

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 it's 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 News & Events

WATER BAPTISMS - TODAY

Please stay with us after service to witness and celebrate with those taking the step of Water Baptism!



We invite you to celebrate Christmas with GU! We'll have a candlelight Christmas Eve service Monday at 6 p.m. It will be a special night of music and the conclusion of "The Gift" message series. We hope you'll join us as we celebrate the true Gift of Christmas.



All men are invited to breakfast THIS Saturday, December 22nd at Golden Corral here on Lindbergh. You can contact Glenn Adams with any questions at glennmadams81@gmail.com.



All students grades 6-12 are invited to a New Years Lock-in on the 31st starting at 7 p.m.-Jan. 1 at 6 a.m.! Come hang out and bring in 2019 the right way! This all-nighter is going to be a blast. We've got inflatables that will challenge you, Escape Rooms, a life-size version of MarioParty, BIG SCREEN console gaming all night long, a black light midnight party to bring in the new year, and pizza to fuel the party animal. This whole event only costs \$25! Registration includes all the mentioned food and activities. See Pastor Patrick to RSVP today (patrickdaniels1137@gmail.com)! Event details are also on the GUSTUDENTS FB page.



We have amazing, dedicated volunteers and leaders here at GU. If you serve in ANY capacity (children's ministry, greeting, usher, café, youth, worship), we invite you to a night of food and fun Friday, January 11th at 6:30 p.m.

The Gift (Part 2): A New Kind of King

Gifts reveal something about the Giver and the Receiver.

Matthew 2:11 – On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

I. Gold was symbolic of Royalty.

- A. The Magi were not the only ones expecting a King from Judea in this time frame.
 - *Suetonius*. "There had spread over all the Orient an old and established belief, that it was fated at that time for men coming from Judaea to rule the world" (Suetonius: Life of Vespasian, 4:5).
 - *Tacitus*. "There was a firm persuasion ... that at this very time the East was to grow powerful, and rulers coming from Judaea were to acquire universal empire" (Tacitus: Histories, 5: 13).
 - *Josephus*. "About that time one from their country should become governor of the habitable earth" (Josephus: Wars of the Jews, 6: 5, 4)
- B. When these Magi hand this Baby Gold, they are laying their bets, that Jesus is that Universal King.

II. What is the purpose of Kings and Governments?

- A. External, official control or accountability exists because people have largely rejected the Internal Control of God's Will.
- B. God cares about what happens in this world.
- C. In Luke chapter 2 the Angels announcing Jesus' birth proclaimed 3 things Jesus would bring:
 - "Glory to God in the highest...peace on earth...good will toward men"
 - **PEACE ON EARTH**: security, safety, prosperity, intense happiness
- D. One Reason God took on Human Flesh was to Usher in PEACE ON EARTH.

III. There is a limit to what can be accomplished by Human Kings, Governments, or Laws.

- A. Kings and governments can: create laws, punish law breakers, and even try to incentivize good behavior. But, they cannot change hearts.

IV. Jesus Established a Kingdom that would change the Hearts of People, and bring True Peace and Justice.

- A. Jesus came to build a Kingdom that would Transform Hearts rather than forcing Hands.

2 Corinthians 5:17 – If anyone is in Christ there is a new creation. The old has gone and all things have become new.

Romans 12:2 – says that we move away from the broken way this world works by Renewing our Minds.

- B. This New kind of King calls for the allegiance of our hearts, which over time transforms the works of our hands.

- C. No external Law is needed when our Hearts are Ruled by Christ.

- When we Love our Neighbor like we love ourselves, it transforms how we function.
- Over time it Brings Peace on Earth.

2018-19 PRAYPURSUEPARTY

DECEMBER

16 Water Baptisms
22 Men's Breakfast
24 Christmas Eve Service
31 Youth Lock-in
3,10,17 Food Addicts Anonymous

JANUARY

6 Healthcare Team Meeting
11 GU Leadership Night
24 Men's Dinner
25 Regional House Parties Resume
27 Men's Event
30 Wednesday Night Experience
7,14,21,28 Food Addicts Anonymous

* See graceunionstl.org or [Facebook.com/graceunionstl](https://www.facebook.com/graceunionstl) for details about these and other GU Events! *

WAYS TO CONNECT



SUNDAYS @ 10AM
Nursery-Elementary



PRAYER NEEDS
Email: gucprayer@gmail.com



SUNDAYS
Adults Group @ 9am



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

WAYS TO GIVE



ENVELOPE
Offering/Giving Box



TEXT TO GIVE
314.888.5188



ONLINE
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OUR STAFF IS HERE TO SERVE YOU

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