



GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
AT CASTLEWOODS

ORDER OF WORSHIP
June 11th, 2023

MORNING WORSHIP

Thomas Winn — Elder/Pastor

The Prelude Prepare your heart for worship

The Call to Worship Chris Kimbrell

Hymn "Give to Our God Immortal Praise"

The Prayer of Confession and Praise Hal Pritchard

Hymn "Be Thou My Vision"

Hymn "Faith is the Victory"

The Reading of the Word — *Isaiah 60:1-22* Hal Pritchard

Hymn "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

The Sermon — *"The Work of Missions" (Acts 13-14)* Ryan Sullivan

A Time of Reflection Upon the Word Preached

Hymn "To God be the Glory"

The Benediction Hal Pritchard

The Postlude

EVENING WORSHIP

The Prelude Prepare your heart for worship

Hymn "We Gather Together"

Hymn "He Leadeth Me"

Prayer

The Sermon — *"Living as Citizens of Heaven" (Philippians 3:12-4:1)* Prashant Thakkar

Hymn "I am Thine O Lord"

The Benediction

The Postlude



COMMENTARY

R.C. Sproul

Jerusalem Receives the Nations

“Your gates shall be open continually; day and night they shall not be shut, that people may bring to you the wealth of the nations, with their kings led in procession” (Isa. 60:11). From the very beginning, the Lord has been concerned for the nations, placing Israel in the middle of them all as witnesses to His grace and goodness (Gen. 10; Isa. 42:6). This family of Israel, the seed of Abraham, was never to be the only object of God’s love; rather, it would be through Abraham and his descendants that divine blessing would be brought to the whole world (Gen. 12:1–3). As a whole, Israel did not fulfill its calling under the old covenant to be an agent of blessing for the Gentiles. Instead of shining as the light of the world, thus drawing all nations to the true God, Israel became as dark as the pagans around them, and the Lord used these pagans as instruments to discipline His people (2 Kings 19:20). But their covenant Lord did not abandon His purpose to set Israel above the nations as a shining city on a hill. Following discipline, Israel was promised a glorious restoration, as indicated in today’s passage. What is remarkable about Isaiah’s prophecy in 60:10–14 is that the nations are included in this restoration. These verses describe the rebuilding of the earthly city of Jerusalem in the era of restoration — the age of the new covenant. Yet it is difficult to know how we are to interpret the imagery. The prophets often used figurative language, relying on images familiar to them in order to describe the

future realities revealed by God. Since Jerusalem is used elsewhere in Scripture as a metaphor for the people of God (Rev. 19:6–9a; 21:1–2), we can at least say that while Isaiah’s description in 60:10–14 may include a literal rebuilding of the City of David, it also points to something far greater. That something Isaiah foresaw was the building of Christ’s church as a kingdom including Jew and Gentile. The people of other nations and their rulers come into the Holy City to rebuild Jerusalem and minister to it (vv. 10–11), but we are not to think of this as some kind of menial service. Good citizenship includes appropriate service to a person’s home country, and this is precisely the service rendered in this passage. Here is a hint that those who would otherwise be foreigners will actually be fellowcitizens with faithful Israelites in the city of the Lord — the restored kingdom of people who bow to the Davidic king as their sovereign (vv. 12–14).

Coram Deo: The incredible contribution of Gentiles to the building and restoration of the church of God demonstrates the accuracy of Isaiah’s passage. Since the first coming of Christ, Gentiles have been streaming into the Lord’s Holy City, using their gifts and talents to edify God’s people, systematize doctrine, and perform loving service to both church and world. As we use our gifts in the body of Christ, Isaiah’s prophecy continues to come true.



RESPONSIBILITIES

Today's Nursery Volunteers

June 11th
<i>Morning</i> Laurie Price & Claire Shores
<i>Evening/Afternoon</i> Cortney McDonald & Bethany Wallace
<i>Wednesday - June 14th</i> Mary Margaret Pritchard & Claire Shores

Today's Sound Operator -Jason Price



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTOR THOMAS' APC TRIP

Continue to pray for Pastor Thomas as he is in Malawi with the African Pastor's Conferences. Pray for him as he travels and for his health, and as he preaches and teaches nineteen times during his time there. Also pray for the other two pastors who will also be preaching with him at these conferences, Tony Karwa and Chris Minguni. He will return on June 27th.

GUEST SPEAKER

Today we welcome our guest speaker, Pastor Ryan Sullivan. He will share about his future ministry work in Erbil, a major city in the Kurdish region of Iraq. He has been one of the pastors of Grace Community church of Jackson from its inception in 2012. Ryan will be sharing about this ministry in Sunday School and then preaching in the morning worship service. Please pray for him and his family as they seek to know God's will about this ministry.

FAMILY CAMP

Family Camp this year is July 3rd-7th. Much truth has been taught during this years, as we have been going through the 1689 Baptist Confession of Faith. Families are encouraged to attend. If you cannot attend as a family, make sure you send your youth. If you do not have any children going, please consider supporting those going with your prayers and even consider sponsoring a child. The cost will be \$100/camper. There will also be a few fund raising activities to help with expenses. More information is coming soon. Be sure to mark your calendars!

