

# GRACE CHURCH NEWS



Grace Geared to the Times!

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## Are you leaping yet?

Trying to contemplate our current reality is quite the job these days. 2020 is severely abnormal, with pandemic aftershocks, anti-racist protests, indigenous blockades, deadliest mass murder in Canadian history with a looming recession. It becomes easier to bury our heads in the sand and avoid our current reality. However avoiding the truth is not healthy either. Truth needs to be embraced, in John 8:31-32 Jesus explains that if you abide in His word, we are truly His disciples, and we will know the truth, and the truth will set us free." So while the truth in our current reality is though, it is truth that will eventually set us free.

We need to take this moment to grieve our current predicament . This is not the first time people of God had to grieve their reality. The destruction of Jerusalem in 587 B.C.E is the defining moment of the Old Testament. This was massive upheaval on every level of Israel's life. Their confidence in their ideology as being God's chosen people was shaken to the core. They were returned to a position of slavery, a return to Egypt. Can you empathize or even imagine this? This brought about a sense of national grief and mourning. This was followed up with a spirit of repentance which resulted in the hope that God would hear their cry and send salvation.

We too, as God's children need to mourn on behalf of our reality and repent on behalf of our nation (Think Ninevah and the messages of the prophets). If not us then who will pray on behalf of a country "we" love. There has been much injustice and bloodshed in our world, God couldn't ignore it any longer. God has called His church to face reality and to return to Him with a spirit of repentance. In this we will find our hope.

In Malachi 4:2 we read, "But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out *leaping like calves* from the stall". God desires for the hearts of the Fathers and Sons to be reunited so that He will bless our lands. **Restored families? Wonderful idea!**

**Love & Hugs from Your Grace Church Family!!!!**

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email address: [gefc@tbaytel.net](mailto:gefc@tbaytel.net)  
Offerings and tithes can be given to the church via e-transfer to [GraceEFC@tbaytel.net](mailto:GraceEFC@tbaytel.net) or by dropping them off at the office or sending them by mail.



# Truly, Truly



**Pastor Don**

**When someone says to me “To tell you the truth...”, I am tempted to wonder if they have previously been lying to me.**

**Jesus was a truth teller. Always! But 25 times recorded in the Bible he says “Verily, verily” – or “Truly, truly”. In Biblical parlance often a word or idea is repeated for emphasis. So Jesus is emphasizing his own persona. He is “the Truth”. He cannot lie.**

**Jesus says of Satan “He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. (John 8:44)**

**The words of Jesus are pure. They can be trusted.**

**In our time of mourning after the death of our son, Andrew, I find real, vibrant hope in the words of Jesus. He said: “Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. (John 14:1-2)**

**It’s the last part that really struck me. “If it were not so, I would have told you”. It’s that Biblical repetition, that emphasis that reassures. Jesus, the teller of truth, is saying; I would tell you if I weren’t going to prepare a house for you.**

**Trust him today. Verily.**

**Oh, what a Savior that He died for me!  
From condemnation He hath made me free;  
“He that believeth on the Son” saith He,  
“Hath everlasting life.”**

**“Verily, verily, I say unto you;”  
“Verily, verily,” message ever new!  
“He that believeth on the Son”—’tis true!—  
“Hath everlasting life!”**



**Nora Ellis**

**Our Sister in Christ, Vivian Treichler, is 94 & 1/2. She reads constantly. She doesn't read novels. She reads books on Christian doctrine, commentaries on Books of the Bible and other such tomes. She knits for others when her arthritis allows. She prays for members of the congregation regularly, and is always up-to-date on the Prayer Chain requests and is interested in outcomes. She is current on local and national news as well as international news, yet she doesn't sit in front of the TV all day. She writes letters to public officials and letters to the editor. When they are effective, she rejoices and when they aren't published – she writes another one.**

**When she moved into Jasper Place one of the first things that she did was organize a Bible Study for the residents. She is one of the most evangelical people I know. She reads her Bible daily. "God answers prayer you know!" is a common phrase. She is faithful in the truest sense of the word.**

**On more than one occasion Vivian has told me that when she was young, she prayed for a life of adventure – and she got it. She giggles and says: "I have had lots of adventures!" She laughs easily and often and has the lovely ability to laugh at herself. I believe that to Vivian life is still a great adventure.**

**Those of us who are on Vivian's phone list are fortunate. She never calls just to talk or simply pass time, as soon as you answer she launches into her concern of the day. No niceties are required. She knows you know her and she is on a mission. I have come to look forward to these interludes in my not-so-busy days lately. I realize that she is exactly who I want to be "when I grow up". At 94, Vivian is still engaged in the world. She is not self-absorbed with her many and serious physical issues; she is interested in others and what they are thinking, doing and whether they know Christ.**

**We don't see Vivian at church anymore, but she is just as present in her mind as if she were sitting over there on the left side of the auditorium with her sweet smile enjoying the time of worship and listening with a keen interest to the sermon.**

**May God continue to bless us with her presence and continue to give her joy in life and many more adventures.**

**Proverbs 28:20 – "A faithful man will abound with blessings."**



**Kathy Olsen**

## Let the Lord Know that you Love Him

### “Sing”

Praising God in song is praying. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding. Be filled with the spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord and all flesh shall bless His holy name, forever and ever. I will praise you with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing praises to you. I will worship toward your holy temple and praise your name for your loving kindness and your truth; for you have magnified your word above all your name. In the day when I cried out, you answered me, and made me bold with strength in my soul.

Sing to the Lord, for He has done excellent things; this is known in all the earth. Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; for YAH, the Lord, is my strength and song; He also has become my salvation. Praise the Lord, call upon his name; declare his deeds among the peoples, make mention that his name is exalted.

I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously! The Lord is my strength and song, and He has become my salvation; He is my God, and I will praise him; my father's God and I will exalt him.

Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and praise is beautiful. Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; sing praises on the harp to our God.

And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps.

God's children have a song in their hearts that pours from their lips in praise.

1 Cor. 14: 15; Eph. 5: 18, 19; Col. 3: 16; Ps. 145: 21; Ps. 138: 1, 2, 5; Isa. 12: 5, 2, 4; Ex. 15: 1, 2; Ps. 147: 1, 7; Rev. 14: 2;