

graceracine.com  
3626 state road 31  
racine, wi 53405  
262.632.2111

RISEN

eastersunday  
CELEBRATION  
gracechurchracine  
APRIL 12TH 2020



**GRACE**  
CHURCH

# Today's Worship Service

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## PRAISE

*Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness. (Psalm 29:2)*

Call To Worship

["Christ the Lord is Risen Today"](#)

Wesley, Wilkinson

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Mike Matheson

## RENEWAL

*As far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. (Psalm 103:12)*

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Mike Matheson

Assurance of Grace

[Matthew 28:1-9](#)

["Christ is Risen, He is Risen Indeed"](#)

Cash, Getty

["Forever"](#)

Gifford, Jobe, Johnson, Taylor, Wilson

["O Praise the Name \(Anástasis\)"](#)

Hasings, Ussher, Sampson

Offering

## PROCLAMATION

*Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. (Psalm 25:4)*

Reading of the Word

[Romans 8:18-25](#)

*Reader: This is God's Word for us today.*

*All: Thanks be to God.*

Preaching of the Word

Pastor Mike Matheson

## RESPONSE

*Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. (Psalm 63:3)*

["Soon"](#)

Poore

["Because He Lives"](#)

Gaither

Benediction

Pastor Mike Matheson

# Sermon Notes

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**Preacher:** Pastor Mike Matheson

**Sermon:** Waiting With Hope

**Scripture:** [Romans 8:18-25](#)

**Date:** April 12, 2020

# In-Sermon Focus Questions

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These questions are designed to keep you engaged during the sermon.

1. What makes waiting easier to endure?
2. What does Paul say about the present reality compared to the one to come?
3. What does Easter (the resurrection of Jesus) have to do with what Paul is talking about here in Romans?
4. What does Paul mean when he refers to “the creation” ([8:19, 20, 21, 22](#))? What has happened to the creation?
5. What event in the future makes the whole creation’s hope rather personal? How does that help us wait now?

# 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.

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Waiting is hard. Whether you are waiting for your food order to be completed or if you are waiting to overcome a sin struggle, waiting isn't easy. Many of us are eagerly waiting to see the quarantine mandate lifted! Life in this world is filled with the desire for what is next, often looking forward to something in the future. The hope of Easter brings with it an anticipation of the future as well—to see our present sufferings come to an end. But the Apostle Paul makes clear to us that these present sufferings cannot be compared to the greatness of the glory that will be revealed to us... because of Christ and his finished work.

## Discussion Questions

1. What makes waiting hard for you? What are some things that you find yourself waiting for currently? How do you think your life will be different once your waiting is over? What makes us drawn to often “look forward” to something different in our lives?
2. How do your present struggles tend to overshadow the glory being revealed through Christ? What difference would it make if you knew when the struggle would end? What are “substitute hopes” to which we're drawn instead of Christ?
3. What are ways we presently see the creation groaning for renewal? How have you personally been impacted by creation's fallenness? Why is it important for us to remember that all of creation (not just us) is longing for renewal?
4. How does Christ and his finished work bring this hope into our hearts and lives ([v. 23](#))? What are ways this glorious hope is greater than any earthly substitute? What can we do to keep this hope in our hearts and minds as we live out each day?
5. What are you most excited to experience when the new creation comes? Share both physical and spiritual examples. How can we grow to wait more patiently for Christ's coming? How might this passage bring hope to those who are suffering and struggling?

# What Is The Good News?

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*Have you heard the gospel? 'Gospel' is a word that means “good news.” We live in a world that could use some good news. And the good news is, well, we believe that God has given us the best news we could ever hear. And it's all about this person, Jesus. But before we get to the good news, we have to start with some bad news.*

## **Creation & Sin**

Something is not right with the world. Just look around or take a look at your news feed. The world is not as it should be. If you've ever attended a funeral, it should be enough to convince you. But it wasn't originally this way.

