

Theme for Worship: Isaiah 26:3-4

You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.

⁴ Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD GOD is an everlasting rock.

Welcome

Announcements

Prayer of Approach

Call to Worship: Psalm 119:97-105

Pastor: Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day.

Congregation: Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me.

Pastor: I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your testimonies are my meditation.

Congregation: I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts.

Pastor: I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep your word.

Congregation: I do not turn aside from your rules, for you have taught me.

Pastor: How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Congregation: Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.

Unison: Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Prayer of Adoration & the Lord's Prayer

Hymn: #92 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 19

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

2 Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.

3 There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard.

4 Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

In them he has set a tent for the sun,

5 which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

6 Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

⁷ The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;

8 the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;

9 the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.

11 Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

¹² Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

13 Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me!

Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,

O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

New Testament Reading: 2 Timothy 3:1-17

But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. ² For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³ heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, ⁴ treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵ having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people. ⁶ For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions, ⁷ always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth. ⁸ Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so

these men also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind and disqualified regarding the faith. ⁹ But they will not get very far, for their folly will be plain to all, as was that of those two men.

¹⁰ You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, ¹¹ my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. ¹² Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, ¹³ while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. ¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Morning Prayer: Deacon Mark DeMasie (9am only)

Hymn #147 “O God of Light, Your Word, a Lamp Unfailing”

Confession of Faith: Westminster Confession of Faith, Chapter 1, Paragraph 4 & 5

4. The authority of the holy Scripture, for which it ought to be believed and obeyed, dependeth not upon the testimony of any man or church, but wholly upon God (who is truth itself), the Author thereof; and therefore it is to be received, because it is the Word of God.

5. We may be moved and induced by the testimony of the Church to an high and reverent esteem of the holy Scripture; and the heavenliness of the matter, the efficacy of the doctrine, the majesty of the style, the consent of all the parts, the scope of the whole (which is to give all glory to God), the full discovery it makes of the only way of man’s salvation, the many other incomparable excellencies, and the entire perfection thereof, are arguments whereby it doth abundantly evidence itself to be the Word of God; yet, notwithstanding, our full persuasion and assurance of the infallible truth, and divine authority thereof, is from the inward work of the Holy Spirit, bearing witness by and with the Word in our hearts.

Doxology

Offering Prayer

Scripture Reading: Acts 6:1-7

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. ² And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. ³ Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. ⁴ But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” ⁵ And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ⁶ These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷ And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

Message: “The Word of God Continues to Increase through the Faithful Priorities of the Church”

Introduction:

A Serious Problem

v.1

-a growing church

-a serious problem

-widows being neglected

A Warning

v.2

-the right thing to do

A Solution Proposed

v.3-4

Part A: v.3: Choose 7 men:

Part B: v.4: But we will devote ourselves...

The Solution Implemented

v.5-6

-was pleasing

-their response

The Life-Changing Power of the Solution

v.7

-the Word of God continued to increase

-the number of disciples multiplied

-many priests came to faith

Conclusion

Hymn: #705 "I Know Whom I Have Believed"

Benediction

NOTES:

Attendance for 10/18 - 9am – 25 10:30am – 94 Streaming – 16
Offering: \$9,938.00 Missions: \$412.00

TONIGHT – 5pm Outdoor Hymn Sing

Wednesday, October 28 – 7pm Zoom Prayer meeting (link will be sent out Monday)

HELP the Deacons help Wheeler Mission! This is a long-standing project that Grace Church has supported over many years. Our goal is to provide 70 Thanksgiving baskets; Wheeler can assemble each basket for \$30. Please memo your check "Thanksgiving Baskets," and put it in the offering plate. Thank you!

Missionary Christmas is coming... Things will be a little different this year, but we have some great ways to still give to our missionaries and let them feel loved by Grace Church this holiday season. Be on the lookout next week for more details.

The **Wednesday Morning Men's Bible Study** will be starting a new study on John's three epistles starting on October 21st. We meet each Wednesday from 7am to 8am on Zoom. We will be using "1–3 John: A 12-Week Study" from the Knowing the Bible series. Please contact Ryan Clarke to get the Amazon purchase link (currently \$8), to get added to our email group, and the link to the Zoom meeting.

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES! Things are different this year but we're still sending a box of cheer to our 3 college students – Wil Peoples, Sarah Haag and Emily Waye. Your donations of salty snacks, sweet treats, etc... can be dropped off in the narthex through TODAY. Contact Kathy Kimball with any questions, 317-578-8293.

Sunday School Update: We are currently planning to begin a Family Sunday School class in November. More details to come.

Missionary Update:

Jill -

From recent updates: “The virus is not the only invisible enemy. Satan’s “craft and power are great” - but he cannot stop God’s work!

iWorld is the Liberal Arts course we wrote for university instruction. It is getting rave reviews. It is in high demand.

This is great news - except the teachers all have to teach online for the time being. Students and teachers are in several different countries. It’s not impossible, it’s just a little awkward.

Since one of the first things you learn when studying to become a teacher is “give students 'Think Time' - we don’t want to rush them if they are thinking or embarrass them if they don’t know the answer.

Having meetings and teaching lessons in this format (Zoom, Skype or WhatsApp) are a challenge! Sometimes it leads to “interesting” comments: “I think the idea is great, thank you for watching me think about it!”

In spite of the difficulties, we all are undaunted because HE continues to open doors that we would never have imagined this time last year!

75% of all people in the world are oral communicators. This means they cannot, do not, or will not learn through reading. Technology has changed everything. Everyone has a mobile phone - even if they don’t have a floor in their house. Therefore, we are changing the way we present the Bible stories and evangelism materials. This fall we will be learning a new drawing software to make this happen.

Please continue to pray for the doors God is opening through technology - even if it has its drawbacks!”

MTW 30 Days of Prayer begins November 1. Please find on the link for a printable version: https://www.mtw.org/30-days-of-prayer?utm_source=30+Days+of+Prayer+%E2%80%94+2019&utm_campaign=6121234f8b-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_07_02_08_02_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_8221b0fa21-6121234f8b-1248366591

Or via Instagram: @mtwglobal

Women’s Hygiene Kits for Wheeler Mission:

We hope to collect at least 30 **full size items** of each of following:

- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Tooth paste
- Tooth brushes
- Body wash
- Face clothes
- Bath soap
- Hair Brush, Pics and Combs (optional)
- Ethnic Hair products (optional & not necessary for all kits)

Boxes will be out in the narthex and by the office entrance to collect supplies until November 16. We are also asking for volunteers to pack the kits during the week of November 16th at church. See sign-up to help. The kits will be delivered to Wheeler the first week of December.