



GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
AT CASTLEWOODS

ORDER OF WORSHIP
April 2nd, 2023

MORNING WORSHIP

Thomas Winn — Elder/Pastor

- The Prelude Prepare your heart for worship
- The Call to Worship Chris Kimbrell
- Hymn "We Praise Thee O God"
- The Prayer of Confession and Praise Hal Pritchard
- Hymn "At the Cross"
- Hymn "Wonderful Grace of Jesus"
- The Reading of the Word — *Isaiah 51:1-16* Hal Pritchard
- Hymn "The Sands of Time are Sinking"
- The Sermon — "*Seek First the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness*" (*Matthew 6:33-34*) Pastor Winn
- The Observance of The Lord's Supper
- Hymn "Jesus Paid It All"
- The Benediction Hal Pritchard
- The Postlude

AFTERNOON WORSHIP

Bible Drill



COMMENTARY

C.H. Spurgeon

Our desire should be, first of all, to enter into the kingdom of God. The kingdom of the new life, the kingdom of perfect liberty, the kingdom of faith in Christ, the kingdom of union to Christ, the kingdom of the power of the Spirit of God. Have we all entered it? If we have not, let us seek that kingdom immediately. Before we seek our own door, let us seek first this kingdom of God, that we may take up our citizenship in it, and become loyal subjects of the great King. The way of admission into the kingdom is, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." "As many as received him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." Seek thus to enter the kingdom of God. Once in it, then seek to enjoy its privileges. When you have become the subjects of the great King, ask him fully to rule in your spirit, and therein to set up his throne of righteousness. Ask that you may have all the peace that appertains to that kingdom, all the holiness which is the characteristic of that kingdom, all the rest, and all the joy, and all the spiritual wealth, and all the sacred ennobling which come to men who are brought under the sway of the Lord's Christ, whose gracious Spirit brings every thought into captivity to his sovereign will. Further, being in the kingdom of God, and enjoying its privileges, then seek to extend that kingdom. Go forth every morning, conquering and to conquer. With the weapons of love and kindness, seek to win men to Christ. Enlisted in this holy army, carry on a constant crusade for Christ.

From your earliest waking thoughts, till you fall asleep at night, be intent, first and foremost, to win other hearts to Christ. Let all your care go in this direction, to serve God, to live for God, to glorify God. Seek this as earnestly as the merchant seeks more trade, as the miser seeks more gold, as the sick man seeks a return of health: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God." Together with this, there is another thing to be sought: "his righteousness." It may mean, seek that righteousness which God has prepared for us through his dear Son. Seek to be justified by the imputed righteousness of Christ. But I do not think that is what is meant in this place. Seek God's righteousness; that is, seek a holy character, seek first of all to be right, not to be rich. Seek first of all to be just, not to be wealthy. Seek first of all to obey God, not to become the master of others. Seek not to be great, but seek to be good, let this be your one ambition: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness." The one aim of the life of a Christian should be always to do the right. It may sometimes seem expensive, and involve sacrifice, but it is always safe; and in the long run, it will prove to be the most profitable to do that which is according to the mind of God. Keep you to the King's highway; never get out of it by trying the devil's "short cuts." Act not according to human policy, but remember that ancient advice, "I counsel thee to keep the King's commandment." Thou shalt find it to be the loadstar of thy life if thou dost seek the kingdom of God, and his righteousness.



RESPONSIBILITIES

Today's Nursery Volunteers

April 2nd
<i>Morning</i> Bunny Finch & Wendy Winn
<i>Evening/Afternoon</i> Church Bible Drill - No Nursery
<i>Wednesday - April 5th</i> Katie Crocker & Bethany Wallace

Today's Sound Operator - Richard Jackson



ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LORD'S SUPPER

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

FELLOWSHIP MEAL

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

BIBLE DRILL

This afternoon we will have our Church Bible Drill following the fellowship meal. Please pray for our children as they prepare for this time and support them with your presence. After completion of this drill they will participate in Associational Drill on April 13th, and State Drill on April 27th.

NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH

Today many of our members will be going into the Castlewoods neighborhood to share information about GBC, and invite people to visit with us, if they do not have a church home. We will spend approximately one hour doing this once a month. Please pray for this ministry, that God would bless our efforts and bring glory to His name, in saving sinners and adding to His Church. A nursery will be provided for our children.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Ladies Bible Study will meet this Thursday April 6th at 11 am. Bring a sack lunch for a time of fellowship afterwards.

EASTER SUNDAY

Our schedule will change slightly next Sunday for Easter. There will be a continental breakfast at 9:30 am in the place of Sunday School. Please have your food in the kitchen by 9:15 am. There is a sign-up list for items to bring. The schedule will be normal for the rest of the day. Morning worship will begin at 10:30 am and evening worship will be at 6 pm.

