www.gracefortcollins.org

Grace Text-to-Give (Kindrid): Text "Give" to (970)800-2376

GRACE CHURCH PRESBYTERIAN

Loving God - Loving People - Loving Life

VISION

Grace Church is an authentic community knowing and making known the love, hope, joy and freedom of Jesus. Through a gospel saturated message, Grace Church will embrace the city and the world with authentic relationships, loving leadership, engaging worship and a robust world and life view!

MISSION

Loving God ❖ Out of a belief in the gospel, we are called to love God through engaging worship and vibrant discipleship. God's glory, not our preferences, will guide decisions we make. His beauty, majesty and holiness will overwhelm and govern our lives. We desire to spread His fame in Fort Collins and beyond!

Loving People ❖ Out of a belief in the gospel, we are called to love others. As a community, we are to live out the gospel through truth, love, hospitality, and kindness. We are not solely about the individual, but the body. We move into, not out of, the city and the world. Through the gospel, God blesses and makes us a blessing. Christ meets our needs that we may serve God and others!

Loving Life ❖ Out of a belief in the gospel, we will passionately live out the gospel life where we live, work, and play. We are called to enter work by taking the "formless" and "raw" places of the world and cultivating them. We will celebrate what God has done in creation literally eating and drinking to the glory of God! There will be a sense of longing in our midst as we wait for the new heavens and the new earth.

GRACE GROUPS

For more info contact Glenn Nelson, glennmail97@gmail.com

Women's Studies

***NEW* Beginning January Women's Morning Study @ the Calton Home**// Wednesdays 10-11:30AM//Childcare Provided//Leader: Kelly Calton//Contact Kelly (kpcalton@gmail.com or 864-706-4112)

Women's Evening Study @ The Worthington // Tuesdays 6:45PM//Leader: Brenda Carlile//Contact Brenda (brendacarlile9@gmail.com)

Women's Morning Study// Thursdays 9:30AM// Childcare Provided//Leader: Brooke Delaney//Contact Brooke 970-590-9171

Women's Evening "Mugs and Muffins" @ the Nelson Home//Thursdays 6:30PM//Leader: Terry Nelson //Contact Terry (Text: 970-217-4643)

Men's Studies

Men's Evening Study @ The Stauffer Home // Tuesdays 6:30PM//Leader: Darris Stauffer // Contact Darris (darris_stauffer@hotmail.com)

Men's Breakfast @ Grace Church// Thursdays 6:30AM//Leader: Gary Scott// Contact Gary (gary.w.scott@gmail.com)

Mixed Studies

Mid-town Group @the Calton Home//Sundays 5PM //Leader: Wes Calton// Contact Kelly (kpcalton@gmail.com)

Old Town Group @ the Lymberopoulos Home//Sundays 4PM //Leader: Gavin Lymberopoulos//Contact Gavin (gavin@gracefortcollins.org)

North FoCo Group @ the Kisner Home//Sundays 4:30PM //Leaders: Gary Scott and Blake Lewis//Contact Gary (gary.w.scott@gmail.com)

Windsor Group // Tuesdays// Leaders: Ross & Emily Johnson, Josh & Rebekah Ooms//Contact Emily (emersonphit@hotmail.com)

Mid-town Group @the Hoppin Home//Thursdays 6:30PM // Leaders: Jon & Heather Hoppin//Contact Jon (jonathanhoppin@gmail.com)

South FoCo Group @ the Mikkelsen Home//Thursdays 6:30PM //Leaders: Doug and Stephanie Mikkelsen//Contact Stephanie (stephaniemikk@gmail.com)



GRACE CHURCH
presbyterian

Loving God - Loving People - Loving Life

December 22, 2024

WELCOME AND REFLECTION

Myth and Christianity are opposed on every point. Myth seeks the ascent of man to spirit; the Word of God seeks descent into flesh and blood. Myth wants power; revelation reveals the true power of God in the most extreme powerlessness. Myth wants knowledge; the Word of God asks for constant faith and, only within that faith, a growing, reverent understanding.

-Irenaeus

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Peace That Christ Brings

The Carpenter Family, 9am

The Leong Family, 10:40am

PRAISE THE LORD

† Call to Worship

Isaiah 55:1,6

"Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price... "Seek the Lord while he may be found."

