

EAGER AVENUE GRACE CHURCH

That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 5:21

Worship Services

Sunday January 19, 2020

10 am: "No Power but of God"
Romans Series | Lesson 74
Romans 13:1-7
Bill Parker

11 am: "Issues of Repetance"
2 Peter 3:1-10
Bill Parker

Live Stream

Every Sunday 10 & 11 a.m.
sermonaudio.com/reignofgrace

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The Vine and the Branches

The Lord said, *"I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without Me ye can do nothing"* (John 15:5). There is no sound Scriptural argument that would excuse God's children to be negligent in the obedience of faith and love. Sinners saved by grace are to live by grace, looking unto Christ for their whole salvation and righteousness before God. They have been made holy in and by Christ, which means they have been separated from the world by God. This separation means they are not to be joined with the world in unbelief and disobedience, whether moral or religious. If we are in Christ, He is the Vine, and we are the branches. The life is in and from the Vine, which is Christ Who is our life (*Gal. 2:19-21; Col. 3:1-4*). Where sinners are IN HIM, there is life, and where there is life, there is fruit. The branches (Christ's justified, redeemed, and regenerated people) bear the fruit of the Vine. This fruit is faith, repentance, and obedience in following Christ according to His Word.

—Pastor Bill Parker

Christ Our Surety

Our Surety is expressly said to have been made both sin and a curse for His redeemed, that they **“might be made the righteousness of God in Him” (II Cor. 5:21; Galatians 3:13)**. And what a blessedness is there contained in this one view of the completeness of the church in Jesus! So that, in the very moment that the child of God feels the workings of corruption within him, and is groaning under a body of sin and death, which he carries about with him, though he sees nothing in himself but sin and imperfection, yea, sometimes, as it appears to him growing imperfections, yet looking to the Lord Jesus as his Surety, and considering the Redeemer’s holiness, and not anything in himself, as the standard of justification, here he rests his well-founded hope. This was blessedly set forth by the Holy Ghost – **“Surely, shall one say, even to Him shall men come, and all that are incensed against Him shall be ashamed” (Isaiah 45:24)**.
—Robert Hawker

Look at a candle and how it burns. The more the light shines, the more the candle diminishes. What a beautiful illustration of the believer in Christ! The more he learns the Gospel of Christ, the more precious Christ becomes and the less he thinks of himself. One who is truly the Lord’s shines forth the light of HIS righteousness, grace, goodness, mercy, forgiveness, and truth. In so shining, self does not get bigger and more noticeable – CHRIST does! The glory is not to self but to HIM. John the Baptist said, **“He must increase, but I must decrease” (John 3:30)**.
—Author Unknown

Prayer is not a law duty to an absolute God, but a gracious intercourse with a covenant God not practiced that He may love us, but because He loves us; not to make us His children, but because we are His children. It should be performed always in this faith. If there be infirmities in it, such as wandering, coldness, or the like, we are to remember that we are not heard for the beauty of our prayers, nor answered for the fervency of them. That which makes our persons accepted obtains acceptance for our services also. We and all we do are only accepted in the Beloved. **“For through HIM we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father” (Eph. 2:18)**. Our access is through Jesus Christ. Trusting to His finished salvation we enter into the presence of the Father. And guided by the Holy Spirit we pray in faith. Whatever we ask in the Son’s name, we know that we have the petitions which He desired of Him. This spiritualizes prayer, and puts glory upon it, because there is heavenly fellowship with God in it, with the Father through the Son, by the one Spirit.
—William Romaine

Sympathies

We extend our sincere sympathies and prayers for Becky Pannell and family upon the death of her mother, Mrs. Clara Edith McCormick, who passed away last Sunday, January 12, 2020. May the Lord give them the comfort that only He can give in their time of grief.

Hymns for 1.12 services

Only a Sinner - 474 | Depth of Mercy - 477

Birthdays

RICHMAN MARGESON - JAN. 20TH | BILL SPARKS - JAN. 22ND

Call To Worship

(Tune – O For A Thousand Tongues – p. 46)

**Now gracious God, Thine arm reveal
And make Thy glory known;
Now let us all Thy presence feel
And soften hearts of stone.**

**Help us to venture near Thy throne
And plead our Savior's name;
For all that we can call our own
Is vanity and shame.**

**From all the guilt of wretched sin
May mercy set us free;
And let the week we now begin
Begin and end with Thee.**

**Send down Thy Spirit from above
That we may love Thee more;
And others now may learn to love
Who never loved before.**

Why We Do Not Give “Altar Calls”

We do not give altar calls or invitations at the close of the service, nor do we pressure men and women to make a “decision” and join the church. In the preaching of the Gospel, people are called upon to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and come to Him. Christ is our eternal high priest, sacrifice, and altar. Salvation is coming to HIM alone for forgiveness, righteousness, and eternal life. This is a heart work conducted entirely between the sinner and the Saviour. One may ask, “How, then, do I confess Christ publicly?” The command and example of Scripture for publicly confessing Christ is believer’s baptism. If, through the preaching of the Gospel, God by His Spirit has graciously revealed Christ to your heart and given you faith to believe on Him for all of your salvation; and you would like to confess Him in baptism and/or unite with this assembly of believers, please let me know.

—Pastor Bill Parker