When God created the world, everything was perfect. The first humans, Adam and Eve, enjoyed a perfect relationship with God. But our first parents rebelled against God and decided to choose right from wrong on their own. This led to their punishment, separation from God, and eventual death. And we've been feeling the effects ever since. It sounds strange, but it really does explain our situation well. We live in a world where everyone wants to do what they think is right, a world that is becoming increasingly chaotic. Oh... and there's still that problem of death.

*But God didn't leave us to ourselves.*

## **Jesus & Redemption**

God sent his only Son, Jesus, into the world. He was born supernaturally and lived his life perfectly before God. And this Jesus stepped in and took the punishment, separation, and death that we deserved when he was nailed to a wooden cross.

But God didn't leave Jesus to himself either. After Jesus was buried, God raised him from the dead. This showed that God accepted Jesus as a perfect sacrifice and Jesus' power over death itself. *Why is this good news for us?*

## **Response**

News this big requires a response. Ignoring it or disbelieving it are ways of saying, “No thanks” to God. But for those who hear this good news and believe it by trusting in it and submitting to it, God promises to rescue, redeem, and make them new. God also promises that one day, because of Jesus, those who believe will be finally freed from all punishment, separation, and even death. That's good news.

## **Christian Life**

We believe this good news needs to affect every area of our lives and that God kindly brings us together to help each other to grow in our understanding of it and our love for the One through whom it was accomplished.

***If you believe this, or you're interested in knowing more about it, we'd love to have you join us. The best way to begin is to join us Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM (for the time being, on [Facebook Livestream](#)). We'd love to get to know you!***



# **Announcements - *Happy Easter!***

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## ***Welcome to Grace Church and Happy Easter!***

We're so glad that you've joined us today! It's our desire that you will find hope today for your life and come to an understanding in your heart of your need for Jesus. If you have questions, email us at [info@graceinracine.com](mailto:info@graceinracine.com) or call the office at 632.2111, we would love to share more with you about what it means to know Jesus personally. We also want to invite you back next week for our [Livestream service](#), and soon, to join us in our sanctuary! We're here every Sunday to help you grow in your relationship with God. Please join us!

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## ***How are you doing?***

We miss seeing everyone during the week and especially on Sundays! If you have a prayer need, please email us at [info@graceinracine.com](mailto:info@graceinracine.com). We'd love to be praying for you during this crazy time. You can also submit a prayer request at [prayer@graceinracine.com](mailto:prayer@graceinracine.com). Please visit [graceinracine.com](http://graceinracine.com) if you need help during this time or are able to assist others.

Also, if you have a personal need that we can help you with, please contact the church office and let us know! 262.632.2111 or [info@graceinracine.com](mailto:info@graceinracine.com).

We recognize that some may be facing severe economic hardship, we'd love to have a conversation about how we might be able to help in some way as well. The benevolence ministry is available only to regular attenders and members. Contact Lynn Newlun at [lnawlun@graceinracine.com](mailto:lnawlun@graceinracine.com) or 977.6532.

*Our heartfelt love, sympathy, and prayers to Ernie Dinda on the passing of his father, Jerry Dinda.*

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*Are you hurting? Everyone needs help from time to time. We're here to help.*

*Contact the Care Team at 632.2111, [care@graceinracine.com](mailto:care@graceinracine.com)*

*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](mailto:care@graceinracine.com).*

*We would love to encourage you and pray.*

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**Last Week:** Livestream Attendance: 345 households

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**Giving:** Last Week: \$46,821 YTD: \$416,307 +/- Budget: -\$8,129

Here are some Key Words to Listen for in the sermon. Make a mark every time you hear these words:

JESUS

WAIT

HOPE

RESURRECTION

WORLD



# Waiting With Hope!

**Use a copy of the English Standard Version (ESV) of the Bible to fill in the missing words below from Romans 8:18-25. Then listen to the message and fill in the outline below.**



