



Grace Church of Dunedin

# The Gracelet

Today's Sermon:

## GOD IS LOVE PT. 1

*LOVE: The Letter of 1<sup>st</sup> John Pt. 10*

July 9, 2017

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

### REFLECTION + RESPONSE:

Reader: God of Love and Presence, this morning we remember that you are always present and we bring to you all our fears, struggles, anxieties, doubts and broken hearts. Weighed down by so many 'should haves' and 'what-ifs,' help us to rest in your faithful love as we lay down our guilt, regrets, and shame.

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

Reader: Open our ears and soften our hearts. May we hear your pronouncements that we are your children; and help us to live like those who know they are completed and fully accepted by you.

All: **As we accept your relentless love, help us to love one another.**

Ready: God of Love and Compassion, as those striving to know and follow Jesus, help us to live as Jesus lived and love as Jesus loved.

All: **As we love one another, we discover your love for us.**

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 4:7-21

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.**

ELDER: Because of Christ and your endless love, we are completely forgiven, pardoned, and declared to belong to you. Amen.

(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: As the weak realize their strength; as the poor eat and are satisfied, God's love abides in us. As the stranger finds a friend; as the family offers forgiveness, God's love abides in us. As the ends of the earth know of Christ's grace, God's love abides in us.

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

Thank you for your faithful giving!

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