

Morning Worship

THE PRELUDE

THE GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SILENT MEDITATION AND PRAYER

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

* THE HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 208 – *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

* THE INVOCATION

* THE CONFESSION OF FAITH – PHILIPPIANS 3:4-14

There are many things we might put our confidence in: our religious heritage, our nationality, our family background, our denominational ties, our theological knowledge, our zeal for God, or our obedience to the Law. But whatever things were gain to us, those things we have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. More than that, we count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus our Lord. For Him we have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as dung so that we may gain Christ, and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of our own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith. We glory in Christ Jesus alone and put no confidence in the flesh. We want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; in order that we may attain to the resurrection from the dead. We have not already obtained it, nor have we already become perfect, but we press on so that we may lay hold of that for which also we were laid hold of by Christ Jesus. Forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, we press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

* THE HYMN OF THANKSGIVING – *Out of My Bondage, Sorrow, and Night*

THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE – **EXODUS 18**

Now Jethro, the priest of Midian, Moses' father-in-law, heard of all that God had done for Moses and for Israel His people, how the LORD had brought Israel out of Egypt. ² Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, took Moses' wife Zipporah, after he had sent her away, ³ and her two sons, of whom one was named Gershom, for Moses said, "I have been a sojourner in a foreign land." ⁴ The other was named Eliezer, for he said, "The God of my father was my help, and delivered me from the sword of Pharaoh." ⁵ Then Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, came with his sons and his wife to Moses in the wilderness where he was camped, at the mount of God. ⁶ He sent word to Moses, "I, your father-in-law Jethro, am coming to you with your wife and her two sons with her." ⁷ Then Moses went out to meet his father-in-law, and he bowed down and kissed him; and they asked each other of their welfare and went into the tent. ⁸ Moses told his father-in-law all that the LORD had done to Pharaoh and

to the Egyptians for Israel's sake, all the hardship that had befallen them on the journey, and how the LORD had delivered them. ⁹ Jethro rejoiced over all the goodness which the LORD had done to Israel, in delivering them from the hand of the Egyptians. ¹⁰ So Jethro said, "Blessed be the LORD who delivered you from the hand of the Egyptians and from the hand of Pharaoh, and who delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians. ¹¹ "Now I know that the LORD is greater than all the gods; indeed, it was proven when they dealt proudly against the people." ¹² Then Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, took a burnt offering and sacrifices for God, and Aaron came with all the elders of Israel to eat a meal with Moses' father-in-law before God. ¹³ It came about the next day that Moses sat to judge the people, and the people stood about Moses from the morning until the evening. ¹⁴ Now when Moses' father-in-law saw all that he was doing for the people, he said, "What is this thing that you are doing for the people? Why do you alone sit as judge and all the people stand about you from morning until evening?" ¹⁵ Moses said to his father-in-law, "Because the people come to me to inquire of God. ¹⁶ "When they have a dispute, it comes to me, and I judge between a man and his neighbor and make known the statutes of God and His laws." ¹⁷ Moses' father-in-law said to him, "The thing that you are doing is not good. ¹⁸ "You will surely wear out, both yourself and these people who are with you, for the task is too heavy for you; you cannot do it alone. ¹⁹ "Now listen to me: I will give you counsel, and God be with you. You be the people's representative before God, and you bring the disputes to God, ²⁰ then teach them the statutes and the laws, and make known to them the way in which they are to walk and the work they are to do. ²¹ "Furthermore, you shall select out of all the people able men who fear God, men of truth, those who hate dishonest gain; and you shall place these over them as leaders of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties and of tens. ²² "Let them judge the people at all times; and let it be that every major dispute they will bring to you, but every minor dispute they themselves will judge. So it will be easier for you, and they will bear the burden with you. ²³ "If you do this thing and God so commands you, then you will be able to endure, and all these people also will go to their place in peace." ²⁴ So Moses listened to his father-in-law and did all that he had said. ²⁵ Moses chose able men out of all Israel and made them heads over the people, leaders of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties and of tens. ²⁶ They judged the people at all times; the difficult dispute they would bring to Moses, but every minor dispute they themselves would judge. ²⁷ Then Moses bade his father-in-law farewell, and he went his way into his own land.

