



GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
AT CASTLEWOODS

ORDER OF WORSHIP
October 8th, 2023

MORNING WORSHIP

Thomas Winn — Elder/Pastor

- The Prelude Prepare your heart for worship
- The Call to Worship Chris Kimbrell
- Hymn "Immortal, Invisible"
- The Prayer of Confession and Praise Dirk de Waal
- Hymn "Give to Our God Immortal Praise"
- Hymn "Standing on the Promises"
- The Reading of the Word — *Proverbs 1:20-33* Dirk de Waal
- Hymn "God Be Merciful to Me"
- The Sermon — *"Sowing and Reaping" (Galatians 6:7-10)* Pastor Winn
- A Time of Reflection Upon the Word Preached
- Hymn "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"
- The Benediction Dirk de Waal
- The Postlude

EVENING WORSHIP

- The Prelude Prepare your heart for worship
- Hymn "He Lifted Me"
- Hymn "I Asked the Lord that I Might Grow"
- Prayer
- The Sermon — *"Jesus, the Light of the World" (John 8:12)* Dirk de Waal
- Hymn "Be Strong in the Lord"
- The Benediction
- The Postlude



COMMENTARY

C.H. Spurgeon

Sowing and Reaping

Some trifle with God by holding, practically, if not theoretically, that there will not be rewards for virtue, nor punishment for sin—that one end will come alike to all—that whatever the dignity or the degradation of character may be, we shall all go to the same place and sleep there in oblivion. Or that if there is any future life, it will be common to us all and that, in fact, the whole question concerning the hereafter is a matter so utterly unimportant that we can afford to regard it with complete indifference! But, dear Friends, it is not so. There is an Omnipotent, Omniscient, and Omnipresent God—and He is the moral Governor of the universe. He will not see His laws broken with impunity, His name deferred, His Gospel despised, His Son rejected. He is intensely sensitive to the actions of mankind. He is not a god of granite or of steel. He takes note of the acts, words and even of the thoughts of those whom He has created! And if they are finally impenitent, sooner or later He will say, as He did in Isaiah's day, "I will ease Me of My adversaries and avenge Me of My enemies." Others seem to suppose that, even if there is a future, an eternity of rewards and punishments—the reaping of which this life is the sowing—a bare profession will suffice to save them. They appear to imagine that if they only compliment their Maker with an occasional "Thank God!" and utter a few words of mere formal prayer, and are not grossly licentious, but live tolerably decent lives, that will satisfy God's requirements. Nothing can be more mistaken than such an idea as that! God in the highest heavens is Himself perfectly pure—His perfect Law is like Himself—and it is not for Him to accommodate His righteous Law to the wills of fallen man! Do not fancy that He will accept the mere external homage of your being. He must have your heart, soul, mind, and strength, or He will not be content. It is vain for anyone to attempt to mock God by supposing that anything will do for Him in place of that heart-surrender and heart-service that He demands. There are others who seem to suppose that if they make a profession

of religion, that will suffice. They think that if they attend the parish church or the dissenting chapel and subscribe regularly to religious and philanthropic societies, that is all that is required of them. That is how they mock God—that same God who came to the top of Sinai and there, amidst thunder and lightning—gave the Ten Commandments! But He is not to be satisfied by a bare profession of religion. To confess what we do not really feel is but to increase our sin—a hypocritical profession is a further aggravation of our sin. Does God accept your heartless sacrifices, your meaningless words and empty phrases? No! He is not to be mocked by mere outward religious forms and ceremonies. Others imagine that God can be imposed upon by a formal compliment when they are near death. A man is dying and immediately the cry is, "Send for a minister!" They often send for a dissenting minister, though they have never attended his ministry! And they appear to imagine that by some sort of magic we can work wonders even for the poor creature who is probably unconscious before we get to him! And if he has not trusted in Christ before that time, no one can enable him to do it then. Yet his friends call us up in the middle of the night, thinking that we can do something for him. I am not now speaking of you who regularly hear the Gospel and who are, therefore, likely to know better—yet this opinion is very generally held. But I loathe the idea of having anything of priestly power imputed to me. I have not an atom more power than any of you, my Brothers and Sisters in Christ! I am only a preacher of the Gospel and I would gladly hear the Gospel message from any one of you! It is blasphemous to pretend that sacred unction can be imparted by a mortal man. You must yourselves repent and turn to God—I cannot do this for you. It is your own sowing, in this respect, that must bring you a blessed reaping—not anything that you can get a so-called "priest" or even a minister of the Gospel to sow for you!



RESPONSIBILITIES

Today's Nursery Volunteers

October 8 th
<i>Morning</i> Laurie Price & Sylvie Jones
<i>Evening/Afternoon</i> Lawanda Winn & Bunny Finch
<i>Wednesday - October 11th</i> Bethany Wallace

Today's Sound Operator - Seth Lirette



ANNOUNCEMENTS

GO TELL CRUSADE

The Go Tell Crusade will be October 15-18 at 7:00 pm at the Amphitheater in Brandon. Counselors need to be present at 5:30 each evening. There will be no evening service at Grace on the October 15th. Please pray for this event. Also if you would like to be a counselor and have not yet gone through the training session, please see Dirk or Pastor Thomas.

REFORMATION WEDNESDAY

November 1st we are excited to our children study and present a Bible hero of the faith or reformation leader. We ask all kids kindergarten-3rd grade to sign up for either a Bible hero or reformation leader and all 4th grade and up to sign up for a reformation leader. They can dress the part and present to us about who they pick. We are in need of bagged candy donations. Each child/youth participating will receive a bag of candy afterwards. Please see Lawanda for more information.

FALL COOKOUT

Mark your calendars for October 28th! Our fall fellowship will be held at the Mullins place in the country beginning at noon and going until everyone tires out! A sign up list will be posted soon. Everyone coming is asked to bring a dessert or chips/dip.

REFORMATION CONFERENCE

Audubon Bible Church in Laurel will be hosting their 30th annual Reformation Conference on October 27-29, 2023 from 7:00-9:30 pm. Stephen Wellum & Donald Whitney professors from Southern Seminary will be preaching this year. For more information visit: www.audubonchurch.org/reformation-conference

