



GRACE

PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH

Sunday, May 4th, 2025

Welcome & Preparation: Bob Cuthel

Call to Worship: Psalm 118

Leader: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good and his love endures forever.

All: **Let those who fear the LORD say, "His love endures forever."**

Leader: The Lord is our strength and our song; he has become our salvation.

All: **I will give you thanks, for you answered me; you have become my salvation.**

Leader: The LORD is God, and he has made his light shine upon us.

All: **You are our God, and we will give you thanks: you are our God, and we will exalt you.**

Song of Worship: **Blessed Assurance**

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect communion, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight.
Angels descending bring from above, echoes of mercy, whispers of love.
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, all is at rest. I in my Savior am happy and bless'd,
watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love.
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Prayer of Adoration: (Concluded by all saying the Lord's Prayer)

Our father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Silent Praise & Thanksgiving:

We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth. ...

And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

Songs of Worship:**Christ Our Wisdom**

Christ our wisdom, we are humbled When You hide Your ways from us
You have purposes unnumbered Each one good and glorious
Help us trust when we grow weary Free us from our anxious thoughts
Give us grace to see more clearly You are God and we are not

Christ our wisdom, be our gladness When we fail to understand
You ordain all joy and sadness To fulfill Your perfect plan
Help us know You rule with power Over every raging flood
In our most uncertain hour You are God and we are loved

Christ our wisdom, we will follow Though the way ahead is veiled
As we journey through the shadows Grant us faith where sight has failed
Help us cling to Your commandments Strengthened by Your faithful word
We will never be abandoned You are God and we are Yours

Christ our wisdom, we adore You For the beauty of the cross
Once in foolishness we scorned You But Your blood has ransomed us
Help us sing the endless mercies Of Your humble heart to save
Christ our wisdom, Christ our glory You are God forever praised

All Creatures Of Our God And King

All creatures of our God and King Lift up your voice and let us sing,
O Praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam, Thou silver moon with softer gleam!
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong Ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou rising moon, in praise rejoice, Ye lights of evening, find a voice!
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Come, everyone of tender heart, Forgiving others, take your part,
O sing ye! Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear, Praise God and on Him cast your care!
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

He shall return in pow'r to reign, Heaven and earth will join to say
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Then who shall fall on bended knee? All creatures of our God and King
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Ancient of Days

Though the nations rage Kingdoms rise and fall
There is still one King Reigning over all
So I will not fear for this truth remains:
That my God is the Ancient of Days

None above Him, none before Him
All of time in His hands
For His throne it shall remain and ever stand
All the power, all the glory
I will trust in His name
For my God is the Ancient of Days

Though the dread of night Overwhelms my soul
He is here with me, I am not alone
O His love is sure and He knows my name
For my God is the Ancient of Days

None above Him, none before Him
All of time in His hands
For His throne it shall remain and ever stand
All the power, all the glory
I will trust in His name
For my God is the Ancient of Days

Though I may not see What the future brings
I will watch and wait For the Saviour King
Then my joy complete standing face to face
In the presence of the Ancient of Days
None above Him, none before Him
All of time in His hands
For His throne it shall remain and ever stand
All the power, all the glory
I will trust in His name
For my God is the Ancient of Days

For my God is the Ancient of Days

Children's Dismissal & Announcements: Fill out our [Connection Card](http://www.gracehamptons.org/connect). www.gracehamptons.org/connect

