An impressionistic landscape painting featuring a dense forest of green trees in the foreground and middle ground. The sky is filled with soft, blended colors of blue, white, and yellow, suggesting a bright, hazy day. The overall style is painterly and atmospheric.

To Know Christ
and to
Make Christ Known

Everything Matters
Wisdom from Ecclesiastes



graceinracine.com
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WELCOME TO GRACE CHURCH!

VISITING GRACE?

It's great to have you here today, and we'd love to connect with you! Visit graceinracine.com or scan the QR code on the next page to let us know you visited, ask questions, submit prayer requests, or indicate an area of Grace Church that is of interest to you.

Stop by the Welcome Table outside the sanctuary, we'd love to meet you!

If you have something that is weighing you down today, please come down front after service and we will pray with you. You can also share your request on the connection card and our prayer team will lift your need up to the Lord.

TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE

PRELUDE

["This Is The Day"](#)

PRAISE

Welcome

Pastor Matthew Lutz

Call To Worship

[James 4:10](#)

["All Creatures Of Our God And King"](#)

["Be Thou My Vision"](#)

RENEWAL

Prayer of Renewal

Isaac Miller, Director of Care Ministry

["I Will Wait For You \(Psalm 130\)"](#)

PROCLAMATION

Reading of the Word

[Ecclesiastes 1:1-11](#)

Prayer of Illumination

Preaching of the Word

Pastor Mike Matheson

RESPONSE

["I Want To Know You"](#)

Benediction

Pastor Mike Matheson

*The sanctuary will continue to be used for prayer and reflection following the service. We invite you to come down front if you have a prayer need.
Head to the Commons for fellowship after service.*

CARE MINISTRY

PRAYER FOR HEALING & RECOVERY

Please pray for healing and recovery for those hospitalized or recently discharged: Roger Blair, Janet Brasfield, Dawn Wade

JOURNEY GROUPS FOR WOMEN

Begins September 14th

Meets every other Thursday for 12 weeks at 6:30pm

Journey Groups are communities of care where stories of pain and abuse can be spoken, heard, and redeemed. Scan the QR code or contact Gayle Manske gaylemanske@att.net for more information.

GRACE HAPPENINGS

ECCLESIASTES SCRIPTURE JOURNALS

If you pre-ordered a Scripture journal, they are now available for pick-up at the BookStall. Stop by with your payment of \$4!

GRACE SOFTBALL TEAM!

Next Game: July 24 // 9:00pm

Cliffside Park NW Field

Grace Church (H) vs. St. John's Lutheran

BOOK LAUNCH PARTY

Saturday, July 29th, 4-7pm

"*Hear Me Now: The Mark of An Ordinary Pastor*" by Karen Lynn Sytsma - a book about Pastor Jerry Worsham's influence and the marks he made on ordinary people for God's kingdom and glory. All invited to the book launch party!

SENIOR ADULT BIBLE BRUNCH

Thursday, July 27 // 10:30am

This ministry is a great opportunity to experience fellowship, study the Bible, and connect with other seniors. Anyone age 55 and up is welcome!

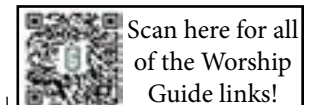
WOMEN'S GATHERING

Saturday, August 19th // 10:00 am

With guest speaker, Kristen Wetherell. Register and learn more about Kristen Wetherell by scanning the QR code.

ABOUT THE SERIES ART

The piece of art used with the Ecclesiastes series is called "*Orchard*", an oil painting on canvas, by Charles-François Daubigny, 1865.



ATTENDANCE & GIVING

LAST WEEK

Attendance: 564

Giving: \$34,592

2023 GIVING

Year to Date: \$887,209

+/- Budget: -\$93,997

SERMON REVIEW DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

These questions are for *after* the sermon and can be used for Life Group discussion, one-to-one discipleship, or personal reflection and application.

This week we began a new book together as Pastor Mike presented Ecclesiastes 1:1–11 to us. It's probably safe to say that we couldn't have picked a more dissimilar book from Revelation than this. If Revelation is a view of what is going on behind the curtain, Ecclesiastes is a study of the curtain itself. What is this world that we dwell in and what do we make of the lives we live in it?

Discussion Questions

1. Were you familiar with the book of Ecclesiastes prior to the beginning of the series? What have been your impressions about the book? Do you look forward to this series? Why or why not?
2. The term, 'vanity', is used more than any other in Ecclesiastes. What does it mean? How does our understanding of this word affect our understanding of the author's overall message?
3. In verses 4 - 7 the author uses a lot of language about nature. What message is he trying to convey?
4. The phrase, 'there is nothing new under the sun' presents some ideas that will be repeated throughout this book. What does this mean? How does believing that there is nothing new affect how we think about our world around us and the things that we see happening in it?
5. Read verse 11 again. What kind of feelings does a verse like this produce in you? Is this supposed to create hopelessness or something else? What might it be?
6. How does the gospel, especially all that we have been walking through in Revelation over the last year, aid us in how we read a passage like this and in its proper context?

SUNDAY, JULY 23

[Ecclesiastes 1:1-11](#)

Pastor Mike Matheson

SERMON
NOTES

**THE ROCK IN YOUR
SHOE**