† Hymn of Worship

"Veiled in Darkness Judah Lay"

1. Veiled in darkness Judah lay, waiting for the promised day, While across the shadowy night, streamed a flood of glorious light. Heavenly voices chanting then, "Peace on earth, good will to men." (2x)
2. Still the earth in darkness lies; up from death's dark vale arise Voices of a world in grief, prayers of men who seek relief. Now our darkness pierce again: "Peace on earth, good will to men." (2x)

† Pastoral Prayer & 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, forever. Amen.

RENEWAL

Scripture Reading

Matthew 1: 18-20

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. 19 And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. 20 But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Confession

Gracious Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, you are the God of the supernatural. You are the God of the Incarnation. Even as we declare these glorious truths, we acknowledge and confess that we struggle to believe that a baby could be born of a virgin. Forgive us Father, for judging your Word and rejecting that Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary. Forgive us Immanuel and send your Spirit to help our unbelief.

Silent Confession

We would like to offer a full minute for you to enter into this sacred space with God. As he meets you here, may you be renewed in his presence.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† Scripture Reading

Matthew 1:21-23

21 [Mary] will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: 23 “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us).

† Hymn of Response

“I Wonder as I Wander” with “How Great Our Joy”

1. I wonder as I wander, out under the sky,
How Jesus, the Savior, did come for to die,
For poor or’nry people like you and like I:
I wonder as I wander out under the sky

Praise we the LORD in heav’n on high! Praise we the LORD in heav’n on high!

2. When Mary birthed Jesus ‘twas in a cow’s stall,
With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.
But high from God’s heaven a star’s light did fall,
The promise of ages it then did recall.

Praise we the LORD in heav’n on high! Praise we the LORD in heav’n on high!

3. If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,
A star in the sky or a bird on the wing,
Or all of God’s angels in heav’n for to sing,
He surely could have it, ‘cause he was the King.

Praise we the LORD in heav’n on high! Praise we the LORD in heav’n on high!

4. I wonder as I wander, out under the sky,
How Jesus, the Savior, did come for to die,
For poor or’nry people like you and like I:
I wonder as I wander out under the sky

Praise we the LORD in heav’n on high! Praise we the LORD in heav’n on high!

† Scripture Reading

Psalms 18:20-30

The Lord dealt with me according to my righteousness;
according to the cleanness of my hands he rewarded me.

For I have kept the ways of the Lord,
and have not wickedly departed from my God.

**For all his rules were before me,
and his statutes I did not put away from me.**

**I was blameless before him,
and I kept myself from my guilt.**

**So the Lord has rewarded me according to my righteousness,
according to the cleanness of my hands in his sight.**

With the merciful you show yourself merciful;
with the blameless man you show yourself blameless;
with the purified you show yourself pure;
and with the crooked you make yourself seem tortuous.

**For you save a humble people,
but the haughty eyes you bring down.**

**For it is you who light my lamp;
the Lord my God lightens my darkness.**

**For by you I can run against a troop,
and by my God I can leap over a wall.**

This God—his way is perfect;
the word of the Lord proves true;
he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him.

† Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

OFFER YOURSELF TO THE LORD

Presentation of the Tithes and Offerings

Revelation 3:19-20

19 Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent. 20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

~Children 3 years – 2nd grade are invited to stay in the service or line up for Children's Church.~

Musical Reflection

Prayer

PREACHING OF THE WORD

Scripture Reading

Malachi 2:17-3:5

17 You have wearied the Lord with your words. But you say, “How have we wearied him?” By saying, “Everyone who does evil is good in the sight of the Lord, and he delights in them.” Or by asking, “Where is the God of justice?” 3 “Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. 2 But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. 3 He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord. 4 Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years. 5 “Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his

wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

The grass withers, the flowers fade,
but the word of our God will stand forever. Isaiah 40:8

Intercessory Prayer

Sermon

“Behold, He is Coming”

Rev. Jon Hoppin

THE BREAD AND WINE

Prayer of Preparation

Institution of the Lord’s Supper

† Hymn of Worship

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

1. Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
2. Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
3. See within a manger laid Jesus, Lord of heav’n and earth!
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, with us sing our Savior’s birth.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

† Hymn of Blessing and Sending

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.
2. King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood;
he will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.
3. Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.
4. At his feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim, with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry:
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord Most High!

† Benediction

† *Congregation Standing*

Bold– *Congregational Response*