THE GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERING

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

* THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE – **LUKE 18:9-14; REVELATION 3:14-20; MATTHEW 5:3**

^{18:9} *And He also told this parable to some people who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and viewed others with contempt: ¹⁰ "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ "The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself: 'God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹² 'I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.' ¹³ "But the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, the sinner!' ¹⁴ "I tell you, this man went to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."*

^{3:14} *To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God, says this: ¹⁵ 'I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I wish that you were cold or hot. ¹⁶ 'So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth. ¹⁷ 'Because you say, "I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing," and you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked, ¹⁸ I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself, and that the shame of your nakedness will not be revealed; and eye salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see. ¹⁹ 'Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent. ²⁰ 'Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me.*

^{5:3} *Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

THE SERMON – **“BLESSED BANKRUPTCY”**

* THE HYMN OF COMMITMENT NO. 499 – *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*

THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND INVITATION

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE COMMUNION WITH OUR LORD JESUS AND HIS PEOPLE

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE OFFERING FOR THE NEEDY AMONG US

* THE HYMN NO. 213 – *What Child is This?*

* THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE – *The Doxology*
***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Him, all creatures here below;
praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

* THE BENEDICTION

* THE POSTLUDE

*Congregation Standing, If Able

The purpose of Grace Presbyterian Church is to glorify God by gathering and growing His people in accordance with His Word.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This evening, join us at 6:00 p.m. as we sign your favorite songs, and have a time of Question and Answer with Pastor Caleb. Feel free to email him with your questions ahead of time at calebcangelosi@gmail.com.

- The nursery workers today are: Twitty (SS); D. Enochs (MW); Cangelosi (EW). The nursery workers next Sunday are: Nyhof (SS); Rust (MW); Robson (EW).
- The deacons will be sending the whole benevolence offering that will be taken up after the Lord's Supper today to PCA Ministerial Relief, which assists retired and disabled ministers, and their dependent widows and children.
- Christmas Caroling—Children, Youth & Adults meet at the Elementary School on **Wednesday, December 7th** at 5:30 PM. We will finish at the school for pizza and drink. Dress appropriately.
- Youth Progressive Dinner on **Friday, December 9th**. See Larry Walker for details.
- Lessons and Carols Service on **Sunday Evening, December 18th**.
- **Monday, December 19th** - gifts for Kids Putnam deadline
- **Wednesday, December 28th** - Cookeville Rescue Mission Meal
- We are always welcoming new volunteers to help with keeping Nursery for our little ones. If you would like to sign up to help, please contact our Nursery Coordinator, Kelly Farris at 931.261.1219 or ray_kelly@hotmail.com
- Wednesday Morning Ladies' Bible Study—10-11:30 AM at home of Jan Stevens
- 2nd & 4th Monday Evening Ladies' Bible Study—7:00 PM at the Meeting House—see Rachel Parker for details
- Every Wednesday @ 6:30 PM—Youth Group
- If you are not receiving our Newsletter or church emails and would like to, then send your email address to Linda at churchsecretary@frontiernet.net.

THE LORD'S DAY December 4, 2011

As You Enter Silently, Use These Words to Prepare Your Heart for Worship:

“For thus says the high and exalted One Who lives forever, whose name is Holy, ‘I dwell on a high and holy place, And also with the contrite and lowly of spirit In order to revive the spirit of the lowly And to revive the heart of the contrite.’”

-- Isaiah 57:15

“Thus says the LORD, ‘Heaven is My throne and the earth is My footstool. Where then is a house you could build for Me? And where is a place that I may rest? ² ‘For My hand made all these things, thus all these things came into being,’ declares the LORD. ‘But to this one I will look, to him who is humble and contrite of spirit, and who trembles at My word.’”

-- Isaiah 66:1-2

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