



GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
AT CASTLEWOODS

ORDER OF WORSHIP
February 20th, 2022

MORNING WORSHIP

Thomas Winn — Elder/Pastor

The Prelude	Prepare your heart for worship
The Call to Worship	Chris Kimbrell
Hymn	"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"
The Prayer of Confession and Praise	Cody Wallace
Hymn	"In Christ Alone"
Hymn	"Jesus is All the World to Me"
The Reading of the Word — <i>Psalm 47:1-9</i>	Hal Pritchard
Hymn	"Not What My Hands Have Done"
The Pastoral Prayer	Pastor Winn
The Sermon — <i>"The Glory of God Displayed" (Hebrews 1:1-3)</i>	Richard Smith
A Time of Reflection Upon the Word Preached	
Hymn	"I am Thine, O Lord"
The Benediction	Hal Pritchard
The Postlude	

EVENING WORSHIP

The Prelude	Prepare your heart for worship
Hymn	"We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer"
Hymn	"My Faith Has Found a Resting Place"
The Pastoral Prayer	Pastor Winn
The Sermon — <i>"The Heart We Should Seek By Grace" (Isaiah 64:1-8)</i>	Richard Smith
A Time of Reflection Upon the Word Preached	
Hymn	"Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross"
The Benediction	
The Postlude	



COMMENTARY

R.C. Sproul

Divine providence, which is nothing less than the exercise of God's sovereignty in and over His creation, comforts us because it indicates that the Lord is capable of keeping His promises. Were He not in control of all things, it would be possible for Him not to succeed in accomplishing His plan. Because He is sovereign, we know that His pledge to work all things together for our good is not mere wishful thinking (see Rom. 8:28). According to Scripture, we can identify at least three aspects of God's providence. First, the Lord exercised His providence in His work of creation. Plainly, there would be nothing for Him to govern if He had not created the universe. Furthermore, we see in His creation of the universe the first exercise of His sovereignty in relation to that which He has created. Genesis 1 shows us that our Lord's rule is so effective that He simply needed to issue a decree, and the universe came into existence. Second, once the Lord created the universe and everything in it, He did not leave it to maintain its own existence. Instead, the created order remains eternally dependent on its Creator for its continued existence. As today's passage indicates, the Son of God—as well as the Father and the Holy Spirit by virtue of their union as the triune Lord of all—"upholds the universe by the word of his power" (Heb. 1:3). God is the only being who possesses the attribute of self-existence. He is dependent on nothing else. If He were to cease to exist—which is impossible—all other things would cease to exist as

well. But if all of creation were to cease to exist, God would continue on. He has the power of being in Himself, and we depend fully on Him for our existence. "In him we live and move and have our being" (Acts 17:28). The third aspect of divine providence is divine governance. This refers to the exercise of His providence as Ruler and King (Ps. 47:7). There are two significant truths about His governance to keep in mind. First, God's governance is permanent. Though earthly kingdoms rise and fall, the Lord's reign is everlasting. None can overthrow Him and replace Him as creation's Sovereign (Ps. 2:2-4). Second, God is sovereign in the exercise of His providential governance. Our Creator sits over us in authority, issuing commands to His creation. But His sovereignty goes beyond that. Unlike human kings who cannot always get their subjects to do what they want, God works out all things according to the counsel of His will (Eph. 1:11). What is established in His sovereign decree cannot fail to come to pass.

Coram Deo: We can lose control over the things that we govern. Our property can be confiscated for just or unjust reasons. Our children can rebel and never return to the family. Yet this is not so with our Creator. Nothing takes place except that which He has ordained will take place. That does not mean every event receives His blessing, but it does mean that it would be foolish to believe anything we or any other person can do will derail His accomplishment of His purposes.



RESPONSIBILITIES

Today's Nursery Volunteers

February 20th
<i>Morning</i> Allyson Leach & Wendy Winn
<i>Evening/Afternoon</i> Bethany Wallace & Lawanda Winn
<i>Wednesday - February 23rd</i> Lana Wakefield (<i>Katherine Ranck</i>)

Today's Sound Operator - Richard Jackson



ANNOUNCEMENTS

GUEST SPEAKER

Today we welcome Richard Smith as our guest speaker for both of our services. Richard and his wife, Rachel, have traveled from Lawrence, Kansas where he serves as an itinerant preacher. He attended Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson and is a long time friend of Pastor Thomas.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The Preschool and Children's Choir will meet this afternoon. Both choirs will be singing together this evening before the evening worship service.

MEN'S RETREAT

This year's retreat will be March 4th-5th at Bethlehem Baptist Church, Laurel, MS. The theme this year is "A Godly Man's Love for His God." Be sure to join us for this time of edification and fellowship. The cost is \$10/adult. Boys are free and are encouraged to attend with their fathers. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board outside the Fellowship Hall or see Chris or Pastor Thomas if you plan to attend so we can give Bethlehem an accurate head count.

