



GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
AT CASTLEWOODS

ORDER OF WORSHIP
April 3rd, 2022

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 Seth Lirette

Hymn "At the Cross"

Hymn "Sticken, Smitten, and Afflicted"

The Reading of the Word — *Psalm 51:1-19* Hal Pritchard

Hymn "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

The Pastoral Prayer Pastor Winn

The Sermon — *"Blessed are the Pure in Heart" (Matthew 5:8)* Pastor Winn

The Observance of The Lord's Supper

Hymn "I Will Sing the Wondrous Story"

The Benediction Hal Pritchard

The Postlude

AFTERNOON WORSHIP

Mission Report



COMMENTARY

R.C. Sproul

We saw that the connection of the mercy we receive with the mercy we show to others can be a scary prospect indeed apart from the mediation of Christ. If we were to consider the potential of Scripture to strike us with fear more fully, however, we would doubtless include the sixth beatitude as a frightening passage as well. Jesus promises that the “pure in heart” will “see God,” but who among us is pure in heart? Again, our only confidence is in Christ, who has sanctified His people by His blood (1Cor. 6:11). He has set us apart definitively as holy and pure, and we prove this status by striving after personal holiness until in glory we are perfected and freed from all sin. This purity is guaranteed by the effectual work of our Savior, and so we who are in Christ Jesus know that we will one day experience the Beatific Vision — we know that we will one day see God as He is. In Exodus 33:20, the Lord tells us that no man can see His face and live, but this is not due to God making His image-bearers inherently unable to bear His presence. Before the fall, humanity experienced intimate, face-to-face communion with the Creator when He walked with us in the cool of the day (Gen. 3:8). But this fellowship was lost when we fell into sin. The barrier that keeps us from seeing the Lord now is our fallen character. Once this fallenness is removed, there is no reason why we would not be able to gaze on

God’s incomparable beauty. This, indeed, is the Lord’s greatest promise to us, that we will be able to gaze upon Him, the most beautiful, awe-inspiring, worthy, holy, loving being that ever was, is, and will be. We will, as 1John 3:1-3 tells us, see Him as He is. The Apostle is making reference to Christ: not the human nature of Christ alone but also the divine nature that is perfectly united with humanity in the person of our Savior. And to see the divine nature of the Son of God also means that we will see the other persons of the Trinity as well, for the Son dwells in the Father and the Father in the Son, just as the Holy Spirit mutually indwells the Father and the Son (John 10:37-38). What seeing God face to face means precisely is not for us to know today, but we do know that seeing Him will fully satisfy our souls.

Coram Deo: The greatest glory of heaven is not that we will be free of pain, as wonderful as that will be. Instead, the ability to enjoy direct, face-to-face communion with God and see that for which our souls were created will be the highest joy we can imagine. We can scarcely contemplate the wonder of that day, but the beauty of Christ should make us long for it with the deepest longings of our souls and pursue the purity of heart that leads to this vision.



RESPONSIBILITIES

Today's Nursery Volunteers

April 3rd
<i>Morning</i> Amanda Spansel & Wendy Winn
<i>Evening/Afternoon</i> Elise de Waal & Lana Wakefield
<i>Wednesday - April 6th</i> Bethany Wallace (<i>Laurie Price</i>)

Today's Sound Operator - Mike Poirier



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.

GUEST SPEAKER

This afternoon, immediately following our fellowship meal, we will have Dr. Peter Vimalasekaran. He has served as a missionary in Germany for over 20 years and will speak to us about his work there with refugees and spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The Preschool and Children's Choir will not meet this afternoon.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

The Ladies Bible Study will meet this Thursday, April 7th at 11 am. Please bring a sack lunch and enjoy a time of fellowship afterwards.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The Preschool and Children's Choir will meet at 5:30 pm this afternoon. Please make note of the time change. The normal schedule will resume after church bible drill.

CHURCH BIBLE DRILL

Association Bible Drill will be this afternoon at 2 pm at Brandon Baptist Church. Continue to pray for our children, as they commit God's word to their memory, that He would commit it to their hearts.

EASTER SUNDAY BRUNCH

On Easter Sunday we will have our annual brunch in place of Sunday School. A list will be posted this Sunday for what to bring. There will be a time of singing before the evening service where our children and others will share in music.

