



Abraham, Isaac and Jacob: the Dawn of a Covenant

Here I Am

"Abraham and His God are appalling. If this is a test, it would seem that both have failed miserably, both the One who devised the test and the one who submitted to it. What kind of God commands a father to sacrifice his only son, lets him through every agonized motion, and then halts the action just as the knife has reached the top of its arc, at the very moment of descent into the boy's throat? What kind of father accepts the ostensible terms of this loyalty test?

-Ellen Davis, *Getting Involved with God*

For some reason God chose this history to validate reality. He does not test us to lead us to sin, but to test the quality of who we are. The proof of what we are is what we do (James 2:14-24). We are not to put God to the test but to respond humbly and obediently when God calls. This is Abraham's stance when he replies, "Here I am." Abraham's humility and obedient action is the model for Christian faith.

-Bruce Waltke

17 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, **18** of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named." **19** He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

- Hebrews 11:17-19

Order of Worship

Welcome & Update

Prelude

Leader: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you

Call to Worship: from Psalm 86

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!

People: Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

ALL: For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Songs of Praise

Your Grace is Enough

Great is your faithfulness oh God
You wrestle with the sinner's (restless) heart
You lead us by still waters and to mercy
And nothing can keep us apart

So remember your people
Remember your children
Remember your promise
Oh God

Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Great is your love and justice God (of Jacob)
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of your salvation
And all your people sing along

Your grace is enough
Heaven reaching down to us
Your grace is enough for me

Your grace is enough
I'm covered in your love
Your grace is enough for me
for me

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;
as Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed Thy hand hath provided:
great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest;
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Prayer for the World, the Church & the City

Confession

Most just and gracious God, Your eyes are too pure to behold iniquity. We confess that we have neglected Your holy worship; we have dealt unjustly and uncharitably with our neighbors, not loving them as ourselves, nor doing to others as we would have them do to us. We have not sought first Your kingdom and righteousness, nor have we been contented with our daily bread. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father. Be reconciled to us, and let the blood of Jesus Christ cleanse us from all our sins. We pray this in Jesus's name, Amen.

Private Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Colossians 2:13-14

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

Song of Assurance

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 Saviour all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Saviour all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels, descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Saviour am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

Tithes and Offerings

credit card and other options such as e-transfers are available
via mail@gracevancouver.com

Doxology

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Scripture - Genesis 22:1-19

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God

God's Word Today- Jon Fung

Here I Am

Sermon Outline

1. Setting the context for an infamously difficult text
2. The clear yet costly command from God
3. Abraham and Isaac's faith
4. Faithful response to Christ our true priest and sacrifice

The Lord's Supper

The Great Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts!
People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Minister: It is right, and good, and a joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks unto you, O Lord, our Father Almighty, everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your holy name; evermore praising You and singing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth of Your glory are full. Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!

Words of Institution and Declaration of Faith

Minister: Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again.

Minister: The gifts of God for the people of God, take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on Him in your hearts by faith and with thanksgiving.

Song of Thanksgiving

Blessed Be Your Name

Blessed Be Your Name
In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name

Blessed Be Your name
When I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed Be Your name

Every blessing You pour out, I'll
Turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in, Lord
Still I will say:

Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name

Blessed be Your name
When the sun's shining down on me
When the world's 'all as it should be'
Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name

You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord blessed be Your name

Benediction: Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Peace

Minister: The Peace of the Lord be with you all
People: And also with you

Announcements

1. Zoom Prayer Meeting every Thursday 7 to 7:45 pm. Zoom link is in Friday Notes & reminder sent on Thursday afternoon
2. Prayer requests & Tithes. Please send to mail@gracevancouver.com
3. Lost & Found items are in cabinet between washrooms. Today is the last day to claim your items.
4. INKS Dinner at the Hsu home on Feb 16 @ 6pm
5. Family Drop-In Feb 22 from 9-11am. Come meet our neighbours! Sign-up sheet on back table.
6. All Church Potluck- February 19 @ 6pm.

Tithes up to December 31, 2024

2024 Annual Budget	\$250,000
Giving as of Dec 31, 2024	\$282,873
Giving Last Week	\$5,543

Ministry & Contacts

Lead Pastor:
Mike Hsu – mike@gracevancouver.com

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