# 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, May 21, 2023** 10am: "The Blessings of God's Grace (1)" | Lesson 11 Matthew 5:1-11 Bill Parker

11am: "Exhortations of Grace" Philippians 4:1-9 Bill Parker

#### Live Stream

Every Sunday 10 & 11 a.m. -<u>Sermon Audio</u> -<u>Facebook</u> -<u>YouTube</u>

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## Did the Spirit of God Ever Convince You of Sin?

Do you see yourself liable to the curse of the law, and the just vengeance of God, for the innate depravity of your nature, and the transgressions of your life? Do you come to Christ humbled and self-condemned, sensible that unless you are clothed with the merits of Him, our Elder Brother, you are ruined and undone and can never stand with joy or safety before the holy Lord God? If so, lift up thy head; redemption is thine; thou art in a state of grace; thou art translated from death to life; thou art an heir of God, and a jointheir with Christ.

But if you never felt, nor desire to feel this work of the Holy Ghost upon thy heart, this conviction of sin, this penitential faith, all the supposed righteousness of thine own, wherein thou trusted is but a broken reed; a painted sepulchre; and the trappings of a Pharisee. —Augustus Toplady

# *"Wisdom is before him that hath understanding; but the eyes of a fool are in the ends of the earth." (Proverbs 17:24)*

True wisdom from God is given by revelation found in the Lord Jesus Christ and the salvation He has secured for His people by His obedience unto death as the Surety, Substitute, and Redeemer of God's people. Christ is our wisdom, and those who are wise view all things in heaven and earth as they relate to Christ in the glory of His Person and the power of His finished work. The foolish, on the other hand, view all things as they relate to the earth in all that it can provide. The fool views salvation, heaven, and glory as filtered through the things of the earth and the flesh. He judges all things as they compare to the glory of man, not the glory of God in Christ. This is why it takes a powerful revelation from God in His Word to make us wise unto salvation (2 Tim. 3:14-17) and to give us an understanding of how God saves sinners by His grace through Jesus Christ the Lord (1 John 5:20). Consider the infinite wisdom of God to devise the only way of salvation that glorifies Him as both a just and truthful Judge as well as a gracious and merciful Savior. It is through the Lord Jesus Christ Who, as the Surety and Substitute of His people, went under the just wrath of God and by His obedience unto death satisfied the justice of God to bring forth righteousness by which God has justified all His people and from which He gives them life. This is the wisdom of God that brings understanding to His people. —Pastor Bill Parker

#### **All Is Finished**

You know this doctrine I contend for is the doctrine of grace. In the knowledge whereof you find sweetness, BECAUSE THE WORK OF YOUR SALVATION IS FINISHED BY CHRIST, WHOSE WORKS ARE ALL PERFECT. This delights your hearts and keeps your souls from fainting. This removes all objections that otherwise would discourage us. This is the fountain that cannot be drawn dry that ever flows with sweet and strong consolation and is full of Spirit and life where our souls may drink freely at all times and be refreshed with this marrow and fatness THAT ALL IS FINISHED.

-Samuel Richardson (Justification by Christ Alone, 1647)

"Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant" (Hebrews 13:20).

#### The Blood of the Everlasting Covenant

O the everlasting salvation that we have in Jesus Christ! He is the same, and will be the same, forever and ever, and the righteousness He has wrought out for us is like Himself, an everlasting righteousness. It covered our first parents. It is true, they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves, but God rejected them, as He will reject our self-righteousness, and He clothed them with the skins of beasts that had probably been slain in sacrifice. Abraham had to look to this Jesus for righteousness, and so had the prophets, and so have we. It is an everlasting righteousness, covering all the election of grace in ages gone by, covering them all today, and that will cover them all tomorrow, making them accepted in the presence of a holy God. As it is written, we are "accepted in the Beloved," beheld all fair and perfect in the Lord Jesus. And as respects the blood of this salvation, it is the blood of the everlasting covenant. All the church of God in ages past have been purged from sin in the blood of Jesus; and the church of God at this day is looking by faith to the blood of the slaughtered Lamb. It will be the same to us tomorrow and as long as we live, and when we have gone to glory we shall shout, Victory through the blood of the Lamb and the word of His testimony! His blood will still maintain its power. —John Kershaw

#### **Prayer Requests**

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

# Hymns

May 21st services - Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us - 294 - Praise the Savior - 51

# Birthdays

Melissa Riggins - May 22nd

### **Call to Worship**

(Tune – O God Our Help – p. 10)

O may the praises of the Lord, From every heart arise; Declare the glories of our God, Who dwells above the skies.

Sing of His great creative work, By Him the heav'ns were made; Proclaim the wonders of His might, Who earth's foundation laid.

Adore mysterious providence, By Him all things consist; Extol His purpose, wise and good, Who can His will resist?

Behold Jehovah's greatest work, Salvation by His grace; He gave His Son, the ransom Price, To save a chosen race.