



GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
AT CASTLEWOODS

ORDER OF WORSHIP
January 22nd, 2023

MORNING WORSHIP

Thomas Winn — Elder/Pastor

The Prelude Prepare your heart for worship

The Call to Worship Chris Kimbrell

Hymn "We Praise Thee O God, Our Redeemer"

The Prayer of Confession and Praise Hal Pritchard

Hymn "Majesty"

Hymn "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

The Reading of the Word — *Jonah 3:1-10* Hal Pritchard

Hymn "Before the Throne of God Above"

The Sermon — "*Fasting and Prayer, Pt. II*" (*Matthew 6:16-18*) Pastor Winn

A Time of Reflection Upon the Word Preached

Hymn "Come Ye Sinners"

The Benediction Hal Pritchard

The Postlude

EVENING WORSHIP

The Prelude Prepare your heart for worship

Hymn "Glory to God on High"

Hymn "Be Still My Soul"

The Pastoral Prayer Pastor Winn

The Sermon — "*The Ultimate Homecoming*" (*Isaiah 35*) Seth Lirette

Hymn "The Love of God"

The Benediction

The Postlude



COMMENTARY

A.W. Pink

How often it was thus with Israel of old; they went through the form of humbling themselves and seeking God's favor, when as David said, "They did flatter Him with their mouth and they lied unto Him with their tongues. For their heart was not right with Him, neither were they steadfast in His covenant" (Ps. 78:36, 37). And thus it is generally with natural men. The whole religion of the deluded papists stands in outward ceremonial acts, partly Jewish and partly heathenish, and when they have observed them they look no farther. And it is no better with tens of thousands among the Protestants, who content themselves with the external acts of going to church, hearing the Word, and "receiving the sacrament" once or twice a year; and when these duties are scrupulously observed they imagine that all is well with them and think God is served sufficiently. Yea, let anyone set before them the real requirements of a thrice holy God and he will at once be sneered at by them as being too strict and precise, puritanical and fanatical. Since our Lord here condemned the fasting of the Pharisees because they rested in the outward work and did it ostentatiously for the praise of men, then how clear it is that the fasting of the papists is an abomination in His sight, for theirs abounds with more numerous abuses. First, they reduce the practice of fasting to a ludicrous farce, by allowing fish and eggs to take

the place of meats and by placing no restriction at all upon wines and other drinks. Second, they bind men in conscience to numerous days of fasting and make the omission thereof a deadly sin, thereby taking away Christian liberty, for neither the Savior nor any of His apostles appointed any set fast days. Third, they make fasting a meritorious performance, teaching that a man thereby renders satisfaction unto Divine justice for his sins, whereby they blasphemously derogate from the sufficiency of Christ's obedience and sacrifice. How the godly should grieve at the spread of such wicked superstitions in our midst. It should now be quite apparent that Christ did not here forbid all fasting as such, but was engaged in correcting the abuses of this ordinance. His words, "When ye fast, be not as the hypocrites," not only take it for granted that His disciples would fast, but manifestly denote that the godly ought to do so, both in private and in public upon just occasion. Nay, if the Savior here rebukes the Pharisees for their perversion of this holy means of grace, then much more must He blame those who fast not at all. This is not a thing indifferent, left to our option, but something which God requires from us, and for the absence of which He may often increase His judgments (Isa. 22:12-14).



RESPONSIBILITIES

Today's Nursery Volunteers

| |
|--|
| January 22nd |
| <i>Morning</i> Allyson Leach & Pogue |
| <i>Evening/Afternoon</i> Mary Hunter Sharp & Lawanda Winn |
| <i>Wednesday - January 25th</i> Lana Wakefield |

Today's Sound Operator - Cody Wallace



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The Preschool and Children's Choir will meet this afternoon.

DEEP SOUTH FOUNDERS CONFERENCE

We will once again be hosting the 16th annual Deep South Founders Conference January 26-28. Our topic this year is "The Assurance of Grace and Salvation". Our featured speakers this year are Geoff Thomas and Jeff Durbin. Make plans to attend and register at graceatcastlewoods.org or dsfc.ticketleap.com/dsfc-2023/.

MEN'S BOOK STUDY

A book study for the men of our church will begin February 18th at 7 am and meet every 2 months on a Saturday morning over breakfast. We will begin with 'Family Shepherds' by Voddie Baucham. Please see Prashant if you are interested so we can ensure enough books are ordered.

