

Good Shepherd Community Church
Proclaiming the God of Grace
15 October 2023 – 11:00 A.M
Isaiah 40

Prelude

God's Good News Greeting

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."

Call to Worship

L: "For Yahweh has chosen Zion; he has desired it for his dwelling place: "This is my resting place forever; here I will dwell, for I have desired it.

Blessed is the one you choose and bring near, to dwell in your courts!

All: ***Send your light and your truth; let them lead me.***

Let them bring me to your holy mountain, to your dwelling place.

Hymn – Comfort, Comfort You My People

Comfort, comfort you my people;
tell of peace, thus says our God;
comfort those who sit in darkness
bowed beneath oppression's load.
Speak you to Jerusalem
of the peace that waits for them;
tell them that their sins I cover,
and their warfare now is over.

2. For the herald's voice is calling
in the desert far and near,
bidding us to make repentance
since the kingdom now is here.
Oh that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way;
let the valleys rise in meeting
and the hills bow down in greeting.

3. Make you straight what long was crooked;
make the rougher places plain;
let your hearts be true and humble,
as befits God's holy reign,
for the glory of the Lord
now o'er earth is shed abroad,
and all flesh shall see the token
that God's word is never broken.

Invocation Pastor Jeff Gregory

A Scripture Call to Confession

*For the High and Exalted One
who lives forever, whose name is Holy says this:
"I dwell in the high and holy place,
and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit,
to revive the spirit of the lowly,
and to revive the heart of the contrite."*

A Prayer of Confession:

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess
our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against you.
Lord, we have sinned, without considering how much you love us.
You see our sins more clearly than we can ourselves.
Lord, you know when we are indifferent to your Word, the Bible;
how often we forget to pray; the times we come unwillingly to worship;
and yet we turn to you when we are in trouble.
Lord, you know when we are untruthful and when we think evil of others.
You see our anger and unfairness to our friends and family.
You know how hard it is for us to forgive.
Forgive us and make us clean, so that we can obey your call
to take up your cross and follow you. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Word of Pardon

In the confession of sin, we acknowledge what we have not done that which we should have. But, with the assurance of pardon, God reminds us what **He has done**. The assurance of pardon tells God's people something that is already true. That is, all who believe and belong to Jesus and cling to Him as their only hope have been pardoned of their sin.
(copied) *Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds we have been healed. Our great God and Savior Jesus Christ gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good. Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift! Amen.* Cf. Titus 2:13-14; 2 Cor. 9:15

Affirmation of Pardon

God has rescued us from the power of darkness and brought us safe into the kingdom of his dear Son: in Christ our sins are forgiven; we are set free. Amen.

Hymn Prayer-O Great God

O great God of highest heav'n occupy my lowly heart
Own it all and reign supreme, conquer every rebel pow'r
Let no vice or sin remain that resists Your holy war
You have loved and purchased me, make me Yours forevermore.

I was blinded by my sin, had no ears to hear Your voice
Did not know Your love within, had no taste for heaven's joys
Then Your Spirit gave me life, opened up Your Word to me
Through the gospel of Your Son gave me endless hope and peace.

Help me now to live a life that's dependent on Your grace
Keep my heart and guard my soul from the evils that I face
You are worthy to be praised with my every thought and deed
O great God of highest heav'n, glorify Your Name through me.
Words & Music: Bob Kauflin Copyright © 2006 Sovereign Grace Praise
O Great God (77 77 D)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gSTwb48RJE&ab_channel=MatthewFosterMusic
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gOPbanJKWE8&ab_channel=SovereignGraceMusic

We Listen to God's Word

The entrance of your words gives light, it enlightens the understanding...Psa. 119:130

First Testament- Ezek. 34:11-16
Psalm 85

First Testament- Malachi 3:1-4

New Testament- John 10:11-16

New Testament- 1 Pet. 1:17-25

My Redeemer Lives

My faith is built upon this rock,
the love of Jesus
and the power of the cross,
my debt was paid
at immeasurable cost:
my faith is built upon this rock.

My hope is safe on solid ground
for Christ is risen
and with glory is crowned,
he reigns on high
and his mercy abounds:
my hope is safe on solid ground.

So I'm fixing my eyes
on the Lord who endured
and was glorified.
Because I know that
my Redeemer lives.
Oh he is alive! Jesus is alive!
I know that

my Redeemer lives,
my Redeemer lives!

My life is hidden now in Christ,
he calls me onward
as I run for the prize,
my eyes may close
but in him I will rise:
my life is hidden now in Christ.

So I'm fixing my eyes
on the Lord who endured
and was glorified.

Because I know that
my Redeemer lives.
Oh he is alive! Jesus is alive!

