# EAGER AVENUE GRACE CHURCH

That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 5:21

### **Worship Services**

#### Sunday, January 26, 2025

10 am: "All Things Fulfilled" Matthew 24:32-35 Matthew Series | Lesson 89 Bill Parker

11 am: "Sins Laid Upon Christ" Psalm 69:5 Bill Parker

#### **Live Stream**

Every Sunday 10 & 11 a.m.
-<u>Sermon Audio</u>
-<u>Facebook</u>
-YouTube

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# "Just as if I Had Never Sinned"

Some have said that to be "justified" is to be "just as if I'd never sinned." But the truth is justification deals completely with the fact that I have sinned. God being just, His justification has to have a just basis. When Paul wrote in Romans 8, "It is God that justifies," he immediately followed with "it is Christ that died." The death of a sinless Substitute for sin is necessary for God to justify a sinner. Justification is clearly an act of God. He declared all His people as having been "justified freely through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." All in Him are now without sin but justification does not excuse sin or in any way diminish its vileness and offensiveness to God. No, justification declares the sinner righteous and also declares the Justifier as righteous.

—Pastor Gary Shepard

"Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, Who is even at the right hand of God, Who also maketh intercession for us." (Romans 8:33-34)

#### "The Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all" (Isaiah 53:6)

Upon whom did the Lord God lay the iniquities of His people? He laid them upon the Lord Jesus Christ, the Surety of a people whom God the Father chose and gave to Him before the world began in the everlasting covenant of grace (*Eph. 1:3-7; 2 Tim. 1:9*).

How did the Lord lay their iniquity upon Him? It was by the imputation of their sin-debt charged to Christ's account and which He was made responsible to pay in full for their complete redemption (*Psalm 32:1-2; Rom. 4:4-6; 2 Cor. 5:19-21*). This imputed sin to Him laid a burden upon Him that no mere man could bear.

How did Christ pay for their sins? It was by His obedience unto death as their Surety, Substitute, and Redeemer, whereby He satisfied God's justice and paid their debt in full as proven by His resurrection from the dead—"Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He hath put Him to grief: when Thou shalt make His soul an offering for sin" (Isa. 53:10a).

What was the result of His obedience unto death for His people? It was the complete salvation of their souls, including their justification, sanctification, and glorification – "He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand. He shall see of the travail of His soul, and shall be satisfied: by His knowledge shall My righteous Servant justify many; for He shall bear their iniquities" (Isa. 53:10b-11).

—Pastor Bill Parker

"It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is Thy faithfulness." (Lam. 3:22-23) Don't we realize that the only reason we are not condemned and eternally punished under God's justice is a matter of God's mercy and not of our merit? And don't we realize that God's mercy and the only merit we as sinners saved by grace have before God is in and by the Lord Jesus Christ? If we have been given the gift of faith in Christ, we realize both of these truths.

—Pastor Bill Parker

## The Vileness of Sin

Judge the awfulness of sin by the punishment required to satisfy God and enable Him to remove it in a manner consistent with His law and justice. You may depend upon it that a just God would never require an unfair payment for sin. His justice could demand no more nor settle for less than the price required by divine law to remove it. Behold the cross of Calvary! See Who is fastened to the cursed tree. It is the Lord's anointed, the holy, spotless, eternal Son of God. Why does He hang there? Why does He suffer so? Why does He cry out, "My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me?" Why does He die? Who killed the Lord Jesus? It is because He bore the sins of His own people on the cross and, since a holy God demands satisfaction for crimes against Him, Christ must suffer, bleed and die as the Substitute for sinners, therefore He died at the hands of God. "God spared not His Own Son but delivered Him up for us all" (Romans 8:32). Learn then how vile sin is by the payment required to put it away and satisfy divine justice. "Christ died for our sins" (1 Cor 15:3). Let me weep over my sin that caused His grief and let me rejoice in Him Who bore it for me and Whose death removed it from me "as far as the east is from the west" (Psalm 103:12).

—Pastor Jim Byrd

#### **Birthdays**

Tim Hall - Jan. 26th | Janet Fletcher - Jan. 26th | Brent Cox - Jan. 30th | Molly Fuller - Jan. 31st

#### **Hymns**

<u>January 26th services</u> -It is Well - 256 -Man of Sorrows - 127

#### **Prayer Requests**

Patricia Pannell, Alex Wages, Audrey Asher, Kathy Robinson, Lori Ann Loosier, Leon Drake, Judy Fletcher, David Tennyson, Monica Hayes, Mike Loosier, Patsy Parr, Phyllis Payne, the mission in Malawi, Africa.

## Call to Worship

(Tune – How Firm a Foundation – p. 268)

Thy mercy, My God, is the theme of my song, The joy of my heart, the boast of my tongue; Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last Hath won my affection and bound my heart fast.

For unworthy sinners my Lord bowed His head, For unworthy sinners He suffered and bled; My spirit rejoices, the work it is done, My soul is redeemed, and salvation is won!

Great God of all mercies, Thy goodness I own, And the covenant love of Thy glorified Son; All praise to the Saviour Whose blood so divine Sealed pardon and mercy and righteousness mine.

Great Father of glory, how rich is Thy grace! What wonderful love is revealed in Thy face! Lord Jesus, Beloved, we are washed in Thy blood, With hope we shall stand at the throne of our God.