



Grace Notes

*Welcome

*Worship

*Praise

COVID GRACE NOTES APRIL 20, 2020

Grace Baptist
Church

An American Baptist
Church

www.grace4u.net

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Sunday School
9:00 a.m.

Worship
10:15 a.m.

Karen Worship
2:00 p.m.

**"For by grace you have
been saved through
faith, and this is not
your own doing; it is
the gift of God."**

Ephesians 2:8 NRSV

April 20, 2020
Volume 15-20

The Earth is the Lord's

Earth Day is Wednesday, April 22, 2020. Fifty years ago, students at San Jose State College in California began a celebration that became known as Earth Day. The celebration has gone viral. While the day did not begin in our churches, its purpose---to care for the earth---is certainly worthy of Christian support.

The Psalmist wrote, "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world and those that dwell therein . . . He founded it on the seas." (Psalm 24: 1-2) The gospel of John says it this way, "The world was made by Him." (John 1:1)

There is almost complete agreement among scientists that billions of years ago the universe burst forth with a bang from an infinitely dense, dimensionless point of pure energy. It happened so quickly it cannot be measured by time. Modern scientists further agree this infinitely dense, dimensionless point of pure energy came from nothing, i.e. *ex nihilo*. Nothing preceded it. Obviously, this was God's first miracle; He made that "infinitely dense, dimensionless point of pure energy." The Bible tells it this way---The earth was void, there was nothing until God said, "Let there be light." Then, the world began.

Humans are transients, tenants on God's earth. We have not been outstanding tenants of God's world. Two-thirds of the earth's land and waters have been transformed by the pressures of humankind. Far too often that transformation has been destructive. Eight million tons of plastic enter our oceans every year choking marine life. Climate change, for which we are at least partially responsible, threatens the earth.

Surely, Christians should be sensitive to these issues. This is our Father's world. He has prepared it beautifully and loaned it to us. *Loaned* is the key word here. The world belongs to God, not us. Thoughtful people take special care when they use the belongings of someone else. That being the case, I applaud the opportunity to celebrate Earth Day. Even more, I will care for my Father's world every day of the year. – Dr. H. Wade Paris



Mary Webb is part of our Grace community who is on the front line against the coronavirus at her job in the cancer center of KU Health Systems. Please pray for her this week and send her a note of thanks:

Mary Webb
4930 NE Winn Road
Kansas City, MO 64119

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Have you considered tithing your CARES Act check? Most expenses continue at the church even though we are not meeting on Sunday. You may send your gifts to our financial secretary, Roger McKee, at 5320 N. Wayne, KCMO 64118.

NARTHEX NEWS

(A summary of topics we would talk about if we were in the Narthex at GBC)

Gene Waters has developed a new word that is not in my spell check: “Thanks. I needed that on a cold, dreary, rainy Danky day.”

A note for Linda which was received by the publisher of Grace Notes: “I always envy Linda’s gracious manner, her house-keeping and gardening skills. She wouldn’t know, but whenever she was around, I wish I had her cool and calm composure, soft talking, along with her warm personality.”

Ethlyn McCleave is doing well during the lock-down and is still writing on the book. Ninety-nine years makes a long book.

Peggy Dunn’s daughter (Tanya) and grand-daughter (Nicole) are both nurses and working diligently through the coronavirus pandemic. After a long shift they each get home to the garage where they disrobe and head to the shower before greeting the children. We appreciate their service.

Mike Reiter is back in St. Louis for round three of treatments and hopes to be back home on Wednesday.

Bonnie and Jack Hespelt break the monotony by eating out on the front porch which faces south and walking their dog Lucky. Her verse this week is John 4:13-14, “whoever drinks of the water I give him will never thirst.”

Thanks Pastor Jerry, for your insights into John 20-21 this past Sunday Morning. It is comforting to be able to ponder a biblical text from a distance-although everyone misses the human dynamics of actually “being there”.

– Charlie & Peggy

SERMON FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2020

“We Had Hoped....”

Luke 24:13-35

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
3101 N.E. VIVION ROAD
KANSAS CITY, MO 64119

American Baptist Churches USA



*Serving as the hands
and feet of Christ*