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
262.632.2111
3626 State Road 31, Racine, WI 53405

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

["The Lord's Prayer \(It's Yours\)"](#)

PRAISE

Welcome Andy Feliksiak, Executive Director
Call To Worship [Revelation 15:3-4](#)
["Praise To The Lord \(Joyful Joyful\)"](#)
["I Want To Know You"](#)

RENEWAL

Prayer of Renewal Pastor Chris Amundson
["What A Beautiful Name/Agnus Dei"](#)

PROCLAMATION

Reading of the Word [Ecclesiastes 8:1-17](#)
Prayer of Illumination
Preaching of the Word Pastor Mike Matheson

RESPONSE

["It Is Well With My Soul"](#)
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

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: 547
Giving: \$28,514

2023 GIVING

Year to Date: \$1,196,893
+/- Budget: -\$73,447

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.

Ecclesiastes 8 proves to be a difficult passage; not only in navigating what the Preacher is telling the reader, but more difficult to hear and accept. How do we relate to civil authority and society as a whole when there is clear evidence of injustice and wickedness? The answer given here is not one that we will hear out in the world, but it is a necessary lesson for us as God's people if we are to be an effective witness for His kingdom.

Discussion Questions

1. In the current passage and the one from last week, we see a theme develop that tells us that wisdom is good but that there is a frustration that comes with its constant pursuit. How do we balance out being wise in this world without being consumed with accumulating wisdom?
2. Ecclesiastes 8 opens up with the charge to keep the 'king's' command. What are the reasons that the Preacher gives? Does this apply to us in 21st century America? How?
3. Verses 8:10-13 speaks about the vanity of unjust rulers. What makes the existence of unjust rulers so frustrating according to the Preacher? What is our ultimate hope?
4. Verses 8:14-15 repeat the general frustration over clear injustice in the world. How are we supposed to live in light of it? How is it possible to live this way?
5. Where else in scripture do we find prescriptions and examples of how God's people are to live under governing authority; even unjust governing authority? How do those references line up with what the Preacher is saying in Ecclesiastes 8?
6. In what way is following Jesus the answer to relieve the tension we may feel when reading and studying this passage?

MISSIONS

MISSIONARY "SNACK-'N-CHAT" GATHERING

TODAY // 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.



The Gloss Family



The Yates Family

MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Saturday, October 21 // 9 - Noon

If you are interested in becoming a member, this is the first step in the process. At Grace Church, membership is the way we root ourselves in the local body of Christ, like becoming part of a family. Join us for this three hour class to learn about the beliefs, vision, and organization of the church.

If you have not yet been baptized and are interested in taking that step of faith, then you will need to attend the first hour of the class where you will learn what baptism is and why we practice it. Jesus commands all of his followers to be baptized as a witness to the world of the spiritual new birth. Sign up for the class to learn more. Register at graceinracine.com or scan the QR code at the back of the Worship Guide.

GRACE HAPPENINGS

SENIOR ADULT BIBLE BRUNCH

Thursday, Sept. 28 // 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.

FUNDRAISER & BARN PARTY!

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

12:30pm - 4:30pm

The Palmer Residence

7930 Botting Road, Caledonia

There will be music, crafts, a silent auction and much more, something for everyone!

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, October 14th // 8am

Speaker: Pastor Chris Amundson

Topic: The Problem With Your Job

Guys, join us for a hot breakfast, fellowship, & God's word.

CHILD DEDICATION

Sunday, October 29th

Required class: Sunday, October 15th, after service

Child dedication is a commitment you make before God, as parents, to give thanks to God and raise your children according to God's purpose. The dedication service is designed to help you commit to raising your child to find and follow God. Scan the QR code to learn more and register.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

November 3 - 5, 2023

Osthoff Resort, Elkhart Lake, WI

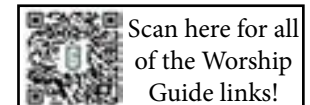
The Women's Retreat is a perfect time to remove yourself from the distractions of daily life and connect with other ladies in fellowship and studying God's Word together. Our theme of "Walking in Christ" from Colossians will be taught by returning speaker and author, Glenna Marshall. Glenna will also 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 4 people to serve in IG-Nite on Wednesday evenings.
- Love to bake and share yummy treats? Grace Student Ministries is looking to add some bakers to the Blaze Bakers team.

Scan the QR code to see where you can serve at Grace.



Scan here for all of the Worship Guide links!