

***Hymn #343 Amazing Grace**

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!
The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.
Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come:
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we've first begun

***Charge and Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Scott Rollins

Leader: May we each go out to love and care, to find the Spirit's leading and join in its work and to bless the world as we have been so richly blessed. In the name of our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, Amen

***Congregational Benediction**

**Make us one, Lord, make us one;
Holy Spirit, make us one.
Let your love flow so the world will know
we are one in you**

Postlude

Greeters *Carl Snow, Cindy Snow*
Ushers *Denna Grogan, Don Grogan, Dana Lamb, Mike Lamb*
Liturgist *Jack Thomas*
Music *Bob Eubanks, Nancy Wells, George Hill, FCPC Choral Ensemble*
Bridge Interim *Rev. Dr. Scott Rollins*

Announcements

Directory photos and assistance today after worship in the Greeting Room. Please stop by if you need your photo taken or if you have any questions regarding the new online directory. There are also step by step instructions in the Weekly Word that was emailed out on Friday. If you can't stay after worship today feel free to email the office for assistance, office@fountaincitypres.org

Lunch Bunch is heading to Calhouns on the lake in Oak Ridge this Thursday, July 20th. The van will leave the church parking lot at 10:30am. Please email the office if you plan to attend, office@fountaincitypres.org



July 16, 2023

Prelude

Word of Welcome

Rev. Dr. Scott Rollins

Call to Worship

Leader: The very word of God is a light to our feet,
All: God's word is a lamp to our path.
Leader: We gather this day to hear the Word of God,
All: to offer prayers and sing songs of praise.
Leader: We gather this day,
All: to worship God!

Jack Thomas

***Hymn #140 Great is The Lord**

Great is the Lord He is holy and just;
By His power we trust in His love.
Great is the Lord, He is Faithful and true;
By His mercy He proves He is love.
Great is the Lord and worthy of glory!
Great is the Lord and worthy of praise!
Great is the Lord! Now lift up your voice:
Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!
Great is the Lord He is holy and just;
By His power we trust in His love.
Great is the Lord, He is Faithful and true;
By His mercy He proves He is love.
Great is the Lord and worthy of glory!
Great is the Lord and worthy of praise!
Great is the Lord! Now lift up your voice:
Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!
Great are You, Lord, and worthy of glory!
Great are You, Lord and worthy of praise!
Great are You, Lord, I lift up my voice, I lift up my voice!
Great are You, Lord! Great are You, Lord!

Ritual of Friendship

Members and Guests – Please sign and pass the friendship register located on the center aisle under the pew in front

Jack Thomas

Call to Confession

Jack Thomas

Leader: To know God is to know of God's mercy, justice, and love. To know God is to also know ourselves, and we are a people who have not loved as much as we should, always showed mercy, or worked for justice. So let us offer our prayer of confession, knowing that out of God's great mercy, we will be forgiven and made new.

Prayer of Confession

Jack Thomas

All: Gracious and loving God, we are a people who are always concerned about ourselves. We worry about what is ours and are concerned with getting more. We have not been guided by your Spirit or the teachings of Christ. Forgive us, we pray, and gently guide us back to your way. Help us to think of others and sharing what we have with the world. Amen

(Time for Silent Confession)

Assurance of Forgiveness and Peace

Jack Thomas

Leader: Hear the good news! There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus! Know you are forgiven, and be at peace.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

****Gloria Patri***

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen. Amen.*

****Passing the Peace***

Jack Thomas

Leader: As God has poured out the grace of forgiveness and love and peace through Christ, let us also share that grace among ourselves. Peace be with you.

All: And also with you!

Prayer of Illumination

Jack Thomas

Leader: In the reading of you Word, may we be given light to see. May your word rest in our hearts and minds and in so doing, transform us into your faithful people. Amen.

Psalms Reading Psalm 65:1-8

Jack Thomas

Anthem Within These Walls

Within these walls, we assemble.
Within these walls, we gather in your name.
As we join our hearts in a holy union,
we come to find communion in your holiness again.

Within these walls, let there be harmony;
a common bond; a Spirit from above.
And as your children let us love each other
as sisters and as brothers united by your love.

We are the branches, You are the vine.
We are the vessels and You are the wine.
We are the body, You are the Head.
For every hunger, You are the Bread.

Within these walls, let there be refuge,
a place of rest when doubts and trials form.
And let us lift each other as we gather
to find your peace no matter how terrible the storm.

We are the branches, You are the vine.
We are the vessels and You are the wine.
We are the body, You are the Head.
For every hunger, You are the Bread.

Within these walls give us your vision.
Within these walls, let us understand
that beyond these walls, there are hurting people
who have never felt your healing hand.

Beyond these walls, send us forward
Beyond these walls, let your will be done.
We are your people; You will leave us never
and we shall work together until your kingdom comes.
Your kingdom comes!

Within these walls, let us listen.
Within these walls, let us worship You, Amen!

Gospel Reading Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Jack Thomas

Sermon The Prodigal Sower

Rev. Dr. Scott Rollins

****Affirmation of Faith (from A Declaration of Faith)***

Jack Thomas

All: We know that God is not confined to the story we can tell. The story itself tells us God works his sovereign will among all peoples of the earth. We believe God works beyond our imagining throughout the universe. We acknowledge no other God. We must not set our ultimate reliance on any other help. We must not yield unconditional obedience to any other power. We must not love anyone or anything more than we love God. We praise and enjoy God. To worship God is our highest joy. To serve God is perfect freedom. Amen.

****Hymn #344 Grace Greater than Our Sin***

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord, Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt!
Yonder on Calvary's mount out-poured— There where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

Grace, grace, God's grace, Grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
Grace, grace, God's grace, Grace that is greater than all our sin!

Sin and despair, like the sea-waves cold, Threaten the soul with infinite loss;
Grace that is greater, yes, grace untold, Points to the Refuge, the mighty Cross. [Refrain]

Dark is the stain that we cannot hide; What can avail to wash it away?
Look! There is flowing a crimson tide, Whiter than snow you may be today.

Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace, Freely bestowed on all who believe!
You that are longing to see His face, Will you this moment His grace receive? [Refrain]

Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Scott Rollins

Call for Offering

Jack Thomas

Leader: As Christ has been generous with us, to the point of death on the cross, let us be generous too. Let us give a part of what we have to God's work in the world. Let us give ourselves to the Lord.

Offertory

****Doxology***

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost**

****Prayer of Dedication***

Jack Thomas

All: Gracious God, thank you for these gifts given this day and for the many gifts of our lives. May they be used ever and only to glorify you. Amen.