



July 18, 2021

10:30 A.M.

## The Lion Roars: The Lord Reigns



**Be alert and  
of sober mind.**  
Your enemy the devil  
prowls around like a  
roaring lion looking for  
someone to devour.

1 PETER 5:8



# Order of Service

## Announcements

## Welcome

## Preparation for Worship

-----God's Greatness-----

## Call to Worship

## Hymn of Adoration

"A Mighty Fortress" . . . . . Martin Luther

## Prayer of Invocation

**Affirmation of Faith:** based on Colossians 1:15-20

## Song of Praise

"Lift My Eyes". . . . . Turner/Galbraith/Farren

## Children are dismissed to Sunday School.

----- God's Renewal-----

**Understanding Ourselves Rightly:** Romans 6:1-4

## Public Confession

## Silent Confession

**Assurance of Pardon and Comfort:** Romans 5:8-9

## Song of Renewal

"O Great God" . . . . . Bob Kauflin

-----God's Grace-----

**Scripture Reading:** 1 Peter 5:8-14 (ESV)

## Prayer

**The Sermon:** The Lion Roars, The Lord Reigns

## Words of Institution

## Celebration of the Lord's Supper

## Hymn

"I Surrender". . . . . Matt Crocker

## Prayer of Approach

-----God's Blessing-----

## Parting Hymn

"My Defender". . . . . Jeremy Camp

## Benediction

*2 Corinthians 10:3-5 (ESV)*

*"For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. <sup>4</sup> For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. <sup>5</sup>*

*We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, . . ."*

If I profess with the loudest voice and clearest exposition every portion of the truth of God except precisely that little point which the world and the devil are at the moment attacking, I am not confessing Christ, however boldly I may be professing Christ. Where the battle rages, there the loyalty of the soldier is proved to be steady... [It] is mere flight and disgrace if he flinches at that point [of attack]. —Francis A. Schaeffer

Our enemies are demonic, but the warfare against them isn't waged by commanding them, mapping their physical location, invoking magic words to subdue them, claiming authority over them, or any of the other common tactics some people usually refer to as "spiritual warfare." We are not fighting demons in a face-to-face confrontation, or by spirit-to-spirit conversation, or with voice-to-voice communication. We attack them by tearing down their fortresses of lies... What, precisely, are our weapons? The only power that will destroy such things is the power of truth... "the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Eph. 6:17). —John MacArthur

Satan, like a fisher, baits his hook according to the appetite of the fish. —Thomas Adams

### God's Gracious Provision 7/11/2021

Attendance: 42

Offering: \$2512.00

Your offering may be placed in the box at the Welcome Table.

## God of All Grace

Every good thing we experience comes to us from the benevolent hand of God. We live by grace alone. We move from faith to faith, life to life, and grace to grace, and God is the author of all of these graces. He is not just the God of grace or just a gracious God, but He is the God of *all* grace. God's eternal glory, which is in Him alone from all eternity, He will not share with any man. Nevertheless, by His grace He has called us to participate in it. The only one who can perfect us is God. The only one who is able to establish us is God. The only one who can give us abiding strength is God. The only one who can settle us is God.<sup>3</sup>

## When Satan Roars in Your Face

When Satan roars with his suffering in your face and threatens to devour you, don't say, "O, I'm eternally secure, this is no real threat." Rather say, "The God of all grace has called me to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, and after I have suffered a little while from your claws and fangs, he will perfect and confirm and strengthen and establish me. He is a God of all grace. He is a God of absolute dominion. You can maul me. And you can even kill me. But you cannot devour me. He has called me to glory and he will get me to glory."

That's how to resist him firm in your faith. Believe the Promise. Be saved by it. Rest in it. Fight with it. Persevere with it. It's yours free from the God of all grace.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>McKnight, S. (1996). *1 Peter* (p. 283). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.

<sup>2</sup>McKnight, S. (1996). *1 Peter* (p. 284). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.

<sup>3</sup>Sproul, R. C. (2011). *1-2 Peter* (p. 191). Wheaton, IL: Crossway.

<sup>4</sup>Piper, J. (2007). *Sermons from John Piper (1990-1999)*. Minneapolis, MN: Desiring God.

## Upcoming Events

**TONIGHT, July 18 6:15-7:15 P.M. House of Prayer**  
**GCC Prayer Gathering for youth and adults**  
1300 High Street, Pottstown, PA

**Tuesday, July 20 6:00 –8:00 P.M. Young Adults**(under 30) meet at the Deicherts for supper, Bible Study(groups separated), Volleyball, and ice cream.

**Monday, July 19-24 Youth Group** goes to **Harvey Cedars Bible Conference Senior High Youth Week.**

**Everyone is invited to join with the elders in prayer every Sunday from 9:30-10:00 in the back of the gym.**

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## Sabbatical Plans for Pastor Rick

During the five sundays in the month of August the elders of Grace Covenant Church have granted our pastor the privilege of taking a sabbatical. This is something that churches often do for their pastors but to date our pastor has never had the opportunity to take a sabbatical at any of the churches he has ministered.

The sabbatical definition is "a break from work" during which employees can pursue their interests, like traveling, writing, research, volunteering or other activities (or even rest). During that time, the employee is still employed at their organization, but they don't need to perform their normal job duties or report to work.