I know that
my Redeemer lives,
my Redeemer lives!

So I'm fixing my eyes

on the Lord,
yes I'm fixing my eyes
on the Lord.

So I'm fixing my eyes
on the Lord who endured
and was glorified.

Because I know that
my Redeemer lives.
Oh he is alive! Jesus is alive!

I know that
my Redeemer lives,
my Redeemer lives!

Because I know that
my Redeemer lives.
Oh he is alive! Jesus is alive!

I know that
my Redeemer lives,
my Redeemer lives!

By Joel Payne and Matt Weeks – www.resoundworship.org

Prayers of the People

... keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints...Eph. 6:18

Presenting our Offerings

Through Jesus let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Hebrews 13:15

Dedication Prayer

Accept, O Lord God, the offerings which we have presented to you. Grant that they may be wisely used for the extension of your kingdom, the upbuilding of your assemblies and the glory of your name through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Psalm 115 v16f

Not the dead, but we the living
praise the Lord with all our powers;
of his goodness freely giving,
his is heaven; earth is ours.
Not to us be glory given
but to him who reigns above:
Glory to the God of heaven
for his faithfulness and love!

Words © 1984 Hope Publishing Company
Author- Timothy Dudley Smith
Meter: 8787 Hyfrydol

Proclamation of the Word

Sermon Text- Isa. 40:1-31

Sermon- **Isaiah Announces the Good News** by Wayne Conrad

Hymn of Response - **Behold Our God**

Who has held the oceans in His hands?
Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice
All creation rises to rejoice.

chorus

*Behold our God seated on His throne
Come, let us adore Him
Behold our King! Nothing can compare
Come, let us adore Him!*

verse 2

Who has given counsel to the Lord?
Who can question any of His words?
Who can teach the One Who knows all things?
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?

verse 3

Who has felt the nails upon His hands
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man?
God eternal humbled to the grave
Jesus, Savior risen now to reign!

Tag

Men: You will reign forever

Women: Let Your glory fill the earth

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The Lord's Table Service

Jeff Gregory, minister

Get rid of the old yeast, so that you may be a new unleavened batch—as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. **Therefore, let us keep the Feast!** Based on 1 Corinthians 5:6-8

A Prayer of Preparation

Come to us, Lord Jesus Christ. In your risen glory and preside as host at your table in the holy gospel ordinance of your body and blood. May this simple meal of shared bread and poured out wine be not only a memorial of your saving suffering and death but also be a **way** by which we have our faith in your promise of forgiveness of our sins and all the benefits of your salvation fortified to our hearts and minds. Prepare us to receive in faith the bread and wine and renew us in spirit that we may live more faithfully as your disciples and show your glory to others by our actions and our words. Amen.

Communion Hymn –Come to the Table

Come to the table of mercy
Prepared with the wine and the bread

All who are hungry and thirsty
Come and your souls will be fed.

*Eat of the bread of salvation
Drink of the blood of the Lamb*

Chorus

*Come at the Lord's invitation
Receive from His nail-scarred hand*

Claire Cloninger and Martin J. Nyström
© 1991 Integrity's Hosanna! Music

Thanksgiving

Let us pray:

O merciful God and Father, we thank you with all our hearts that in your boundless grace you have given us your only begotten Son as the mediator and sacrifice for our sins and as our food and drink unto life eternal. We thank you too for giving us the true faith through which we can partake of your benefits. And since your Son Jesus Christ ordained the holy supper to strengthen our faith, we pray that through your Holy Spirit, this supper may increase our faith and enrich our fellowship with Christ. May you also use this proclamation of our Lord's death and resurrection to bring others into this blessed fellowship, so that all your children may be gathered in to share with us the joy of your salvation. Hear us, Heavenly Father, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread Prayer

Our gracious Lord, we recall how on that solemn Passover night before you suffered for our redemption you offered thanks to the Father, and took the bread and broke it. You gave it to your disciples and said, "This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Partaking of the Bread

The body of our Lord Jesus was given for you. Take and eat this in the remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him by faith in your hearts with thanksgiving.

The bread is shared.

Behold the Lamb- Communion Hymn

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away
Slain for us and we remember
The promise made that all who come in faith
Find forgiveness at the cross
*So we share in this Bread of Life
And we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of peace
Around the table of the King*

Verse 2

The body of our Savior Jesus Christ
Torn for you eat and remember
The wounds that heal the death that brings us life
Paid the price to make us one
*So we share in this Bread of Life
And we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of love
Around the table of the King*

The Cup

After the supper he took the cup, saying, "***This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you, for many for the forgiveness of sins.*** Luke 22:20, Mark 14:28

Pouring and Sharing of the Cup

Partaking of the Cup

May the blood of Jesus Christ which was shed for you, preserve your body and soul unto everlasting life. Drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for you and be thankful.

