Grace Church of Dunedin

The Gracelet

Today's Sermon:

PERSONAL JESUS

LOVE: The Letter of 1st John Pt. 9

July 2, 2017

Hello friends. Welcome to Grace Church! Thank you for choosing to seek, grow, and worship with us today. All are welcome.

REFLECTION + RESPONSE:

(portions inspired by 1 John and "The Lord's Prayer")

Reader: God of Love and Truth, this morning we remember that you are always present. We bring to you all our fears, struggles, anxieties and doubts. Awaken us from our spiritual slumber. Help us to see and embrace your invitation into your life.

All: **Lord, may it be.**

Reader: Open our ears and soften our hearts. May we hear your pronouncements that we are your kids, that we will always belong to you, and help us to walk in your love.

All: **Lord, may it be.**

Ready: Gracious and Strong One, remind us of the truth that the ONE inside of us is greater than anything we will ever face. And may this overcoming truth give us peace.

All: **Lord, may it be.**

Reader: And together we pray…

All: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING:

Reader: 1 John 4:1-6

All: **May the Lord add his blessing to the reading, hearing, and doing of his holy Word.**

COMMUNION REFLECTION + PREPARATION:

Elder: Heavenly Father, as we prepare to receive the bread and the cup, we confess to you that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

ALL: **Lord, have mercy on us.**

ELDER: We acknowledge and readily admit that we have not loved you with our whole heart nor have we loved our neighbor as ourself.

All: **Lord, forgive us.**

* continued on other side *

ELDER: Because of Christ and your endless love, we are completely forgiven, pardoned, and declared to be your child. Gracious God, help us to accept and believe this reality. And help us to discern and live as one who belongs to you.

(sacrament instructions)

Elder: On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Elder: Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me."

Elder: And as often as we eat of this bread and drink of this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

All: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. Amen.**

CLOSING PRAYER + BENEDICTION:

Elder: Almighty God, we pray for those who are suffering and in need of healing. We pray for those experiencing despair, relational strife, and financial stress. We pray for our family and friends, for our church, for our community, and for everyone in the world.

All: **May the light of Christ shine upon them and bring them peace.**

(Silently pray for someone you know in need of God's help.)

Elder: God of Love, Victory, and Truth, help us to live as Jesus lived and to love as Jesus loved.

All: **May we dare to be PEACEFUL in a violent world, KIND in a competitive culture, FAITHFUL in an age of cynicism, GENTLE amongst those who admire forcefulness, and may we dare to LOVE even when it may not be returned to us. Amen**

(closing words)

Elder: Grace + peace to all of you…

All: **And to you as well.**

GIVING + FINANCES:

Monthly Operating Expenses: $8,571.89

June's General Income (as of 06.26.17): $8,368.00

May's General Income: $9,361.09

Make checks payable to:

Grace Church of Dunedin PO Box #421 Dunedin, FL 34698

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