- **Congregational Prayer Gathering.** Sunday, May 4th, after the worship service.
- **GraceYouth Senior High Gathering.** The 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, 7PM. High school students are invited to the Middlekauff home for some great times and Bible discussion. For more information, contact Lesley Middlekauff (lesleym@gracehamptons.org).
- **Ladies Bible Study.** Tuesdays, 9AM. Dive into God's Word and enjoy weekly fellowship! For more information, contact Lesley Middlekauff (lesleym@gracehamptons.org).
- **GraceYouth Group** Wednesdays, 6:30PM-8PM. We will gather at the church for some fun times and good Bible conversations. For more information, contact Lesley Middlekauff (lesleym@gracehamptons.org).
- **SecondSaturdaysOut!** Saturday, May 10th, 5:30PM-9:15PM. To register your child(ren), visit gracehamptons.org/seCONDSATURDAYSOUT or on the Grace Church app. To volunteer, email Sally Spanburgh (sally@gracehamptons.org) or sign up on the Grace Church app.
- **COMBINED Guys & Ladies Night Out:** Golf Range Goodness! Monday, May 19th, 6:30PM at Southampton Golf Range. We will have TWO GOLF PROS available to teach us! So, come join us for a fun night of hitting golf balls, making friends and eating great food. Invite your friends and bring some cash for food. For more information, contact Adriana Pariz (adriana@gracehamptons.org).
- **Save the Date: GraceYouth - Wilderness Adventure in the Adirondacks!** Monday, August 4th to Friday, August 8th. High school students are invited to head up state to the Beautiful Adirondacks for a week of wilderness adventure including paddling, hiking, and camping out. It will be a great chance to unplug, enjoy God's creation, and listen for his voice. For more information, contact Lesley Middlekauff (lesleym@gracehamptons.org).
- **Little Free Pantry.** Our LFP has become essential to our community and gets regular, consistent use and so our supplies are once again severely depleted. Please consider donating items to help us regularly re-stock the pantry. Visit gracehamptons.org/LFP to find our [Amazon link](#) to order supplies and have them shipped straight to Grace Church!

Offertory: *To give via text, text the word "GIVE" to [833-892-6212](tel:833-892-6212). First time givers will have to fill out a short form with billing information. After the initial setup, giving is as easy as sending a text message.*

Prayer of Confession:

Lord God, we have given more weight to our successes and our happiness than to your will.
We have eaten without a thought for the hungry.
We have spoken without an effort to understand others.
We have stored up treasure on earth instead of stewarding what you entrust to us.
We have kept silence instead of telling the truth.
We have judged others, forgetful that you alone are the Judge.
We have acted rather in accordance with our opinions than according to your commands.
Within your church we have been slow to practice love of our neighbors.
And in the world we have not been your faithful servants.
In all these actions and more, before you and our fellow man, we have profaned your holy name.
Forgive us and help us to live as disciples of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Amen.

Private Confession:

Words of Encouragement: Daniel 9:9, 18

To the LORD our God belong mercy and forgiveness, for we have rebelled against him.... O my God, incline your ear and hear. Open your eyes and see our desolations, and the city that is called by your name. For we do not present our pleas before you because of our righteousness, but because of your great mercy.

Prayer of the People: Silvia Mendez

Sermon Text: 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

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⁶The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. ⁹As it is written,

“He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor;
his righteousness endures forever.”

¹⁰He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

Sermon: *Generosity's Harvest*

Rev. John Rantal

The Lord's Supper:

Hymn of Response: **Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me**

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to his
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing: all is mine!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side, the Saviour He will stay
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need, His power is displayed
To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley He will lead
Oh the night has been won, and I shall overcome!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven
The future sure, the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And He was raised to overthrow the grave
To this I hold, my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released, I can sing: I am free!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For He has said that He will bring me home
And day by day I know He will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to Him
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:
Yet not I, but through Christ in me!

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to Him
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:
Yet not I, but through Christ in me!
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:
Yet not I, but through Christ in me!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me!

Benediction: 2 Corinthians 13:14

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Dismissal:

Minister: Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

All: **Hallelujah, amen!**

Rev. John S. Rantal is a minister (honorably retired) of the Presbyterian Church in America. Pastoring was John's third career, having worked previously as a NASA Protocol Officer during the Apollo moon landings, Skylab, and Space Shuttle programs. He then served as a missionary executive with International Students, Inc. (ISI), a Christian outreach to international students attending American colleges. He has ministered at PCA churches in Colorado Springs, CO, Los Angeles, CA, Dallas, TX, and Seattle, WA. John and his wife, Cindy, have been blessed with three grown children and seven grandchildren, and now reside on Long Island, NY.