



GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
AT CASTLEWOODS

ORDER OF WORSHIP

January 3rd, 2021

MORNING WORSHIP

Thomas Winn — Elder/Pastor

The Prelude Prepare your heart for worship

The Call to Worship Chris Kimbrell

Trinity Hymnal No. 1 "All People that on Earth Do Dwell"

The Prayer of Confession and Praise Seth Lirette

Trinity Hymnal No. 20 "Give to Our God Immortal Praise"

Trinity Hymnal No. 35 "Immortal, Invisible"

The Reading of the Word — *Psalm 25:1-22* Hal Pritchard

Trinity Hymnal No. 403 "Not What My Hands Have Done"

The Pastoral Prayer Pastor Winn

The Sermon — "The Son of God" (*Mark 15:35-39*) Pastor Winn

Observance of The Lord's Supper

Trinity Hymnal No. 437 "Christ of All My Hopes"

The Benediction Hal Pritchard

The Postlude

AFTERNOON WORSHIP

The Prelude Prepare your heart for worship

Baptist Hymnal No. 139 "At the Cross"

Baptist Hymnal No. 291 "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

The Pastoral Prayer Pastor Winn

The Sermon — "The New Covenant" (*Ezekiel 11:14-25*) Hal Pritchard

A Time of Reflection Upon the Word Preached

Baptist Hymnal No. 387 "Blessed Be the Tie"

The Benediction Pastor Winn

The Postlude



COMMENTARY

Elijah, one of the most well known of all the Hebrew prophets, did not die a physical death. Rather, God took him directly to heaven via a whirlwind (2 Kings 2:1–14). That event, plus Elijah’s notoriety and miracles such as his calling down fire from heaven (1 Kings 18:20–40), led to much speculation. By the first century AD, many Jews believed Elijah would intervene in times of desperate need, descending from heaven to give supernatural assistance. Given such a belief, we find it unsurprising that some of the bystanders who watched Jesus hang on the cross believed He was crying out for Elijah’s help (Mark 15:35–36). Probably, they misheard Jesus’ cry of “Eloi, Eloi” as “Elijah, Elijah,” or simply thought He was trying to speak the prophet’s name as He suffered there. In any case, we know that Jesus was not crying for Elijah but was crying out as He bore the wrath of God against the sin of His people. In many respects, the crucifixion of Jesus was not unlike the crucifixion of others in the ancient world. The same processes of scourging and hanging on the cross were followed in every crucifixion. Mark reports two unusual aspects to Christ’s crucifixion, however. (Matt. 27:51–54 reports a third, an earthquake.) First, darkness fell over the land, signifying Jesus’ dying under the divine curse, as we have seen (v. 33). Second, we read in Mark 15:37–38 that the “curtain of the temple” was torn in two. Mark does not tell us whether this was

the curtain separating the Holy of Holies from the Holy Place or the curtain that separated the Court of the Women from the Court of Israel. No one could go past the former curtain into the Holy of Holies except the high priest, and then only once a year (Lev. 16). Only Jewish men could pass through the latter curtain into the Court of Israel; the women were excluded. There are good arguments for either possibility, but no matter which curtain was torn, the message is clear: Jesus’ death opens up access for people that was not possible for them before. Hebrews 10:19–22 makes it clear that this access is into the heavenly throne room. Apart from divine revelation, the darkness, the tearing of the temple curtain, and the earthquake that occurred when Jesus died could all be interpreted as mere coincidences. Most observers likely thought it was just another crucifixion. Yet, one man knew better. The centurion received insight into the death of our Lord, realizing by the manner of His death that He was the Son of God (Mark 15:39). Coral Deo: Dr. R.C. Sproul says in His commentary Mark that the centurion was “the first to realize that something of cosmic significance was happening that afternoon outside Jerusalem.” The centurion was among those most unlikely to recognize Jesus and yet God revealed Christ to him. Let us be grateful that God’s grace extends even to those who seem the most unlikely to receive it.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



We will be observing the Lord's Supper today during the morning service.

We will have our fellowship meal today following our morning service.

The 1st-6th grade children's choir will be singing today before the afternoon service.



The annual business meeting to vote on the 2021 budget will be January 17th. There will be a fellowship meal that Sunday with the business meeting to follow. There will be no evening service.

The Ladies Bible Study will meet January 7th and 21st at 10am.



The church will be hosting the Deep South Founders Conference January 21st-23rd, 2021. If you are able to help with hosting, please see Bro. Thomas. If you would like to register for the conference visit <https://deepsouthfounders.com/registration/>.



The Candlelight Vigil for the Unborn will be Saturday, January 16th at 6pm at [Foundry Church, 3010 Lakeland Cv Ste A, Flowood.](#)

