

# Welcome to Grace In the Desert



“...See to it that no one misses the grace of God...”  
Hebrews 12:15

# Happy Sabbath!



# Mike Bildner

# Our Hymn of Praise

*“Holy Holy Holy”*

Led By Mark DeShay



**Holy holy holy  
Lord God Almighty  
Early in the morning  
our song shall rise to Thee  
Holy holy holy merciful and mighty  
God in three persons blessed  
Trinity**

**Holy holy holy  
Angels adore Thee  
Casting down their bright crowns  
around the glassy sea  
Thousands and ten thousands  
worship low before Thee  
Which were and are and evermore  
shalt be**

**Holy holy holy**

**Though darkness hide Thee**

**Though the eye of man**

**Your great glory may not see**

**Only You are holy**

**there is none beside Thee**

**Perfect in power in love and purity**

**Holy holy holy**

**Lord God Almighty**

**All Your works shall praise**

**Your name in earth and sky and sea**

**Holy holy holy**

**merciful and mighty**

**God in three persons blessed Trinity**

# A Prayer of Invitation



**Pastor Greg Webster**



# A Time for Giving!



# Our Own Local Budget

**Mike Bildner**

# Offertory



**Pat Howard**

**Let's All Pray!**



**Mike Bildner**

# Our Bible Reading!



Romans 1:13-17

**Mike Bildner**



“Of Threats & Murder -  
‘...Saul, Saul...’ Please Take a Breath”

Pastor Greg Webster

“Acts: God’s Friends, His Power, & the Ends of the Earth,” pt 10



## Stoning of Stephen - Parallel Movements

Acts 8:1 ¶...and all except the apostles were scattered...

Acts 8:2 Devout men buried Stephen and made loud lamentation over him.

Acts 8:1 ¶ And Saul approved of their killing him...

Acts 8:3 But Saul was ravaging the church by entering house after house...

Acts 22:3 ¶ "I am a Jew born in Tarsus in Cilicia but brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, educated strictly according to our ancestral law, being zealous for God, just as all of you are today.



Phil. 3:5 circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee;

Phil. 3:6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.





Acts 9:1 ¶ Now Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest, Acts 9:2 and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.



Lev. 24:16 One who blasphemes the name of the LORD shall be put to death; the whole congregation shall stone the blasphemer. Aliens as well as the native-born, when they blaspheme the Name, shall be put to death.



John 5:16 Therefore the  
Jews started persecuting  
Jesus, because he was  
doing such things on the  
Sabbath.



John 5:17 But Jesus answered them, "My Father is still working, and I also am working."<sup>\*</sup>



John 5:18 For this reason the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because he was not only breaking the Sabbath but was also calling God his own Father, thereby making himself equal to God.



John 10:33 The Jews answered,  
“It is not for a good work that  
we are going to stone you but  
for blasphemy, because you,  
though only a human, are  
making yourself God.”



John 18:19 ¶ Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching.



Deut. 13:1 ¶ “If a prophet or a dreamer of dreams arises among you and gives you a sign or a wonder,  
Deut. 13:2 and the sign or the wonder comes true, concerning which he spoke to you, saying, ‘Let us go after other gods (whom you have not known) and let us serve them,’





Deut. 13:5 "But that prophet or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death, because he has <sup>1</sup>counseled rebellion against the LORD your God who brought you from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, to seduce you from the way in which the LORD your God commanded you to walk. So you shall purge the evil from among you.



Deut. 13:9 "But you shall surely kill him; your hand shall be first against him to put him to death, and afterwards the hand of all the people.

Deut. 13:10 "So you shall stone him to death because he has sought to seduce you from the LORD your God who brought you out from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.



Matt. 26:63 But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, "I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah,<sup>f</sup> the Son of God."

Matt. 26:64 Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, ¶ From now on you will see the Son of Man

seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven."



Matt. 26:65 ¶ Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, “He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy.

Matt. 26:66 What do you think?” They answered, “He deserves death.”



John 19:6 When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him."

John 19:7 The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God."



Deut. 21:22 ¶ “When someone is convicted of a crime punishable by death and is executed and you hang him on a tree, Deut. 21:23 his corpse must not remain all night upon the tree; you must bury him that same day, for anyone hung on a tree is under God’s curse. You must not defile the land that the LORD your God is giving you for possession.



Acts 9:3 Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him.\*

Acts 9:4 He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"\*

Acts 9:5 He asked, "Who are you, Lord?"  
The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting."



Acts 9:6 But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.”

Acts 9:7 The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one.\*

Acts 9:8 Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus.





Acts 9:9 For three  
days he was without  
sight and neither ate  
nor drank.



Acts 9:10 ¶ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord."\*

Acts 9:11 The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying,



Acts 9:12 and he has seen  
in a vision a man named  
Ananias come in and lay  
his hands on him so that  
he might regain his sight.”



Acts 9:13 But Ananias answered,  
“Lord, I have heard from many about  
this man, how much evil he has done  
to your saints in Jerusalem,  
Acts 9:14 and here he has authority  
from the chief priests to bind all who  
invoke your name.”



Acts 9:15 But the Lord said to him,  
“Go, for he is an instrument whom I  
have chosen to bring my name before  
gentiles and kings and before the  
people of Israel;

Acts 9:16 I myself will show him how  
much he must suffer for the sake of  
my name.”



Acts 9:17 So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."\*



Acts 9:18 And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized,



Acts 9:19 and after taking some food, he regained his strength. ¶ For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, Acts 9:20 and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."





Acts 9:1 ¶ Now <sup>1</sup>Saul, still  
breathing threats and  
murder against the disciples  
of the Lord, went to the high  
priest,



Acts 9:17 So Ananías departed and entered the house, and after laying his hands on him said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road by which you were coming, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”



Gal. 3:13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us— for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree” —



Phil. 3:5 circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee;

Phil. 3:6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.



Phil. 3:7 ¶ Yet whatever  
gains I had, these I  
have come to regard as  
loss because of Christ.



Phil. 3:8 More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ Phil. 3:9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith.



Phil. 3:10 I want to know Christ  
and the power of his resurrection  
and the sharing of his sufferings  
by becoming like him in his death,  
Phil. 3:11 if somehow I may attain  
the resurrection from the dead.



Rom. 1:16 ¶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Rom. 1:17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed through faith for faith; as it is written, “The one who is righteous will live by faith.”







“Of Threats & Murder - ‘... Saul Saul...’ Please Take a Breath”

