



gracefallschurch.org  GraceFallsChurchVA  gracelutheranchurchva  Grace Falls Church

M: Minister

A: All

WELCOME

HYMN:

“Brothers, Sisters, Let Us Gladly”
found on page 6 of this worship folder

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

A: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: God created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

A: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

A: Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

The minister offers the Prayer of the Day.

THE READING OF GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON:

Judges 16:22-31

But the hair on his head began to grow again after it had been shaved.²³ Now the rulers of the Philistines assembled to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to celebrate, saying, "Our god has delivered Samson, our enemy, into our hands."²⁴ When the people saw him, they praised their god, saying, "Our god has delivered our enemy into our hands, the one who laid waste our land and multiplied our slain."²⁵ While they were in high spirits, they shouted, "Bring out Samson to entertain us." So they called Samson out of the prison, and he performed for them. When they stood him among the pillars,²⁶ Samson said to the servant who held his hand, "Put me where I can feel the pillars that support the temple, so that I may lean against them."²⁷ Now the temple was crowded with men and women; all the rulers of the Philistines were there, and on the roof were about three thousand men and women watching Samson perform.²⁸ Then Samson prayed to the Lord, "Sovereign Lord, remember me. Please, God, strengthen me just once more, and let me with one blow get revenge on the Philistines for my two eyes."²⁹ Then Samson reached toward the two central pillars on which the temple stood. Bracing himself against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other,³⁰ Samson said, "Let me die with the Philistines!" Then he pushed with all his might, and down came the temple on the rulers and all the people in it. Thus he killed many more when he died than while he lived.³¹ Then his brothers and his father's whole family went down to get him. They brought him back and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had led Israel twenty years.

SECOND LESSON:

Romans 12:1-8

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.³ For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you.⁴ For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function,⁵ so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.⁶ We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith;⁷ if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach;⁸ if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

A:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

HYMN:

“What Is the World to Me”
found on page 8 of this worship folder

MESSAGE

“Death that Brings Life”
based on Matthew 16:21-26

Matthew 16:21-26

From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. ²² Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!” ²³ Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.” ²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. ²⁶ What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?”

PRAYERS & BLESSING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The minister offers the Prayer of the Church.

LORD'S PRAYER

A: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

M: May God grant you good health and hope in Jesus.

HYMN:

“Take the World, but Give Me Jesus”
found on page 10 of this worship folder

BLESSING

484

Brothers, Sisters, Let Us Gladly

1 Broth - ers, sis - ters, let us glad - ly Give to God our all, our
2 By his mer - cy, by his boun - ty, By the gift of Christ, his
3 Gra - cious Lord, ac - cept our ser - vice For the sake of Christ, your

best — Ser - vice heart - y, thor - ough, hon - est, With a liv - ing
Son, What great good - ness he has shown us, What high mar - vels
Son; Lo, our hope a - bides now on - ly In the right - eous-

love im - pressed. All our du - ty, all our striv - ing,
he has done! Let us to him prompt - ly, free - ly,
ness he won. Bless and save us; help and guide us;

All our time to him be - long; Praise him, then, with
Yield our bod - ies and our souls, Thank - ful that his
Watch to com - fort and re - store Till in heav'n we

true de - vo - tion; Come be - fore him with a song.
 love pro - tects us, That his wis - dom all con - trols.
 rest re - joic - ing, Prais - ing you for - ev - er - more.

Text: Henry Bateman, 1802-72, alt.
 Tune: *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, Harrisburg, 1813, alt.

NETTLETON
 87 87 D

We Give Thee but Thine Own 485

1 We give thee but thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;
 2 May we thy boun - ties thus As stew - ards true re - ceive
 3 Oh, hearts are bruised and dead, And homes are bare and cold,
 4 To com - fort and to bless, To find a balm for woe,

All that we have is thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from thee.
 And glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, To thee our first - fruits give.
 And lambs for whom the shep - herd bled Are stray - ing from the fold.
 To tend the lone and fa - ther - less, Is an - gels' work be - low.

5 The captives to release,
 To God the lost to bring,
 To teach the way of life and peace —
 It is a Christ-like thing.

6 And we believe thy Word
 Though dim our faith may be:
 Whate'er for thine we do, O Lord,
 We do it unto thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823-97
 Tune: William H. Monk, 1823-89

ENERGY
 SM

Alternate setting: 555

What Is the World to Me

477

1 What is the world to me With all its vaunt-ed plea - sure
 2 The world seeks to be praised And hon - ored by the might - y,
 3 The world seeks af - ter wealth And all that mon - ey of - fers,
 4 What is the world to me! My Je - sus is my trea - sure,

When you, and you a - lone, Lord Je - sus, are my trea - sure!
 Yet nev - er once re - flects That they are frail and flight - y.
 Yet nev - er is con - tent Though gold should fill its cof - fers.
 My life, my health, my wealth, My friend, my love, my plea - sure,

You on - ly, dear - est Lord, My soul's de - light shall be;
 But what I tru - ly prize A - bove all things is he,
 I have a high - er good; Con - tent with it I'll be;
 My joy, my crown, my all, My bliss e - ter - nal - ly.

You are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!
 My Je - sus, he a - lone. What is the world to me!
 My Je - sus is my wealth — What is the world to me!
 Once more then I de - clare: What is the world to me!

Text: Georg M. Pfefferkorn, 1645-1732, abr.; tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.
 Tune: Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629-1701, alt.

WAS FRAG ICH NACH DER WELT
 67 67 66 66

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Alternate setting: 20

355 Take the World, but Give Me Jesus

1 Take the world, but give me Je-sus! All its joys are but a
 2 Take the world, but give me Je-sus, Sweet-est com - fort of my
 3 Take the world, but give me Je-sus! In his cross my trust shall

name. But his love a - bides for - ev - er, Through e -
 soul. With the Sav - ior watch - ing o'er me, I can
 be Till with clear - er, bright - er vi - sion Face to

Refrain

ter sing - nal years the same. Oh, the height and depth of
 face though thun - ders roll. my Lord I see.

mer - cy; Oh, the length and breadth of love! Oh, the

full - ness of re - demp - tion, Pledge of end - less life a - bove!

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915, abr., alt.
 Tune: J. Paul Williams, b. 1937, and Donna L. Williams, b. 1940

GIVE ME JESUS
 87 87 with Refrain

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You Are the Way; through You Alone 356

1 You are the way; through you a - lone Can we the Fa - ther find;
 2 You are the truth; your Word a - lone True wis - dom can im - part.
 3 You are the life; the emp - ty tomb Pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm,
 4 You are the way, the truth, the life; Grant us that way to know,

In you, O Christ, has God re - vealed His heart and will and mind.
 You on - ly can in - form the mind And pu - ri - fy the heart.
 And those who put their trust in you Not death nor hell shall harm.
 That truth to keep, that life to win Whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799-1859, alt.
 Tune: *The Cl. Psalms of David*, Edinburgh, 1615

DUNDEE
 CM

Alternate setting: 420

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