



GRACE

PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH

Sunday, July 27, 2025

Welcome & Preparation: Tom Ayres

Song of Worship: **A Mighty Fortress Is Our God**

A mighty fortress is our God, A Bulwark never failing;
Our helper He, amid the flood Of mortal ills prevailing;
For still our ancient foe Doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and pow'r are great, And armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, Our striving would be losing
Were not the right Man on our side, The Man of God's own choosing:
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He;
Lord Sabaoth, His name, From age to age the same,
And He must win the battle.

And though this world with devils filled, Should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God has willed His truth to triumph through us:
The Prince of Darkness grim, We tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure, For lo, his doom is sure;
One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, No thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours Through Him who with us sideth;
Let goods and kindred go, This mortal life also;
The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still,
His kingdom is forever.

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:

Scripture Reading: Psalm 37:1-11

Sally Spanburgh

Fret not yourself because of evildoers;
be not envious of wrongdoers!
For they will soon fade like the grass
and wither like the green herb.

Trust in the LORD, and do good;
dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.
Delight yourself in the LORD,
and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Commit your way to the LORD;
trust in him, and he will act.
He will bring forth your righteousness as the light,
and your justice as the noonday.

Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him;
fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way,
over the man who carries out evil devices!

Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath!
Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil.
For the evildoers shall be cut off,
but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.

In just a little while, the wicked will be no more;
though you look carefully at his place, he will not be there.
But the meek shall inherit the land
and delight themselves in abundant peace.

Call to Worship: From Psalms 102 & 103

Leader: In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment.

All: The children of your servants will live in your presence; their descendants will be established before you.

Leader: We praise you Lord, who crowns us with love and compassion, who satisfies our desires with good things so that our youth is renewed like the eagle's!

All: From everlasting to everlasting your love is with those who fear you, O Lord, and your righteousness to their children's children, with those who keep your covenant, and remember to obey your commandments.

Songs of Worship: Come And Welcome

From the cross uplifted high
Where the Savior deigns to die
What melodious sounds I hear
Bursting on my ravished ear
Love's redeeming work is done
Come and welcome, sinner, come.

Sprinkled now with blood the throne
Why beneath thy burdens groan
On my pierced body laid
Justice owns the ransom paid

Bow the knee and kiss the Son
Come and welcome, sinner, come.

Spread for Thee the festal board (*echo*)
See with richest dainties stored (*echo*)
To thy Father's bosom pressed (*echo*)
Yet again a child confessed (*echo*)
Never from His house to roam
Come and welcome, sinner, come.

Soon the days of life shall end
Lo, I come, your Savior, Friend
Safe your spirit to convey
To the realms of endless day
Up to my eternal home.
Come and welcome, sinner, come.
Come and welcome, sinner, come.

You Are My Shield (Psalm 3)

See how my foes increase
See them rising up against me
They rob my soul of peace
And say there is no help in God

But You, O Lord, You are my shield
You lift my head
I'm as safe with You out on the field
As in my bed
You keep my life concealed
You are my shield

I lifted up my voice
And You answered from Your mountain
You made my soul rejoice
For yes, there is great help in God

You, O Lord, You are my shield
You lift my head
I'm as safe with You out on the field
As in my bed
You keep my life concealed
You are my shield

Rise up, O Lord, and fight
Break their jaws, destroy the wicked
Show us Your power and might
None can save us, none but God

You, O Lord, You are my shield
You lift my head
I'm as safe with You out on the field
As in my bed
You keep my life concealed
You are my shield

(Interlude)

You, O Lord, You are my shield
You lift my head
I'm as safe with You out on the field
As in my bed
You keep my life concealed
My foes around me all will yield
I know the victory is sealed
You are my shield

This I Believe (The Creed)

Our Father everlasting, the all creating One ...
God Almighty
Through Your Holy Spirit conceiving Christ the Son ...
Jesus our Savior

I believe in God our Father
I believe in Christ the Son
I believe in the Holy Spirit
Our God is three in one
I believe in the resurrection
That we will rise again
For I believe in the name of Jesus

Our Judge and our Defender; Suffered and crucified
Forgiveness is in You
Descended into darkness, You rose in glorious life
Forever seated high

I believe in God our Father
I believe in Christ the Son
I believe in the Holy Spirit
Our God is three in one
I believe in the resurrection
That we will rise again
For I believe in the name of Jesus

I believe in You
I believe You rose again
I believe that Jesus Christ is Lord

We believe in You
We believe You rose again
We believe that Jesus Christ is Lord

We believe in God our Father
We believe in Christ the Son
We believe in the Holy Spirit
Our God is three in one
We believe in the resurrection
That we will rise again
For we believe in the name of Jesus

We believe in life eternal
We believe in the virgin birth
We believe in the saints' communion
And in Your holy Church
We believe in the resurrection
When Jesus comes again
For we believe in the name of Jesus
For we believe in the name of Jesus
For we believe in the name of Jesus

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

- **GraceCamp Set UP!** TODAY, after the worship service. Take part in transforming the church into an amazing ocean environment for GraceCamp!
- **GraceCamp: Ocean Rescue!** Monday, July 28th to Friday, August 1st 6-8:30PM. Invite your friends to the best summer camp in the Hamptons! Kids entering K-6th grade will experience an exciting time of exploring the untamable, unpredictable ocean and Jesus as the ultimate lifesaver. It will be a great week of fun, laughter, and learning! Visit gracehamptons.org/gracecamp to register and for more information.
- **Volunteer for GraceCamp!** Be a part of making GraceCamp one of the best experiences ever for our campers! Sign up to volunteer by contacting Mollie Duggal (mollieduggal@yahoo.com).
- **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).
- **Register for The Cornhole Tournament!** Wednesday, August 13th, 6PM. Be a part of one of the most fun nights of the summer! We are partnering with the Long Island Cornhole Association to bring you a fun night out with friends at The Clubhouse in East Hampton. Space is limited! Visit gracehamptons.org/cornhole to register to play! For more information, contact Adriana Pariz (adriana@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. 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:

All: Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for your goodness' sake, O LORD!
Good and upright is the LORD;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
For your name's sake, O LORD,
pardon my guilt, for it is great.
Turn to me and be gracious to me,
for I am lonely and afflicted.
Relieve the troubles of my heart,
and bring me out of my distress.
Consider my affliction and my trouble,
and forgive all my sins.

Private Confession:

Words of Encouragement: 1 John 2:1-2

My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense —Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

Prayer of the People: Sharon Kerr

Sermon Text: Matthew 5:10-12

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¹⁰ "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Sermon: *Profiting in Persecution*

Rev. John Rantal

The Lord's Supper:

Hymn of Response: **Greatest End**

May I fear you greater than I fear man, I fear man.
May my love for you be measured by obedience, by repentance.
And in that moment humbly bow, teach my heart, show me how
To fear you more my Lord, my God! Faithful Friend, Greatest End

May I want you greater than Earthly things, worldly things.
May I find my greatest treasure Hid in You, bound in You.
And in that moment sell my all, gladly trade all I own
All to gain the priceless pearl! Truest Friend, Greatest End

May I love you greater than my own will, my own will.
May I seek my greatest pleasure from your hand, from your hand.
And in that moment lift my eyes to the cross, up to Christ
Die to self and gain your life! Savior, Friend, Greatest End

And in that moment lift my eyes to the cross, up to Christ
Die to self and gain your life! Savior, Friend, Greatest End

Greatest End

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.