Words of Acclamation and Prayer

For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Your death, O Lord, we commemorate. Your resurrection we confess.

Your final coming we await. Glory be to you, O Christ.

Prayer: O Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, as we take this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death until you come in power to complete our redemption. Amen.

Verse 3

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin
Shed for you drink and remember
He drained death's cup that all may enter in
To receive the life of God
*So we share in this Bread of Life
And we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of grace
Around the table of the King*

Verse 4

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise
To respond and to remember
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ
As His body here on earth
*As we share in His suffering
We proclaim Christ will come again
And we'll join in the feast of heaven
Around the table of the King*
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Let us do as our Lord commands.

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

As we have shared the bread and cup, let us now declare our common faith:

***I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to realm of the dead.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.***

After Communion Prayer

Strengthen for service, O Lord, the hands that have taken holy things. May the ears that have heard your Word be deaf to clamor and dispute; may the tongues that have sung your praises be free from deceit; may the eyes that have seen tokens of your love shine with the light of hope; and may the bodies which have been fed with your body and blood be replenished with the fullness of your life. Amen.

Hymn- 802P Now May the God of Peace

Now may the God of peace
who raised up from the dead
the one great shepherd of the sheep,
Jesus our head,
who shed his precious blood
to save a sinful race,
by the eternal covenant
of sovereign grace-

2. May he equip our souls
and work in us his will,
that his good pleasure in our lives
he may fulfil
through Jesus Christ our Lord
to whom be glory given
for endless ages evermore
in earth and heaven.

Author Nick Needham 66 84D Tune- Leoni

Closing Hymn

Rom. 11 Doxology - "O the Depth of the Riches"

Oh the depth of the riches
The wisdom of God
How unsearchable His ways
How profound are His judgments
So high above our thoughts
And His pathways no man can trace

Chorus

*For from Him and through Him
And to Him are all things
To Him be glory forevermore
To Him be glory forever
Amen, amen, amen.*

Verse 2

Oh the depth of the riches
The wisdom of God
How magnificent are His ways
Who has been His advisor
And who has counseled Him
All He gives us who can repay

Chorus

*For from Him and through Him
And to Him are all things
To Him be glory forevermore
To Him be glory forever
Amen, amen, amen.*

Verse 3

Oh, the depth of the riches
The wisdom of God
How immeasurable is His grace
How unfailing His kindness
So far removed His wrath
And His mercies are new each day > Chorus

Benediction: *Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.* Amen. (2 Thess. 2:16-17)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen

Good Shepherd Church, 8441 Hunnicut Rd , Dallas, TX 75228

GSCC CCLI#819582

Scripture Readings for 15 Oct. 2023

The entrance of your words gives light, it enlightens the understanding...Psa. 119:130

Ezekiel 34:11-16

¹¹ "For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹² As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness.¹³ And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴ I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord God. ¹⁶ I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy.^[a] I will feed them in justice.

Psalm 85

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah.

85 Lord, you were favorable to your land;
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

- ² *You forgave the iniquity of your people;
you covered all their sin. Selah*
- ³ You withdrew all your wrath;
you turned from your hot anger.
- ⁴ ***Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us!***
- ⁵ Will you be angry with us forever?
Will you prolong your anger to all generations?
- ⁶ ***Will you not revive us again,
that your people may rejoice in you?***
- ⁷ Show us your steadfast love, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.
- ⁸ ***Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.***
- ⁹ Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,
that glory may dwell in our land.
- ¹⁰ ***Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;
righteousness and peace kiss each other.***
- ¹¹ Faithfulness springs up from the ground,
and righteousness looks down from the sky.
- ¹² ***Yes, the Lord will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.***
- ¹³ ***Righteousness will go before him
and make his footsteps a way.***

Malachi 3:1-4

“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.

John 10:11-16

¹¹ I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³ He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

1 Peter 1:17-25

¹⁷ And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, ¹⁸ knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. ²⁰ He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you ²¹ who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

²² Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, ²³ since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God;²⁴ for

“All flesh is like grass
and all its glory like the flower of grass.
The grass withers,
and the flower falls,
²⁵ but the word of the Lord remains forever.”

And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

The Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

(Sample) Sermon text: Isa. 40:9-11

***Go on up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good news;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good news;
lift it up, fear not;
say to the cities of Judah,
“Behold your God!”
¹⁰ Behold, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
behold, his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
¹¹ He will tend his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms;
he will carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead those that are with young.***

