

Welcome
to



GraceUnion
CHURCH

Encountering Grace through Jesus, right where we are.
Being moved by Grace toward all God has for us.

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WELCOME TO GRACE UNION

Thank you for joining us today! If this is your first time with us, please stop by the Connect Center in the lobby for a free gift. We'd love to meet you.

GU SPOTLIGHT

Find out more about these events at graceunionstl.org.

THIS WEEK AT GU

FOOD ADDICTS ANONYMOUS - Monday, 6:30 p.m.

Maureen Chirco leads the South County Food Addicts group here at GU. All are welcome. You can contact Maureen at 314.378.5259. Also see foodaddicts.org.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT EXPERIENCE - 6:30 p.m.

We hope you continue to make GU a part of your week by coming out Wednesday evening for a time of prayer, worship and fellowship. We have programs for kids of all ages, and GUS students (6th-12th grade) have their own dynamic service. It all starts at 6:30 p.m.

STRONGER MEN'S CONFERENCE - April 13-14, 2018

If you are interested in attending the Men's Conference in Springfield, registrations are due **TODAY**. Cost for the conference and hotel are \$155.



We hope you'll come back next Sunday as we begin a new series, "Exodus." God released the Israelites from slavery, and the first thing He did was give them the law. Going forward they would be able to sow their way either into blessing or cursing, freedom or slavery. We'll explore Galatians 6 and the Principles of Sowing and Reaping to discover how we can remain free or sow captivity into our lives.



Water Baptism is a public declaration of ones' faith and newness of life in Christ. If you would like to take this step, please contact Pastor Bob.

WAYS TO CONNECT



SUNDAYS @ 10AM
WEDNESDAYS @ 6:30PM
Nursery—Elementary



PRAYER NEEDS
Email: gucprayer@gmail.com



SUNDAYS (Middle School) @ 10:15
WEDNESDAYS (Gr 6-12) @ 6:30PM



SUNDAYS @ 9AM
Women's Group (Conf. Room B)
Men's Group (Conf. Room A)

WEDNESDAY
NIGHT
EXPERIENCE
6:30PM

CONNECTION CARD

If you're new to GU, want prayer, or need to update your info, fill out a Connection Card, and put it in the Offering or the Giving Box in the lobby.

STAY CONNECTED



@graceunionstl | #graceunionstl

LISTEN ONLINE



ONLINE AUDIO
graceunionstl.org/multimedia

WAYS TO GIVE



ENVELOPE
Offering/Giving Box



TEXT TO GIVE
314.888.5188



ONLINE
graceunionstl.org

PRAYPURSUEPARTY



EASTER 2018: Overjoyed

John 20:1-11 - 1 Early on Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. 2 She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, "They have taken the Lord's body out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!" 3 Peter and the other disciple started out for the tomb. 4 They were both running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5 He stooped and looked in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he didn't go in. 6 Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrappings lying there, 7 while the cloth that had covered Jesus' head was folded up and lying apart from the other wrappings. 8 Then the disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in, and he saw and believed—9 for until then they still hadn't understood the Scriptures that said Jesus must rise from the dead. 10 Then they went home. 11 Mary was standing outside the tomb crying, and as she wept, she stooped and looked in.

I. Evil was made real to the Followers of Jesus; leaving them angry, sad, and afraid.

- A. Mary is Sad. Peter is Angry. All the others are Afraid.
- B. **There is so much in life that justifiably makes us Angry, Afraid, or Brokenhearted.**
- C. These people's whole life was tied up in Jesus: socially, politically, spiritually, naturally.
- D. One reason this situation was so hard was that It Felt Like Evil Won!

II. Seeing the resurrected Jesus changed everything.

John 20:11-16 - 11 Mary was standing outside the tomb crying, and as she wept, she stooped and looked in. 12 She saw two white-robed angels, one sitting at the head and the other at the foot of the place where the body of Jesus had been lying. 13 "Dear woman, why are you crying?" the angels asked her. "Because they have taken away my Lord," she replied, "and I don't know where they have put him." 14 She turned to leave and saw someone standing there. It was Jesus, but she didn't recognize him. 15 "Dear woman, why are you crying?" Jesus asked her. "Who are you looking for?" She thought he was the gardener. "Sir," she said, "if you have taken him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will go and get him." 16 "Mary!" Jesus said. She turned to him and cried out, "Rabboni!" (which is Hebrew for "Teacher")

- A. Mary was so despondent that two angels talking to her did not impress her!
 - Then in ASTONISHED JOY Mary CLINGS to Jesus.

John 20:19-20 – 19 On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

B. One minute they are afraid. The next minute they are Overjoyed.

- Overjoyed: to rejoice exceedingly

C. Experiencing and Believing in Jesus' resurrection took them from the control of fear, sadness, and anger, and put them under the control of Joy.

III. Evil had been made real to them, but now the resurrection power of God was even more real.

A. "There will be great pain, and there will be great joy. In the end, joy wins. So if joy has not yet won, it is not yet the end." –John Ortberg

B. The resurrection of Jesus reversed all of that evil, hurt, and loss and replaced it with Joy.

IV. When it comes to Resurrection, the real blessing in this life is unlocked when we believe.

John 20:29 – Because you have seen me you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

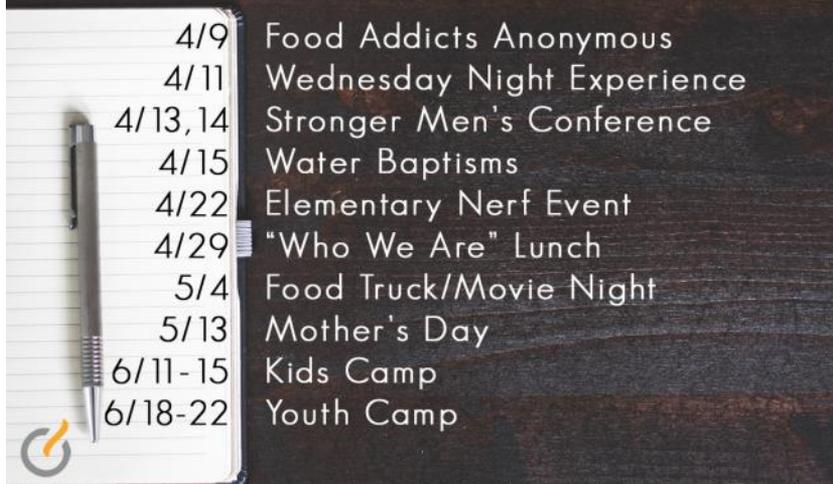
A. We will not see or touch the Resurrected Jesus until we ourselves are resurrected.

- **But if it only becomes real to us then, there is so much freedom and joy that we are missing between now and then.**

Revelation 21:3-5 – 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 4 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." 5 He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!"

B. Through faith in Jesus you can live in the blessing of that new day even in the middle of the here and now.

SAVE THE DATES



4/9 Food Addicts Anonymous
4/11 Wednesday Night Experience
4/13,14 Stronger Men's Conference
4/15 Water Baptisms
4/22 Elementary Nerf Event
4/29 "Who We Are" Lunch
5/4 Food Truck/Movie Night
5/13 Mother's Day
6/11-15 Kids Camp
6/18-22 Youth Camp

OUR STAFF IS HERE TO SERVE YOU

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