



GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
AT CASTLEWOODS

ORDER OF WORSHIP

January 10th, 2021

MORNING WORSHIP

Thomas Winn — Elder/Pastor

The Prelude	Prepare your heart for worship
The Call to Worship	Chris Kimbrell
Baptist Hymnal No. 227	"Praise Him! Praise Him!"
The Prayer of Confession and Praise	Hal Pritchard
Baptist Hymnal No. 249	"Glorify Thy Name"
Baptist Hymnal No. 184	"Jesus is All the World to Me"
The Reading of the Word — <i>Esther 4:1-17</i>	Hal Pritchard
Baptist Hymnal No. 295	"Near to the Heart of God"
The Pastoral Prayer	Pastor Winn
The Sermon — "Women at the Cross" (<i>Mark 15:40-41</i>)	Pastor Winn
A Time of Reflection Upon the Word Preached	
Baptist Hymnal No. 317	"Only Trust Him"
The Benediction	Hal Pritchard
The Postlude	

EVENING WORSHIP

The Prelude	Prepare your heart for worship
Trinity Hymnal No. 37	"God is Our Refuge and Our Strength"
Trinity Hymnal No. 27	"Great is Thy Faithfulness"
The Pastoral Prayer	Pastor Winn
The Sermon — "The Gospel of Ezekiel, Pt. II" (<i>Ezekiel 11:17</i>)	Hal Pritchard
A Time of Reflection Upon the Word Preached	
Trinity Hymnal No. 707	"Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior"
The Benediction	Pastor Winn
The Postlude	



COMMENTARY

R.C. Sproul

In the account of the last few days of Jesus' life, we find evidence that His sacrifice is for all kinds of sinners, even those who have demonstrated a profound degree of unfaithfulness to Him. Perhaps the clearest indication of this is the Last Supper, where Jesus said that His body and blood—His atoning death—was for the disciples, the same disciples who later deserted and denied Him (Mark 14:12–72). We know, of course, that the disciples, except for Judas, later showed themselves to be faithful to the end, with several of them even dying as martyrs for Christ. Thus, we see evidence that falling away is not itself proof that faith is not genuine. All those whom God has justified, He also glorifies (Rom. 8:28–30), so all who have saving faith, even if they temporarily fall away, will return to their profession before they die. Nevertheless, to deny Christ before others or to desert one's profession when things get rough is a serious sin, and it is something we should strive to avoid even if it is not unforgivable. To deny or desert Jesus, even temporarily, is shameful, as we see in today's passage. The Twelve all fled when Jesus was arrested (Mark 14:50). (Note, however, that John returned to the cross before Jesus breathed His last; John 19:25–27.) Yet, one other group of Christ's followers remained near Him at the end—the faithful women who had loved and served Jesus during His ministry. Mark tells us that many women were there when Jesus died, including “Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of

James the younger and of Joseph, and Salome” (Mark 14:40–41). Mary Magdalene, of course, was our Lord's most well-known female disciple, from whom He had driven seven demons. Many scholars believe the other Mary was Jesus' mother (6:3). Salome was the mother of Zebedee's sons James and John (Matt. 4:21; 27:56). Their mention is significant, for women were not often regarded very highly in first-century culture and would not have been expected to have the kind of courageous faith that enabled them to stay near Jesus when the men ran away. John Calvin notes that Mark mentions the women as a reproof of the male disciples. Those whom He called and would commission as Apostles were less faithful than those who would not receive the Apostolic office. The Apostles, then, needed forgiveness, receiving it the same way we do—through the atoning death of Christ. C.H. Spurgeon notes in his sermon “The Rent Veil” that “God is not approachable except through the rending of the veil by the death of Jesus.”

Coram Deo: Even if we deny God before others, He will forgive us when we repent. However, an impenitent refusal to be identified as a follower of Jesus is an indication that saving faith is not present. Are you prepared to stand firm for Jesus no matter the cost? Pray that the Lord would strengthen you to be faithful to Him. And if you have denied Christ, repent and return to Him this day.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bible Buddies and Bible Drill will be this afternoon at 4:45 pm and Children's Choir and 1st-6th Grade Choir will meet at 5:30pm.



The annual business meeting to vote on the 2021 budget will be January 17th. There will be a fellowship meal that Sunday with the business meeting to follow. There will be no evening service.

The Ladies Bible Study will meet January 7th and 21st at 10am.



The Candlelight Vigil for the Unborn will be this Saturday, January 16th at 6pm at [Foundry Church, 3010 Lakeland Cv Ste A, Flowood.](#)



The church will be hosting the Deep South Founders Conference January 21st-23rd, 2021. If you are able to help with hosting, please see Bro. Thomas. If you would like to register for the conference visit <https://deepsouthfounders.com/registration/>.

This Wednesday night we will have Arizona missionaries the Korties speaking during our prayer meeting. Here is a little information about their ministry.

The Korties came to the mission field in September 2015 and are currently serving on two different American Indian reservations in Arizona, the Tohono O'odham ("pronounced like Gotham without the G") and Gila River (Akimel O'odham) Nations. The villages where they minister the most are Chuichu, San Xavier, Sells, and Sun Lake's. They have various ministries which include preaching, jail ministry, Bible studies, discipleship and generally getting involved in the lives of the people.

John was saved at 11 years old, and writes the following:

"I was convicted of my sin, and the speaker asked if anyone wanted to put their trust in Christ. I had a rocky start to my walk with Christ, growing up in the Methodist church without much doctrine. It wasn't until I was an adult that I came to understand the doctrines of grace and knew they were true. It was what I had always read in the Bible in my own devotions, but didn't know what they were called. I began attending Reformed Baptist churches in the various states where I lived and ended up at Grace Baptist of Taylors, South Carolina, which is our sending church.

My wife's name is Bethanna. Our daughter Jane Michaela is as much a missionary as my wife and I. We do ministry together as a family, each of us using the gifts that God has given us in the roles God would have for us. Bethanna ministers to the ladies, and Jane Michaela is great with the kids.

Jane Michaela (2001) is our youngest, and our two other children are married, serving the Lord with their spouses in Tennessee, and South Carolina."

John's sending church is Grace Baptist Church of Taylors, in Taylors, South Carolina, USA.