**"For I \_\_\_\_\_ that the \_\_\_\_\_ of this present time are not \_\_\_\_\_ comparing with the \_\_\_\_\_ that is to be \_\_\_\_\_ to us. For the \_\_\_\_\_ waits with \_\_\_\_\_ longing for the \_\_\_\_\_ of the sons of \_\_\_\_\_. For the \_\_\_\_\_ was subjected to \_\_\_\_\_, not willingly, but because of \_\_\_\_\_ who subjected it, in \_\_\_\_\_ that the \_\_\_\_\_ itself will be set \_\_\_\_\_ from its bondage to corruption and obtain the \_\_\_\_\_ of the glory of the children of \_\_\_\_\_. For we know that the \_\_\_\_\_ creation has been \_\_\_\_\_ together in the \_\_\_\_\_ of child-birth until now. And not only the \_\_\_\_\_, but we ourselves, who have the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for \_\_\_\_\_ as sons, the \_\_\_\_\_ of our bodies. For in this \_\_\_\_\_ we have been \_\_\_\_\_. Now \_\_\_\_\_ that is seen is not \_\_\_\_\_. For who \_\_\_\_\_ for what he already \_\_\_\_\_? But if we \_\_\_\_\_ for what we do not \_\_\_\_\_, we \_\_\_\_\_ for it with \_\_\_\_\_. Romans 8:18-25**

### AFTER THE SERMON ACTIVITY

*Resurrection Rolls are a fun Easter tradition to remember the amazement of the Resurrection and to literally "taste and see that the Lord is good" (Ps. 34:8)*

Create these tasty and easy rolls for dinner this week. Let your kids help you in the process and use dinner time to reflect on the amazingness of the resurrection of Jesus! **YOU WILL NEED:** 1 can of crescent rolls, 8 large marshmallows (or one marshmallow per roll); melted butter (in a bowl), and cinnamon sugar (in a bowl). While the oven preheats (follow directions on crescent roll can), read John 19 with your child or review the story of Jesus' death. Be sure to read John 19:38-42. Then unroll the crescent dough and remind your child how they wrapped Jesus in cloths. Give your child a marshmallow. Talk about how it is pure white. Remind your child that Jesus was without sin—He was perfect. Then have them roll the marshmallow in the melted butter, followed by the cinnamon sugar. Discuss how the women brought many ointments and spices for Jesus' body. Wrap the marshmallow in the crescent dough pinching the dough together securely. (Don't worry about maintaining it's crescent shape—a ball is totally fine). If you wish you can paint the rolled dough with more butter and cinnamon. Place your rolls on a cookie sheet and when you finish them place them in the oven. Remind your child that Jesus was placed in the tomb. As your rolls baked (for the amount of time specified on the can) read John 20:1-8. Open the tomb and remove the rolls. When they are cool enough, or if you wish you can wait for dinner, break open the roll. The marshmallow is gone! Remind your child of how the women and the disciples felt when they saw the empty tomb! It was even more astonishing than the missing marshmallow! Thank God together as you eat that Jesus won over sin and death!

\*\*\*There are dozens of resurrection roll recipes and traditions on the internet and websites like Pinterest. Feel free to explore and adapt this activity to make it most meaningful and understandable for your child.



### REVIEW TODAY'S MESSAGE BY DISCUSSING THESE QUESTIONS AS A FAMILY:

- 1. WHAT ARE SOME THINGS THAT YOU FIND TRYING OR DIFFICULT IN THESE DAYS? HOW DOES THE PASSAGE WE HEARD ABOUT YOU TODAY HELP YOU TO HAVE HOPE EVEN IN THESE HARD TIMES?**
- 2. HOW DOES KNOWING THAT THERE IS SOMETHING SO MUCH BETTER YET TO COME HELP US TO PERSEVERE (FAITHFULLY ENDURE) THESE DAYS NOW? WHO DOES THIS HOPE APPLY TO? DOES THIS HOPE APPLY TO YOU? HOW DO YOU KNOW?**