

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 28, 2024

10 am: "Christ - Lord of the Sabbath" | Matthew 12:1-8
Matthew Series | Lesson 43
Bill Parker

11 am: "Olive Trees and Candlesticks" | Rev. 11:1-4
Bill Parker

Live Stream

Every Sunday 10 & 11 a.m.

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Perfection Required — Perfection Given

“Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.” (Matthew 5:48)

Was there ever such a refinement of the most perfect law of the LORD as is here drawn? And where shall we look for the fulfillment of it but in the Lord Jesus Himself? He indeed, and He only, observed it in the fullest extent of it. And, therefore, the close of this chapter is express to the purpose with an eye to Him. **“Be ye perfect”** — that is, in the perfection of Jesus, for there is no other way of finding perfection but in Him. What men talk of respecting sincerity for perfection, is a fancy formed nowhere but in their own brain. But as the members of the body partake in all that belongs to the head, so the members of Christ’s body are considered perfect in Him. And when Jesus saith **“be ye perfect,”** He wills what He commands. His biddings are enablings. “Be ye perfect IN ME.” Hence, the answer by the prophet — **“Surely in the LORD have I righteousness and strength,”** or as the apostle renders it, **“perfect in”** Christ Jesus (*Isaiah 45:24-25; Colossians 1:28; 1 Corinthians 1:30*).

—Robert Hawker

“O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our Maker. For HE is our God; and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand ...” (Psalm 95:6-7)

“Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.” (Philippians 1:6)

We have every reason to be confident concerning the salvation that is of the LORD (*Isaiah 46:9-12*).

- His purpose cannot be defeated; (*Romans 8:29-30; Ephesians 1:11*).
 - His grace cannot be frustrated; (*Galatians 2:20-21; 2 Timothy 1:9*).
 - His love cannot fail; (*1 Corinthians 13:8; Romans 8:39*).
 - His promise will be fulfilled; (*Romans 4:20-21; 2 Corinthians 1:20*).
 - His blood cannot be shed in vain; (*Hebrews 9:11-12; Hebrews 9:26*).
 - His power cannot be resisted; (*Psalm 135:6; Daniel 4:35*).
 - His people cannot perish; (*John 6:37-39; John 10:27-30*). —Copied
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“Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you.” (1 Peter 5:6-7)

Anxiety (anxious care) is undo worry about things we cannot control. The fact is this – We really do not control anything. We try to make informed and wise decisions considering that there may be unforeseen problems. We know that there are things hidden from us and things revealed to us, so we operate by the revealed things (*Deut. 29:29*). In the end, we know that it is God alone Who really controls all things for His glory and the good of His people in Christ. And so, the cure for anxious care is God-given faith which brings us down to realize our ignorance, inability, and need of God’s power and grace in Christ. When we worry, it is because we are looking at the world with all of its problems, or we are looking to ourselves with all of our problems. But by looking unto Christ alone for all that is good and eternal, we cast all our cares upon Him and realize that He cares for us. The apostle wrote, ***“Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God” (Philippians 4:6)***. Someone once wrote, “Anxious care is foolish; for far beyond the region within which your anxieties move, there is the greater region in which there must be entire dependence upon God.” Realizing that our whole lives, now and forever, are dependent upon God Who loves us and gave His Son to redeem us by His blood, we truly can enjoy the peace of God that passes all understanding. It is by this that God keeps our hearts and minds in looking to and resting in the Lord Jesus Christ.

—Pastor Bill Parker

Welcome

We welcome James and Jackson Tennyson into the fellowship of our church family. They both joined our local assembly by confessing their faith in Christ in believer’s baptism this past Sunday. They live in Nashville, TN, so they will worship with us via the internet except when they come home to visit. May the Lord bless them in their walk of faith.

Sympathies

We extend our deepest sympathy and prayers to Myrt Harris and family upon the death of her husband, Francis Harris. Francis was a dear friend for many years to many in this church.

Prayer Requests

Patricia Pannell, Alex Wages, Audrey Asher, Kathy Robinson, Lori Ann Loosier, Leon Drake, Akemi Okada, Sue Parker, Melissa Riggins, Todd Wiley, Banks Margeson, the mission in Malawi, Africa.

Birthdays

Brent Cox – Jan. 30th | Molly Fuller – Jan. 31st

Hymns

January 21st services

-Look to the Lamb of God - 216

-Hallelujah, What a Savior! - 127

Call to Worship

(Tune – Majestic Sweetness Sits Enthroned – p. 52)

(Words by Pastor Gary Shepard)

O God into whose presence now,
We come as sinners low,
And trace all blessings to your throne,
Received by us below. (R)

O precious Christ whose blood alone,
Did put away our sin,
Whose righteous death there in our place,
Did our redemption win. (R)

Stir now our hearts to praise your Name,
And glory to you give.
Be this our purpose and our goal,
In all the days you give. (R)

Then raise us up when death has come,
To live with you above;
And with the people of your choice,
There sing your matchless love. (R)