

# Divine Worship

John 1.14-18  
“Grace for Grace”

## Preparation: Psalm 102.1, 2

Hear my prayer, O LORD,  
And let my cry come to You.  
Do not hide Your face from me in the day of my trouble;  
Incline Your ear to me;  
In the day that I call, answer me speedily.

## Silent Meditation

## Call to Worship

Leader:

You, O LORD, shall endure forever. Let the remembrance of His Name reach to all generations.

## Psalm 102.12, 13 (adapted)

People:

You will arise and have mercy on Zion, for the time to favor her, yes, the set time, has come.

## Hymn of Praise

## “[Grace Greater than Our Sin](#)” 1, 2, 4

Julia H. Johnston

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,  
Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt!  
Yonder on Calvary’s mount outpoured,  
There where the blood of the Lamb was spilled.

*Refrain*

Grace, grace, God’s grace,  
Grace that will pardon and cleanse within;  
Grace, grace, God’s grace,  
Grace that is greater than all our sin.

Sin and despair, like the sea waves cold,  
Threaten the soul with infinite loss;  
Grace that is greater, yes, grace untold,  
Points to the refuge, the mighty cross.

*Refrain*

Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace,  
Freely bestowed on all who believe!  
You that are longing to see His face,  
Will you this moment His grace receive?

*Refrain*

## Invocation and Call to Confession

Leader:

Lord Jesus, Bringer of grace and truth, Friend of sinners, Savior of all who trust in You, Son of God and Son of Man, we worship You, together with the Father and the Spirit. We ask You to send Your Spirit to us, that

we may worship truly, in Spirit and in truth. And we ask You to search us as we come before You, and show us any sins that may impede our worship, as we come before You in silent confession. **Hear our silent confessions of sin, O Lord.**

### **Silent Confession**

**All**

### **Word of Assurance**

**Psalm 102.17 (adapted)**

Leader:

Lord, we thank You that You hear these the prayers of Your destitute people, and that You regard us in our need, and do not despise our prayers. We thank You for Your grace, which is indeed greater than all our sin.

### **Hymn of Assurance**

**“Grace Greater than Our Sin” 1, 2, 4**

**Julia H. Johnston**

Dark is the stain that we cannot hide.

What can we do to wash it away?

Look! There is flowing a crimson tide,

Brighter than snow you may be today.

*Refrain*

Grace, grace, God’s grace,

Grace that will pardon and cleanse within;

Grace, grace, God’s grace,

Grace that is greater than all our sin.

### **Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving**

Leader:

Let us bring our offerings of praise and thanksgiving, and set them together before the Lord in prayer.

All may offer prayers of praise and thanks to the Lord. At the end of these prayers, the Leader shall **lead the people in praying the Lord’s Prayer.**

### **Offerings to the Lord**

Leader:

Let us now bring our offerings to honor the Lord and edify one another by His Word: a passage of Scripture which has been particularly helpful; a brief word of praise for some grace of God bestowed; an observation from creation which revealed the glory of the Lord; a word of appreciation for some aspect of the beauty, goodness, or truth of the Lord.

When as many as like have shared, the **Leader shall pray:**

We give You thanks and praise, O Lord, and offer our confession of faith together (**all together, saying the Apostles’ Creed**):

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

### The Doxology

All

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!  
Praise Him, all creatures, here below!  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts!  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!  
Amen!

### Prayers of the People

All may offer prayers of intercession or supplication, seeking mercy and grace to help in our time of need. **At the end, let all together join the Leader in praying Psalm 102.12-16:**

You, O LORD, shall endure forever,  
And the remembrance of Your name to all generations.  
You will arise *and* have mercy on Zion;  
For the time to favor her,  
Yes, the set time, has come.  
For Your servants take pleasure in her stones,  
And show favor to her dust.  
So the nations shall fear the name of the LORD,  
And all the kings of the earth Your glory.  
For the LORD shall build up Zion;  
He shall appear in His glory.

### The Ministry of the Word

John 1.14-18

The Leader will read the passage for today, or ask another to read it.

John writes that all who believe in Jesus have received of His fullness. That fullness is ours in the Person of the Holy Spirit, Who dwells in all who believe. He is God's exceedingly abundant power, at work within us, to transform us in the very likeness of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The fullness of Jesus which we have received comes to us like a seed, to take root in our soul and begin to grow, flourish, and bear fruit. And the fruit that seed of fullness bears is grace.

John says that we received the grace of Jesus *for* grace – that is, for the purpose of increasing grace in and through us. We can say three things about the grace of God, each of which applies to us as the grace of Jesus' fullness increases in us.

1. First, grace is a *divine disposition*. It's how God looks upon us, His people. How would you describe that disposition?

2. Second, grace is *divine communication*. What are some of the key components of God's gracious communications to us?
3. Third, grace is *divine power*, operating within us by His Spirit, to make us willing and able to do that which aligns with the pleasure of God. What kinds of things might that include?

Because Jesus brings grace and truth into our lives, He is the fulfillment of the Law. We are no longer under its threats of judgment. And we do not have to keep the Law to earn salvation. John says that Jesus "declared" the Father in His incarnation and saving work. That declaration is a declaration of grace.

4. What did Jesus "declare" about the grace of God by His life, death, and resurrection?

The grace we have received becomes the grace by which we live and declare Jesus to the world. It is very important, as Peter explained, that each follower of Jesus be firmly committed to growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior (2 Peter 3.18).

5. What do we need to do to grow the seed of grace that has been planted within us? How can believers help and encourage one another in this?
6. How should we expect grace to flourish within and through us? What forms will it take, as the fullness of Jesus blossoms in us?

Let's spend a few moments giving thanks to God for the grace of His fullness in Jesus Christ. **All may pray.** Then the **Leader will introduce the Hymn of Commitment.**

### **Hymn of Commitment**

**Psalm 102.1-4, 12-14, 22-24**

(Leominster: [\*Not What My Hands Have Done\*](#))

Lord, hear my prayer and cry; hide not Your face from me!  
In my distress and tears I sigh – Lord, hear my earnest plea!  
My days like smoke blow past; my bones are scorched with sin.  
My heart, like wilted, withered grass bends low to earth again.

But You, O Lord, abide forever in Your place.  
Arise and stand on Zion's side and lavish us with grace!  
Revive Your Church, O Lord! Let all her dust and stones  
Be strengthened by Your mighty Word, and compact be as one.

Yet let us tell God's Name and praise His glorious grace.  
Let all as one His love proclaim together in this place.  
Though now our strength is low; though shortened grow our days,  
Our God will not forsake us so, but keep us in His ways!

### **Benediction**

**Psalm 102.27, 28 (adapted)**

Leader:

The LORD is unchanging, and His years have no end. Let His servants and their children be established and continue before Him, now and forevermore.

*Divine Worship: John 1.14-18*

All:  
Amen!

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