

## OPENING HYMN #460

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We received a good report on Don's health from our friends at Lantana Grace Church in Crossville, Tennessee. Long story short, Don's heart condition is not so severe as to need surgery. His doctor told him to continue doing as he desires with no restrictions. He also said there is no need to restrict his travel by airlines. Praise God for His mercy!
  - Kevin, Kimberly, and the kids are in Nixa, Missouri this morning to worship with Eric and Michelle Lutter and the folks at Grace Baptist Church of the Ozarks. Kevin is preaching for Eric in the second service.
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## SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 11:1-31

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## WORSHIP HYMN #326

More About Jesus

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## OFFERING

“Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, *so let him give*; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.” *2 Cor 9:7*

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## WORSHIP HYMN #351

Near the Cross

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## MESSAGE

GOING HOME

ISAIAH 35:10

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## CLOSING HYMN #18

Now Thank We All Our God

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## THINGS TO PONDER

**Brother Scott Richardson** once wrote – “I defy anyone to find a solitary text of Scripture in the New Testament that uses the law to motivate, inspire, regulate, or even guide the believer. Believers are motivated by love, inspired by gratitude, regulated by grace, and guided by the Holy Spirit. The whole Word of God, the complete revelation of His will is our law. Our lives are governed by love, not by fear. We walk by faith, not by legislation. We walk in the Spirit, not in the flesh (Romans 8:9-14; Galatians 3:3).”

So great is the depravity of unregenerate man that, although there is nothing that he needs more than the Gospel, there is nothing that he desires less

## Where the Spirit of the Lord is, There is Liberty

Of all bondage and slavery in the world, there is none more horrible than the bondage of sin. Tell me of Israel in Egypt preparing their tale of bricks unsupplied with straw; tell me of the slave beneath the lash of his cruel taskmaster, and I confess it is a bondage fearful to be borne; but there is one far worse — the bondage of a convinced sinner when he is brought to feel the burden of his guilt; the bondage of a man when once his sins are baying him, like hounds about a weary stag; the bondage of a man when the burden of his sin is on his shoulder — a burden too heavy for his soul to bear — a burden which will sink him forever in the depths of everlasting torment, unless he doth escape from it.

Methinks I see such a person. He hath ne'er a smile upon his face; dark clouds hath gathered on his brow; his songs are groans; his smiles are tears; and when he seems most happy, hot drops of grief roll in burning shower, scalding furrows on his cheek. Ask him what he is, and he tells you he is “a wretch undone.” Ask him how he is, and he confesses that he is “misery incarnate.” Ask him what he shall be, and he says, “he shall be lost in flames forever, and there is no hope.” Behold him alone in his retirement: when he lays his head on his pillow, up he starts again: at night he dreams of torment, and by day he almost feels that of which he dreamed. Such is the poor convinced sinner under bondage. I speak to those who understand it. You have passed through that gloomy Slough of Despond; you have gone through that dark vale of penitence: you have been made to drink the bitter cup of repentance: and I know you will say, “Amen” when I declare that of all bondage this is the most painful — the bondage of the law, the bondage of corruption. “O wretched man that I am, who shall deliver me” from it? But the Christain is free; he can smile now, though he wept before; he can rejoice now, whereas he lamented. “There is,” he says “no sin upon my conscience now; there is no crime upon my breast; I need not walk through the earth fearful of every shadow, and afraid of every man I meet, for sin is washed away; my spirit is no more guilty; it is pure, it is holy; there no longer resteth the frown of God upon me; but my Father smiles: I see his eyes — they are glancing love: I hear his voice — it is full of sweetness. I am forgiven, I am forgiven, I am forgiven! All hail, thou breaker of fetters! Glorious Jesus! ... “Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty” from the bondage of sin.

-Charles H. Spurgeon

-Copied

## Happy New Year

Some think such wishes are frivolous and should not be spoken. Their overmuch piety makes them sourpusses. Surely, if it is right for us to desire one another's good, (And it is!), it cannot be wrong to express it in a few words of friendly greeting. It is proper for us to reflect upon our sins and failures, our wanderings and departings from our God during the year that is gone. But having done so, let us bury the past. As the stroke of the clock at midnight last night buries the previous day forever, so let us bury the past. Forgetting those things which are behind, let us each reach out and press forward to those things that are set before us in Christ. Give thanks to God for mercies experienced and received; but do not live upon those either. Yesterday's bread will not sustain our souls today. Let us awake every day given us in the New Year with an intense desire to see, experience, and rejoice in the great mercies of our great God, which are new every morning.

*-Pastor Don Fortner*

## Great Plainness

*"Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech".*

I see a lot of men who claim to preach the Gospel of God's grace in Christ Jesus, involved in a lot of hairsplitting confusion and debating of complicated irrelevancies. Thank God for those who, by His grace and power, preach the clear, plain simplicity that is in Christ Jesus. If little children cannot understand (intellectually) your gospel, then your gospel is worthless. I know that the truth must be revealed by God and that it is unfathomable, but the Gospel our Lord preached, was and is not confusing or hard to understand. Even those who hated it (Him), and were ever learning yet never able to come to a knowledge of the truth, clearly understood what He was saying, though they were spiritually blind. You did not need a lexicon to refer to when our Lord preached. He did not carry a chalk board with Him and scribble diagrams, and chronological charts, or make endless, complex word studies. People are dying and going to Hell while Doctors of Theology are rambling for hours without ever once simply telling anyone how a sinner can be saved by the free grace of God in Christ Jesus. How sad.

*-pastor Chris Cunningham*

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[www.sandiegograce.com](http://www.sandiegograce.com)

Sunday 9:30 AM Bible Class lesson

10:30 AM Morning Worship Service

Wednesday 6:30 PM Mid-week Worship Service

Listen to the gospel at: [www.freegraceradio.com](http://www.freegraceradio.com)

**Sunday December 29, 2019**

**"And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."**

*Rev 22:17*



**"But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him." 1Cor 8:6**