

**How Much God Wants to Bless You** by John Piper, Solid Joys,  
desiringGod.org

*"The Lord will again take delight in prospering you."* (Deuteronomy 30:9)

God does not bless us begrudgingly. There is a kind of eagerness about the beneficence of God. He does not wait for us to come to him. He seeks us out, because it is his pleasure to do us good. God is not waiting for us; he is pursuing us. That, in fact, is the literal translation of Psalm 23:6, "Surely goodness and mercy shall pursue me all the days of my life."

God *loves* to show mercy. Let me say it again. God loves to show mercy. He is not hesitant or indecisive or tentative in his desires to do good to his people. His anger must be released by a stiff safety lock, but his mercy has a hair trigger. That's what he meant when he came down on Mount Sinai and said to Moses, "The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love" (Exodus 34:6). It's what he meant when he said in Jeremiah 9:24, "I am the Lord who practices steadfast love,

justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things *I delight*, declares the Lord."

God is never irritable or edgy. His anger never has a short fuse. Instead he is infinitely energetic with absolutely unbounded and unending enthusiasm for the fulfillment of his delights.

This is hard for us to comprehend, because we have to sleep every day just to cope, not to mention thrive. Our emotions go up and down. We get bored and discouraged one day and feel hopeful and excited another.

We are like little geysers that gurgle and sputter and pop erratically. But God is like a great Niagara Falls — you look at 186,000 tons of water crashing over the precipice every minute, and think: Surely this can't keep going at this force year after year after year. Yet it does.

That's the way God is about doing us good. He never grows weary of it. It never gets boring to him. The Niagara of his grace has no end.

## Events

**TODAY Fellowship Picnic**  
**VBS Planning Meeting 7**  
**6/25-29 VBS 6:30 PM**  
**6/27 Men's Prayer**  
Meeting 7 AM  
**6/27 Women's Prayer**  
Meeting 9:30 AM  
**7/1 Beach Retreat Parent**  
Meeting 7 PM

## Give



## Upcoming Events



## Pastors

Gary Hendrix	Stephen Byrd
Charles Fortner	Robert Fisher
Stu Johnston	Bob Prentice
Andy Dunkerton	Michael Lopes

## Service Times

- Sunday School 9:30 am
- Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 am
- Sunday Evening Worship 5:30 pm
- Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:15 pm

919-563-9249  
www.grbc.net

Traducción simultanea  
al español disponible en  
servicios de AM y PM



**GRACE**  
REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

June 17, 2018

# 1 Peter 1:3

According to His great mercy  
he has caused us to be born again  
to a living hope through the  
resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead

## Morning Worship

Call to Worship  
Opening Hymn  
Scripture Reading  
Pastoral Prayer  
Offertory

Nick Gaines  
#432 Jesus, What a Friend  
John 7:25-39, page 893

**We Stand in Grace**

We are dead to sin and alive in Christ, and we long to be a living sacrifice.  
Purify our hearts and cleanse our hands to live holy lives in Your sovereign plan.

**We stand in grace. We stand in grace.**

**Justified through faith in Christ, who is the Perfect Sacrifice,  
we stand in grace.**

We have peace with God through the Spotless Lamb  
whose blood was shed so we may be born again.  
Let us drink our fill from this Fount of Grace and be faithful to Him  
'til we behold His face.

**We stand in grace. We stand in grace.**

**Justified through faith in Christ, who is the Perfect Sacrifice,  
we stand in grace. (key change)**

**We stand in grace. We stand in grace.**

**Justified through faith in Christ, who is the Perfect Sacrifice,  
we stand in grace. We stand in grace.**

Words and Music: Steve Camp and Robert Frazier © 1994 Sparrow Music/admin. by EMI Used by Permission CCLI # 1899094

**Preparatory**

**He Will Hold Me Fast**

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;  
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.  
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path;  
For my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.

**(Refrain) He will hold me fast. He will hold me fast.**

**For my Savior loves me so. He will hold me fast.**

Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast;  
Precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.  
He'll not let my soul be lost; His promises shall last;  
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.

**(Refrain)**

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;  
Justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast.  
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast;  
'Til our faith is turned to sight, When He comes at last!

**(Refrain 2x)**

Words: Ada Habershon (1861-1918) Music and additional words: Matt Merker , © 2013  
Used by Permission CCLI # 1899094

**Sermon**

**Pastor Andy Dunkerton**

## Evening Worship

Call to Worship  
Opening Hymn  
Scripture Reading  
Pastoral Prayer  
Offertory

Pastor Charles Fortner  
#50 Praise to the Lord  
Joshua 3:13-4:24, page 179

**Be Still My Soul**

Be still my soul the Lord is on your side  
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain  
Leave to your God to order and provide  
In every change he faithful will remain  
Be still, my soul your best, your heavenly Friend  
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end

Be still my soul your God will undertake  
To guide the future as he has the past  
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake  
All now mysterious shall be bright at last  
Be still, my soul the waves and winds still know  
His voice who ruled them while he dwelt below

Be still my soul When dearest friends depart  
And all is darkened in the vale of tears  
Then shalt you better know his love, his heart  
Who comes to soothe your sorrow and your fears  
Be still my soul your Jesus can repay  
From his own fullness all he takes away

Be still my soul the hour is hastening on  
When we shall be forever with the Lord  
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone  
Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored  
Be still my soul when change and tears are past  
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last

Text :Katharina von Schlegel, 1752 Music: Jean Sibelius, 1899 Used by Permission

**Preparatory**

**Wonderful, Merciful Savior**

Wonderful, merciful Savior  
Precious Redeemer and Friend  
Who would have thought that a Lamb could  
Rescue the souls of men  
Oh, You rescue the souls of men

Counselor, Comforter, Keeper  
Spirit we long to embrace  
You offer hope when our hearts have  
Hopelessly lost our way  
Oh, we've hopelessly lost our way

**(Chorus) You are the One that we praise**

**You are the One we adore**

**You give the healing and grace**

**Our hearts always hunger for**

**Oh, our hearts always hunger for**

Almighty, infinite Father  
Faithfully loving Your own  
Here in our weakness You find us  
Falling before Your throne  
Oh, we're falling before Your throne

**(Chorus 2x)**

Text and Music: Dawn Rodgers, Eric Wyse ©1989 Dayspring Music, LLC Used by permission, CCLI #1899094

**Sermon**

**Pastor Stephen Byrd**