



ENCOUNTERS
with **JESUS**

WELCOME TO GRACE UNION

WHAT'S HAPPENING TODAY
SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2017

- ➔ Praise & Worship
- ➔ Welcome/Announcements
- ➔ Offering
- ➔ Message: Pastor Bob Poley
- ➔ Prayer

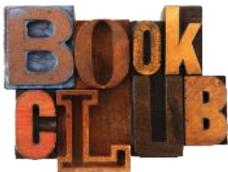


Thank you for joining us today. We're glad you're here. If this is your first time with us, please visit the Welcome table in the front lobby. We have a gift for you and would like to meet you.

NEWS & EVENTS



Next Sunday is Mother's Day! Join us as we celebrate our moms and honorary moms. It all starts at 10 a.m. with a time of worship and interactive games, including the MOMLYMPICS. You won't want to miss it! Moms will each receive a gift and have an opportunity to take pictures at our photo booth. We hope to see you then!



One of our elementary kids has started a book club! The kids choose the book to read for the month, and they meet the first Wednesday to discuss, have an activity, and a snack. The current book is *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Cabin Fever*.

If your elementary child is interested in participating, let Carrie Clifton know! The next book club meeting is **THIS Wednesday, May 10th @ 6 PM** in the GU Cafe. **NOTE: This was rescheduled from last week.** We'll be choosing the next book at this meeting as well.

HOSPITALITY MINISTRY

If you are interested in being a part of the GU Hospitality Ministry, please let Karen Poley know at karenmomma@live.com. This group of individuals will be points of contact to help with upcoming GU events including setting up chairs, decorating, putting away tables, cooking/barbecuing and more.



If you would like your child to go to camp this year, registration is open at ilsmonline.org! Registration through May 15th is \$225. This year's camp leaders and their contact information are:

- *Girls completing 1st-2nd grade:* Carrie Clifton - lclifton@aol.com
- *Girls completing 3rd-6th:* Stacey Bush - newagainexteriors@gmail.com
- *Boys completing 3rd-6th:* Pastor Bob Poley - bobpoley78@gmail.com

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD - May Collection Items

Thank you to all who have donated to our upcoming Packing Party so far this year. **May's focus is Non-liquid Hygiene Items: toothbrushes, bar soap, combs, washcloths, etc.** *Toothpaste specifications:* Starting in 2017, toothpaste cannot be included in shoebox gifts, but a child's oral hygiene can still be improved by regular use of a toothbrush alone. If you have any specific questions, please contact Carrie Sander at vocalmusic1@gmail.com.

OUR MISSION

We are helping people to live in union with Christ by grace.

- Union with God through a relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Union with Others through investing in people through Biblical community.
- Union with Ourselves with a wholeness found in a new identity in Christ.
- Union with our Broken World by being an agent of change in our society by caring for and serving those who are poor, oppressed or marginalized.

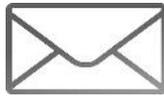
We value sharing the love, life and power of God to our communities and world, joining Christ in his mission to rescue fallen humanity.

WAYS TO CONNECT



For any special needs, prayer partners are available after service. You can also email gucprayer@gmail.com.

WAYS TO GIVE



ENVELOPE

Offering or Giving Box



TEXT TO GIVE

Text GIVE to 314.888.5188



ONLINE

graceunionstl.org

MAILING ADDRESS

3900 Union Road, St. Louis, MO 63125

Visit us online to learn more about Grace Union at graceunionstl.org.

All of our message recordings can also be found on our website.



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ENCOUNTERS WITH JESUS

PART 3: TEMPTATION

Matthew 4:1-11

- 1 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.
- 2 After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.
- 3 The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."
- 4 Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"
- 5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple.
- 6 "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: "'He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'"
- 7 Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"
- 8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor.
- 9 "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me."
- 10 Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"
- 11 Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

I. The Bad News: Every person is subject to temptation.

James 1:14

Each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed.

- Sometimes we are scored on by the other team, but quite often we are that kid who scores on his own team.