Pastor Rick will be taking this time to understand and study the church's response to the recent cultural challenges that unless mitigated will result in the church becoming the enemy of society needing to be extinguished for the good of the future. These include critical race theory, transgenderism, etc.

While our pastor is away the elders will be assuming the necessary responsibilities for the church to continue to function without interruption. The pastor may be contacted in an emergency but please do it through an elder during this time.

Elder contact information is as follows:

Matt Deichert - 484-300-9999 or [Deichert210@comcast.net](mailto:Deichert210@comcast.net)

Bob Priest – 856=535-0220 or [rgpriest@live.com](mailto:rgpriest@live.com)

Karl Yorgey - 610-310-7638 or [Kyorgey1@gmail.com](mailto:Kyorgey1@gmail.com)

Please pray for both our pastor and the elders during this time; that it will result in a more prepared church to meet the challenges that face us in this world.

## Prayer/Praise. . . . . July 18, 2021

- Pray for Sara's upcoming heart valve repair on July 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Pray for Marcy Nettleton's two stepdaughters. One has stage 3 breast cancer, and the other one had a biopsy on Thursday. Pray for wellness and God's wisdom in the hands of the doctors.
- Pray for Koreen Mace's friend, Bev, as she has a growth on her liver. Prayers for wisdom for the doctor and that she would come to know Christ.
- Pray for Koreen Mace's dad, who has challenges with blindness and daily life. Pray for continued strength for Gwen, who is taking care of their dad.
- Pray for Jim Tobin, the husband of Donna Jenkins' cousin, Terri. Jim has Lou Gehrig's disease. Pray for Terri as she cares for Jim and their grandchildren.
- Pray for Margaret Henz, friend of Donna Jenkins, who is in a hospice center in Virginia. Pray for her daughter Eva as she goes through this time with her mother.
- Pray for Austin, stepson of Lorraine Blanski's niece. He is having a series of surgeries for severe burns over most of his body. Pray for his healing and for his family as they walk with him through this time.
- Pray for Dave Conway, husband of Steve Simon's cousin, Trish. Dave has liver cancer. He fell and broke his hip, but he is feeling better. Pray for God's healing and strength for Dave.
- Pray for Christopher, son of Susan and Glen Williams. Pray that he is freed from his addiction and that most importantly, he finds that Jesus is his only hope.
- Pray for Deana Deichert's father. He has a tumor in his spinal column. He started 2 weeks of radiation last Monday. Pray that the radiation will shrink the tumors (in his spine, jaw, and ribs). His address is: Frank Pearn 1324 Culver St. Catasauqua, PA 18032.
- Pray that a position will open for Jeremiah Mace to be employed at Teen Challenge. Pray for healing for Koreen's family.
- Pray for Rhonda Clark's father, Donald Mace, who had his last treatment on Thursday, July 1, 2021 and next will have a CT scan.
- Pray for Denny Bartchak, friend of Barb Knarr. He is waiting for the results of his bladder surgery.
- Pray for Ashley, the niece of Lisa Frame's friend, Denise, who is continuing her chemotherapy treatment and is doing well. Pray for healing and salvation.
- Pray for Baby Evan, who is the son of Donna Jenkins' niece, Tracy. Pray for continued healing for Evan and God's peace for Tracy and her family.
- Pray for Justine Schumaker, mother of Renee Schumaker. Pray for healing for Justine through her chemotherapy treatment.

## Message

### The Lion Roars, The Lord Reigns

*1 Peter 5:8–14 (ESV)*

*Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. <sup>9</sup>Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. <sup>10</sup>And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. <sup>11</sup>To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen. <sup>12</sup>By Silvanus, a faithful brother as I regard him, I have written briefly to you, exhorting and declaring that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it. <sup>13</sup>She who is at Babylon, who is likewise chosen, sends you greetings, and so does Mark, my son. <sup>14</sup>Greet one another with the kiss of love. Peace to all of you who are in Christ.*

**What essentially is Peter driving at in 5:6–14?** He is both summing up his entire orientation (exhortation) and being specific at the same time. His central message is clear: You must remain faithful to Jesus Christ, despite your social condition and its potential dangers, by living obediently and in community with one another. This is the message we want to relate to our world, even though at times it may be difficult to do so. In fact Peter's whole letter is an exhortation designed to get the believers of Asia Minor to remain faithful, obedient, and good citizens, who will in no way damage the cause of Christ through bad behavior. That is what we need to apply to our world today: faithfulness to the gospel so that our society can see the glory of God.<sup>1</sup>

**Satan's devices** include tempting us to sin (Gen. 3:1–6; Luke 22:31, 32), accusing us before God and making us fear our standing before God (Job 1:6–12; 2:1–7; Zech. 3:1–2; Rev. 12:10), opposing God's will in a multitude of ways (Matt. 13:19; Acts 13:8–10), confusing our minds regarding truth (2 Cor. 4:4; Eph. 2:2), inciting acts of idolatry and magic (Acts 8:9–11; 19:13–16; Col. 2:8–23), and overtly dominating people to the point of demonization (Mark 5:1–20). I also believe Satan can work his way into the political and structural machinery of society to the point of society itself becoming a tool of sin and oppression (cf. Dan. 10; John 8:44; 1 Thess. 2:18).<sup>2</sup>