

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



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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

["Drenched In Love"](#)

PRAISE

Welcome Joe Kobriger, Co-Director of Missions
Call To Worship [Hebrews 4:14-16](#)
["Center My Life"](#)

RENEWAL

Prayer of Renewal Isaac Miller, Director of Care Ministry
["Psalm 90 \(Satisfy Us With Your Love\)"](#)

PROCLAMATION

Reading of the Word [Ecclesiastes 7:14-29](#)
Prayer of Illumination
Preaching of the Word Pastor Mike Matheson

RESPONSE

["How Deep The Father's Love For Us"](#)

Communion

["His Mercy Is More"](#)

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: Keith Heapes

Congratulations to Nick and Jessie Froese, and siblings Jack and Avery on the birth of Callum Michael G. Froese.

*Due to the size of our church, we're not always aware of every need.
Please help us by sending life updates to care@graceinracine.com.*

CELEBRATE RECOVERY (CR)

 Meets Tuesdays at 6:30pm in the Loft.

CR is a safe place to find support if you are struggling with a difficult season of life. CR is not just for addicts; it is for all of us who need to go deeper in Christ when life gets hard. Don't struggle alone - please join us for hope and encouragement every Tuesday evening.

Contact Gabe Stalker at celebraterecovery@graceinracine.com

PRAYER REQUESTS

We want to uphold you in prayer during times of need:

- Fill out a connect card online or from the seatback in front of you.
- Come down front after service Sunday morning and we will pray with you.
- Email prayer@graceinracine.com.

FAMILY MINISTRY

NURSERY & PRESCHOOL

Childcare is available during the entirety of the worship service for children aged birth – Kindergarten. Children ages 2 - Kindergarten will also have an age-appropriate Bible lesson each week.

WORSHIPERS IN TRAINING (WIT)

Children in 1st-4th grades are welcome to participate in "Worshippers in Training" which meets during the second half of our worship service (children are dismissed before the teaching portion of worship).

ATTENDANCE & GIVING

LAST WEEK

Attendance: 554
Giving: \$22,634

2023 GIVING

Year to Date: \$1,168,378
+/- Budget: -\$71,232

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.

The second half of Ecclesiastes 7 proves to be one of the most difficult passages to understand up to this point and it's possible that this is exactly what the author intended. But he isn't attempting to be confusing for its own sake. The search for wisdom and understanding the way forward in life is a pursuit that is already immensely confusing and impossible to grasp. This is what the Preacher explores in this passage.

Discussion Questions

1. In last week's passage the Preacher talked about the wisdom of recognizing God's providence in the midst of adversity. What makes us apprehensive to trust God's complete control when we, or people we love, are suffering?
2. In 7:15-18, we read that we are not to be overly righteous or overly wicked. What are we to make of this command? How ought we to live?
3. In verses 7:20-22, the Preacher points out that no one is truly righteous, including ourselves. Why is he talking about this here? How does this fit with the overall message of this passage?
4. In 7:23-24, we see that the Preacher expresses a frustration with the pursuit of greater wisdom and the understanding of things. What is it? Was there ever an instance or season of life where you related to the Preacher's frustration?
5. Starting at 7:25, we read about this pursuit to seek out the 'scheme of things'. What is meant by this? What conclusion does he come to at the end of chapter 7?
6. How does our understanding of the gospel give us greater clarity and hope in what the Preacher is getting at in this text?

MISSIONS

MISSIONS PRAYER HOUR

Monday, September 18th // 7pm // Room A29

All are welcome to join us for an open prayer gathering to pray for our global field workers and the nations where they serve. We will specifically be praying for the Gloss & Yates families serving in Cambodia.

MISSIONARY "SNACK N CHAT" GATHERING

Sunday, September 24th // 11am - 1pm // Room B60

Join us for an open house style "Snack n Chat" to celebrate Aaron & Bethany Glosses first 3 years in Cambodia and meet our new partners James and Nica Yates who will be serving with Aaron and Beth. Aaron & Beth will give updates on their work among the Cham people. Light snacks will be served.

MISSIONS MOMENT

THE JAMES & NICA YATES FAMILY VISITING GRACE SEPT. 24TH!

New to the mission field, James and Nica are currently building a support network in order to reach the Cham people group alongside Aaron and Bethany Gloss. They are praying to be fully funded and leave for Cambodia in early 2024. They will then spend the next 3 years learning 2 languages, immersing themselves in the culture and building relationships with their co-workers, all with the aim of interacting with the Cham people in outreach and service.



Pray for:

- The health of James, Nica, Mirah (4) and Theo (2) as they prepare for and complete the move overseas
- Wisdom, diligence, endurance and energy in partnership development, language and culture acquisition
- Boldness and wisdom as James and Nica share their faith and for God to soften and prepare the hearts of the Cham people to respond and receive the gospel
- Open doors to build a business or specific ministry that provides a platform to live and work among the Cham

For more information stop by the Mission table after service or email globalteam@graceinracine.com.

GRACE HAPPENINGS

SERVE AT HALO

Today // Meet at HALO at 4pm

HALO (Homeless Assistance Leadership Organization) is one of our Local Partners.

Join the team to prepare and serve a meal at the shelter. Afterward we have time of music, gospel presentation, prayer, and fun! Contact Paul Durbin: pdurbin1@wi.rr.com / 262.672.0686

MOPS & MOMSNEXT

**Begins September 21st at 9:15am
Meets at Grace in Room B74**

At MOPS & MOMSnext, we gather and support moms. A MOPS meeting is designed to connect you to other moms while getting a much needed break. Meetings begin with a hot breakfast and include practical teaching through speakers, demonstrations and videos. Scan the QR code for more info or grab a postcard by the children's check-in area.

FUNDRAISER & BARN PARTY!

**Support the 2024 Guatemala
Medical/Dental Mission Trip
Sunday, October 1, 2023**

**12:30pm - 4:30pm at:
The Palmer Residence
7930 Botting Road, Caledonia**
There will be music, crafts, a silent auction and much more, something for everyone!

WOMEN'S RETREAT

November 3 - 5, 2023

Osthoff Resort, Elkhart Lake, WI
The Women's Retreat is a perfect time to remove yourself from the distractions of daily life and connect with other ladies in fellowship and studying God's Word together. Our theme of "Walking in Christ" from Colossians will be taught by returning speaker and author, Glenna Marshall. Glenna will also conduct a special session based upon her newest book, Memorizing Scripture. This is sure to be a relaxing, edifying, and fun ladies' weekend filled with laughter, connection, prayer, and learning more about "Walking in Christ." Stop by the table in the commons for more info.

SERVE AT GRACE

Serving provides us the opportunity to show Christ's love to one another. **We currently need 3 men and 3 women to serve as Small Group Leaders in IG-Nite on Wednesday evenings.**

We have other areas at Grace where you can plug in from serving as an usher or greeter, to behind the scenes of communion clean-up or baking treats for Blaze. Scan the QR code to see the many opportunities.