1 Corinthians 10:13

No temptation has taken you except that which is common to man, but God is faithful and will with the temptation make a way of escape so that you can stand up under it.

- One of the tricks of the enemy is to make you feel like you are somehow lesser for having been tempted.
 - A shot on goal is not a goal. A goal is a goal.

II. **The Good News: Jesus was Victorious over temptation on your behalf.**

- 1 John tells us that there are 3 categories of human sin.
 - Lusts of the flesh: physical appetites run amuck
 - Lusts of the eyes: when our desire for or pursuit of material things usurps things of greater importance
 - Pride of life: sins of self image

A. The first temptation was for Jesus to put his appetites above what God had for him.

- Jesus' response, "Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds from the mouth of God."
 - There is a satisfaction derived from hearing and responding to voice of God that no physical appetite can produce or rival.

B. The second temptation Jesus faced was the pride of life.

- Jesus was tempted with the idea of leveraging the power at his disposal to prove himself and establish his worth with people.
- Jesus had the ultimate trump card that he could have leveraged at any time, but he did not.
 - Jesus waited for God the Father to exalt him in his own time and his own way.

C. Jesus was tempted to leverage the what God had given him to get THINGS for himself.

- In response to that struggle Jesus said, "Worship the Lord and serve him only."
 - If you worship God you will receive God and all he has for you.
 - If you worship stuff in the end you will get stuff.

Hebrews 4: 15-16

- 15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.
- 16 Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

III. We receive Mercy and Grace because Jesus was righteous where we should have been.

- Jesus came and stood between God and Us.
 - God's view of you has been colored by Jesus
 - God deals with us on the basis of what Jesus did.
- The Mercy of God means that we don't get the punishment that we deserve.
- The Grace of God means that we get the blessing and divine favor that Jesus deserved.

IV. In addition to benefiting from Jesus' victory we can learn from his example.

- Sin is not a fun play thing; it is designed to kill you.
- A. One key for overcoming temptation is to recognize sin for what it really is.
- It is not a meal, it is bait, and it is meant to turn you into a meal.
- B. Another key for overcoming temptation is tell yourself the truth.
- Truth: There is a satisfaction derived from hearing and obeying the voice of God that nothing physical can rival.
 - Truth: If we entrust ourselves to the father and humble ourselves before others, God will exalt us in his time and place.
 - Truth: I cannot worship the Creation and the Creator, they are mutually exclusive.

Every temptation that you do not fall to is a victory that will make you stronger.

Every pitch in baseball has just as much potential to benefit the hitter as it does the pitcher.

Victory and Wholeness are what God has in store for you.

Thank you for joining us today. This, and all of our message recordings, can be found on our website, graceunionstl.org.

THIS WEEK

Visit us online for information about these events and more.
graceunionsil.org or [facebook.com/graceunionsil](https://www.facebook.com/graceunionsil)

MONDAY (5/8)

Alcoholics Anonymous (GU Family Room) - 7 pm
(Led by Jeff Hall - 314.620.6635)

TUESDAY (5/9)

WEDNESDAY (5/10)

Prayer Group (Main Auditorium) - 5 pm
GU Students (Youth Auditorium) - 6:30 pm

Elementary Book Club (Café) - 6 pm
(Carrie Clifton - 314.280.3459)

THURSDAY (5/11)

FRIDAY (5/12)

SATURDAY (5/13)

SUNDAY (5/14)

GU Small Groups

M&M Village Women's Group (Conf. Room B) - 9 am
Men Alive in Christ (Conf. Room C) - 9 am

MOTHER'S DAY SERVICE - Adults/Students (Main Aud.) - 10 am
GU Kids (Early Childhood-Elementary) - 10 am

SAVE THE DATES

5/18 - Keenagers (50+)

5/20 - Oasis Int'l BBQ Outreach

6/12-16 - Youth Camp

6/19-20 - Kids Camp

6/25 - Summer Series Begins

7/2 - Church BBQ

OUR STAFF IS HERE TO SERVE YOU

OFFICE: 314.892.2757

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