



GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
AT CASTLEWOODS

ORDER OF WORSHIP
March 13th, 2022

MORNING WORSHIP

Thomas Winn — Elder/Pastor

- The Prelude Prepare your heart for worship
- The Call to Worship Robert Winn
- Hymn "Worthy of Worship"
- The Prayer of Confession and Praise Seth Lirette
- Hymn "'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"
- Hymn "All That Thrills My Soul is Jesus"
- The Reading of the Word — *Psalm 119:1-16* Hal Pritchard
- Hymn "Blessed Assurance"
- Hymn Solo — "*Completely Yours*" Robert Winn
- The Pastoral Prayer Pastor Winn
- The Sermon — "*Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness*" (*Matthew 5:6*) Pastor Winn
- A Time of Reflection Upon the Word Preached
- Hymn "Have Thine Own Way Lord"
- The Benediction Hal Pritchard
- The Postlude

EVENING WORSHIP

- The Prelude Prepare your heart for worship
- Hymn "My Faith Has Found a Resting Place"
- Hymn "Trusting Jesus"
- The Pastoral Prayer Pastor Winn
- The Sermon — "*The Prince of the Gate*" (*Ezekiel 44:1-3*) Hal Pritchard
- A Time of Reflection Upon the Word Preached
- Hymn "Only Trust Him"
- The Benediction
- The Postlude



COMMENTARY

R.C. Sproul

Anyone with even a passing interest in American culture would undoubtedly agree that our society is driven in large measure by competition. Although there are always forces in power that want to eliminate competition and merit-based economic achievement, academic success, and so forth, the fact remains that competition has been a net positive for our country. The greater the competition, the harder companies work to produce well-crafted goods and services. The stronger the opponent on the playing field, the greater the achievement when one's favorite team wins the game. But competition is evident not only in America, it is present in every society and culture. The setting of goals and striving for quality seem to be inherently human endeavors. We might even say the pursuit of excellence is evidence we are created in God's image (Gen. 1:27). Being made to reflect what is excellent, we develop a passion for noble ends. In fact, this passion — this hunger — is so vital that we see those who lack passion as not living up to their human potential. Today's passage is one of many places where Scripture speaks positively of hungering after something. Hungering and thirsting after righteousness is specifically commended (Matt. 5:6). Jesus chooses His words carefully. Hunger and thirst are powerful physical impulses. They drive us to attain that which is necessary for

our survival, namely, food and drink. Christ wants us to understand that righteousness is likewise necessary for our ultimate survival. Without the passionate pursuit of righteousness before God, we cannot hope to inherit eternal life. But when we pursue it rightly, Jesus tells us that we will be satisfied. Hunger and thirst for righteousness result in two things. First, in striving after righteousness, we see how far short of the mark we fall and despair of our ability to be pleasing in God's sight. As the elect, we then rest in Christ's perfect righteousness alone for salvation (Gal. 2:15–16; 2 Cor. 5:21). Yet having been justified by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone, we are also given the desire to follow God's law. With our new love for Jesus, we begin to follow His commandments and seek to put our sin to death (John 14:15; Rom. 8:13). **Coram Deo:** Jesus' life illustrates the kind of passion for righteousness that all the people of God are to emulate. He said that His food was "to do the will of [God]" (John 4:34). For Christ, His very survival depended on obeying His Father. The same is true for us. Our eternal survival is dependent on obeying Jesus' command to repent and believe the gospel. And we live out this command by repenting and believing the gospel all the days of our lives.



RESPONSIBILITIES

Today's Nursery Volunteers

March 13th
<i>Morning</i> Amanda Spansel & Lana Wakefield
<i>Evening/Afternoon</i> Katherine Ranck & Wendy Winn
<i>Wednesday - March 16th</i> Lana Wakefield (<i>Mary Margaret Pritchard</i>)

Today's Sound Operator - Kenny Spansel



ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIBLE DRILL

Children's Bible Drill will meeting at 5:00 pm this afternoon before choir.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The Preschool and Children's Choir will meet at 5:30 pm this afternoon. Please make note of the time change. The normal schedule will resume after church bible drill.

40 DAYS OF LIFE

Those desiring to partipate in 40 days of Life can sign up. The list will be on the bulletin board outside the Fellowship Hall. We ask you to sign up to pray on March 25th. There are 30 minute time segments, of course if you choose to pray longer that is fine. If you are able to go to the abortion mill on State Street and pray, we encourage you to do so. Our visibility is a witness to others that we stand against this wicked action of the murder of the unborn taking place in that building. May God be pleased to stir His people to pray that abortion will end soon.

