



GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH  
AT CASTLEWOODS

ORDER OF WORSHIP  
January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

# MORNING WORSHIP

Thomas Winn — Elder/Pastor

The Prelude ..... Prepare your heart for worship

The Call to Worship ..... Chris Kimbrell

Hymn ..... "Praise Him! Praise Him!"

The Prayer of Confession and Praise ..... Dirk deWaal

Hymn ..... "Rock of Ages"

Hymn ..... "How Firm a Foundation"

The Reading of the Word — *II Samuel 9:1-13* ..... Dirk deWaal

Hymn ..... "Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted"

The Interlude ..... Instrumentalists

The Sermon — *"Understanding Grace" (Colossians 1:3-8)* ..... Pastor Winn

A Time of Reflection Upon the Word Preached

Hymn ..... "Blessed Be the Tie"

The Benediction ..... Dirk deWaal

The Postlude

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# AFTERNOON WORSHIP

The Prelude ..... Prepare your heart for worship

Hymn ..... "As the Deer Pants"

Hymn ..... "Break Thou the Bread of Life"

The Observance of The Lord's Supper

Hymn ..... "I Will Sing of My Redeemer"

The Benediction

The Postlude



# COMMENTARY

**Andrew Murray**

*The Secret of Fellowship*

The more I think of and pray about the state of religion in this country, and all over the world, the deeper my conviction becomes that the low state of the spiritual life of Christians is due to the fact that they do not realize that the aim and object of conversion is to bring the soul even here on earth to a daily fellowship with the Father in heaven. When once this truth has been accepted, the believer will perceive how indispensable it is to the spiritual life of a Christian to take time each day with God's Word, and in prayer to wait upon God for His presence and His love to be revealed.

But how can Christians be taught this lesson and be persuaded to live in obedience to it? The first thing is that the minister himself must be convinced of the great need of daily fellowship with God, and of his calling to train his people to habits of prayer. His hearers must be brought under the impression through the preaching that it is not enough at conversion to accept forgiveness of sins, or even to surrender themselves to God. That is only a beginning.

The young believer must understand that he has no power of his own to maintain his spiritual life. No, he needs each day to receive new grace from heaven through fellowship with the Lord Jesus. This cannot be obtained by a hasty prayer, or a superficial reading of a few verses from God's Word. He must take time quietly and deliberately to come into God's presence, to feel his weakness and his need, and to wait upon God through His Holy Spirit to renew the heavenly light and life in his heart. Then he may rightly expect to be kept by the power of Christ

throughout the day and all its temptations.

It has been my aim in writing this little book to help Christians to see the absolute necessity of fellowship with the Lord Jesus. Without this the joy and power of God's Holy Spirit in daily life cannot be experienced. Many of God's children long for a better life, but do not realize the need of giving God time day by day in the inner chamber through His Spirit to renew and sanctify their lives. Oh that every minister would lead and help those under his charge to grasp this great truth.

Meditate on this thought: The feeble state of my spiritual life is mainly due to the lack of time day by day in fellowship with God. The minister is the one who must teach this lesson to his people, and encourage them to believe that a different life is possible. New life will dawn in many a soul as a result of time spent in prayer alone with God.

If you have accepted the message that the Lord Jesus will from day to day grant you His presence and love--pass it on to others. However weak and impotent you feel, your faith will be strengthened as you help others to realize the need of fellowship with Jesus daily.

As we think of the need of our country and church, as we think of souls around us, as we think of the extension of God's kingdom, we ask you, O Christians, to help us find volunteers, who, as true Soldiers of the Cross, will persevere continually in prayer, till God pours out His blessing upon us.



# RESPONSIBILITIES

## Today's Nursery Volunteers

<b>January 7<sup>th</sup></b>
<i>Morning</i> Mary Price, Bethany Wallace, and Wendy Winn
<i>Evening/Afternoon</i> Kelly Jackson and Jerah Pogue
<i>Wednesday - January 10<sup>th</sup></i> Dacia Long and Katherine Ranck

Today's Sound Operator - John Ingram



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

Today we will observe the Lord's Supper during our afternoon service.

## FELLOWSHIP MEAL

Today we will have our fellowship meal immediately following the morning service.

## OLDER ADULT FELLOWSHIP

The Older Adult Fellowship has been reschedule for Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:30. Please see the list on the bulletin board and sign up. We will enjoy chili, salad, and desserts.

## EVANGELISTIC OUTREACH

We will once again be going out into the neighborhood, today, immediately following our afternoon service. Please continue to pray for those reaching out as they share about Grace Baptist and the gospel of Jesus Christ. If you are interested in helping, please see Prashant Thakkar or Pastor Thomas.

## DSFC

We will once again host the conference being held January 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>. We will focus our attention on The Law of God, Chapter 19 of The 1689 London Baptist Confession of Faith. Dr. James Renihan and Dr. Richard Barcellos will be our two main preachers. Dr. Renihan serves as President and Professor of Historical Theology at International Reformed Baptist Seminary (IRBS). Also, two of our board members, Pastor Kurt Smith and Pastor Rusty Grant, will preach. Kurt Smith the pastor-teacher of Providence Reformed Baptist Church in Remlap, Alabama. Rusty Grant is pastor in West Monroe at Grace Covenant Baptist Church. If you are interested in attending, register at <https://deepsouthfoundersconference.regfox.com/dsfc-2024>.

