To Know Christ and to Make Christ Known



graceinracine.com 262.632.2111 3626 State Road 31, Racine, WI 53405 **Everything Matters** Wisdom from Ecclesiastes

# 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 Call To Worship "Praise To the Lord (Joyful Joyful)" "This Is The Day" Pastor Chris Amundson <u>Hebrews 13:14-15</u>

## RENEWAL

Missions Moment with The Gloss Family "O Lord My Rock And My Redeemer"

#### PROCLAMATION

Reading of the Word Prayer of Illumination Preaching of the Word Ecclesiastes 1:12-2:26

Pastor Mike Matheson

## RESPONSE

"Doxology (Amen)" Benediction

Pastor Matthew Lautz

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, Joan Kotes, Vicki Albert

On the passing of Ruth Mainland, our sympathy to her son Mick (Geri) Mainland and grandchildren Melissa (Jon) Wiese, Jessie (Nick) Froese, Bethany (Andy) Wolfe, and Chris (Carly) Mainland and their families.

#### JOURNEY GROUPS FOR WOMEN

#### **Begins September 14th**

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

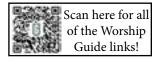
Journey Groups are communities of care where stories of pain and abuse can be spoken, heard, and redeemed. Scan the QR code or contact Gayle Manske manskegayle61@gmail.com for more information.

## **GRACE HAPPENINGS**

#### 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.





# MISSION MOMENT

#### **GLOSS FAMILY** Field workers home for a visit!

Aaron & Bethany Gloss and their 5 children were commissioned three years ago from Grace to serve as field workers in Cambodia to work among unreached people groups. They are back in the U.S. on home assignment and would love to connect with you! Stop by the Mission Table in the commons area after service to connect with them or email

globalteam@graceinracine.com.



**2023 GIVING** Year to Date: \$943,260 +/- Budget: -\$75,622

LAST WEEK Attendance: 591 Giving: \$56,051

# 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.

Last week, we were introduced to the book of Ecclesiastes. The author began with the statement that 'all is vanity', and in the second half of chapter 1 and all of chapter 2, the Preacher goes into a bit more detail of how this is the case. He discusses the pursuit of wisdom, self indulgence, wise living, and all toil done under the sun. He comes to the conclusion that, indeed, it is all vanity. At the very end of chapter 2, we get a glimpse that there is more to what the Preacher is saying than a cynical philosophy of life.

#### **Discussion Questions**

- 1. Last week, this series began with a sermon entitled "The Rock in Your Shoe." Did you find the opening passage explaining all of life as vanity to be uncomfortable to think about? Why or why not?
- 2. The first area of life that the Preacher explores is the pursuit of wisdom. How is this vanity? Isn't pursuing wisdom and knowledge a good thing?
- 3. In verses 2:1-11, the author speaks about futility in the pursuit of possessions and pleasure. Though we may be quicker to agree with him on this point, how do we often find ourselves snared in the same trap that he is speaking about in regards to our own lives?
- 4. In 2:17, the Preacher expresses hatred and grief about the nature of life. What is it that causes such a response from him? Can you relate to what he is saying?
- 5. Verses 2:18-23 recount the Preacher's despair over all of his labors under the sun. Why is toil and striving of heart considered vanity by him? Is this a call to just give up on life?
- 6. The tone of this passage takes a turn in 2:24-26. How does our hope in Christ enable us to 'eat and drink and find enjoyment in our toil'?



#### SUNDAY, JULY 30

Ecclesiastes 1:12-2:26 Pastor Mike Matheson

