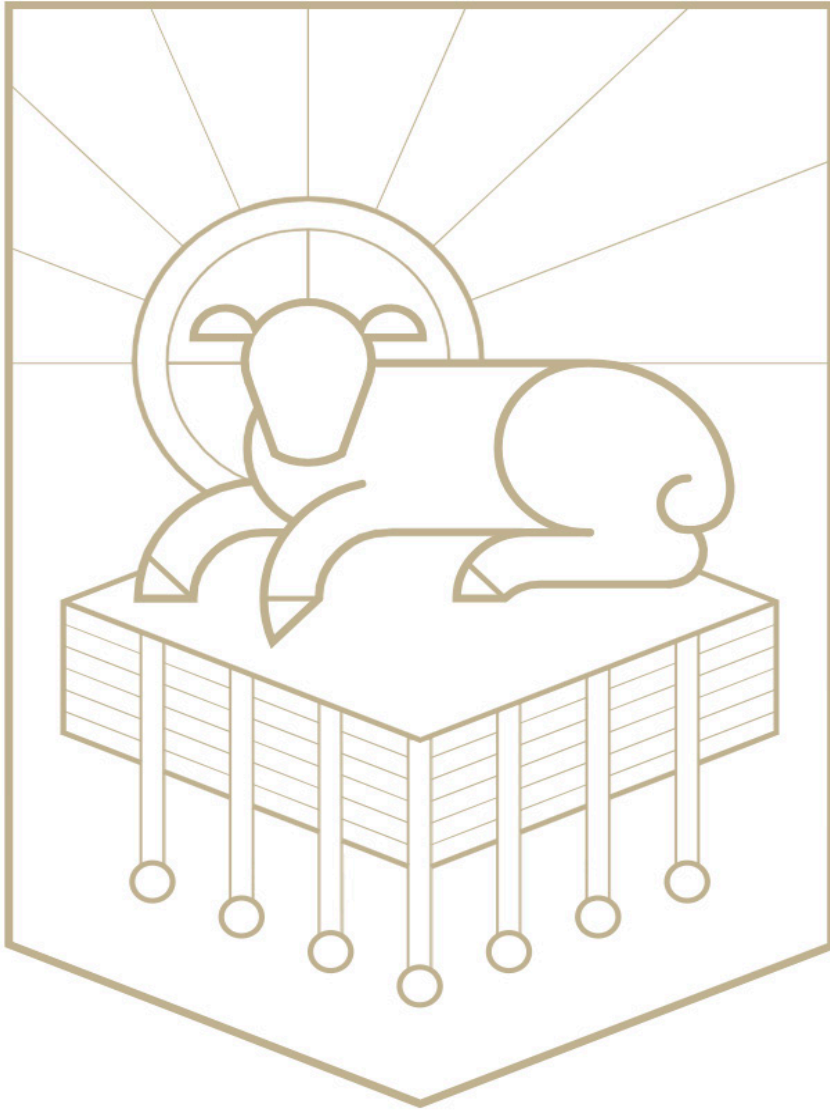




GRACE + PEACE
A U S T I N



Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 4, 2024



Welcome | Grace + Peace is a gospel formed family for the city. Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, whether skeptical, curious, or a committed follower of Jesus Christ, there is room for you.

Nursery | Nursery for children ages birth through 4 years old is available during the entire worship service. Babies and toddlers are in two separate rooms. To get to the nursery, you will exit out the back of the sanctuary and go through the glass double doors on the left. From there, you will walk down the ramp and take a right when you get to the end of the sidewalk. Enter through the double glass doors where you will find our Nursery Coordinator sitting at a table ready to check in your child and show you to their rooms. Children ages 0-2 will be in Room S102 and children ages 2-4 will be in room S101. Many parents choose to pick up their child just prior to communion for the last part of the worship service. This is a great way to introduce them to worshipping corporately. You may also opt to have your child remain in nursery for the duration of the service, as childcare is provided the entire time.

Family Room | We have a room set up in Stedman Hall for families if you would like a more private place to comfort your babies. To get to the family room, you will exit out the back of the sanctuary and go through the glass double doors on the left. From there, you will walk down the ramp and take a right when you get to the end of the sidewalk. Enter through the double glass doors where you will find our Nursery Coordinator sitting at a table ready to direct you to the room which will also be marked with a sign. A live stream will be running so that you may continue to listen and participate in worship.

Children's Ministry | Children in Pre-K through 2nd grade are invited to attend our "Grapes + Peas" class. Children in Grapes + Peas participate in the first part of worship with their family, are dismissed during the sermon for a lesson, and return with their teachers to the sanctuary before communion. For first-time visitors, please escort your child with us to the classroom so we can introduce ourselves.

Preparation for Worship

Prelude | *Bring Me Back to My First Love*

Bring me back to my first love oh, God
Nothing else has satisfied
Lesser loves have held my gaze, but left me dry.
Bring me back to my first joy oh, God
Nothing else has brought true life
From my soul, I cry for love, for joy, for life

Words and Music: Mac Meador, 2024.

Call to Worship

Celebrant: Sing a new song to the Lord, who has worked wonders,
whose right hand and holy arm have brought salvation.

*People: The Lord has made known salvation;
has shown justice to the nations;
has remembered truth and love for the house of Israel.*

Celebrant: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

People: Shout to the Lord, all the earth, sing out your joy.

Celebrant: Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp, with the sound of music.

People: With trumpets and the sound of the horn acclaim the King, the Lord.

Prayer of Adoration

Song of Worship | *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, His covenant, and blood
Support me in the whelming flood;
When every earthly prop gives way,
He then is all my Hope and Stay.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne!
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

Words: Edward Mote, 1834. Arr: John Stainer, 1873.

Song of Worship | *I Shall Not Want*

From the love of my own comfort,
From the fear of having nothing,
From a life of worldly passions,
Deliver me O God!

From the need to be understood,
From the need to be accepted,
From the fear of being lonely,
Deliver me O God!
Deliver me O God!

Refrain:

*And I shall not want, I shall not want
when I taste Your goodness I shall not want
when I taste Your goodness I shall not want*

From the fear of serving others,
From the fear of death or trial,
From the fear of humility,
Deliver me O God!
Deliver me O God!

Refrain

Words and Music: Audrey Assad 2013.

Confession of Sin

God of grace, we confess that we have elevated the things of this world above you. We have made idols of possessions and people and used your name for causes that are not consistent with you and your purposes. We have permitted our busy schedules to crowd out our worship of you. We have trusted and delighted in your creation rather than in you, and have looked to our idols to make us glad, complaining bitterly when they fail us.

[Silence for self-examination and personal confession.]

Forgive us, O God, for the many ways we fall short of your glory. Help us to learn to live together according to your ways through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon | *Ezekiel 36:25-26, NRSV*

I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

Song of Response | *Give Us Clean Hands*

We bow our hearts
We bend our knees
Oh, Spirit come make us humble
We turn our eyes
From evil things
Oh, Lord we cast down our idols

So give us clean hands
And give us pure hearts
Let us not lift our souls to another
And give us clean hands
And give us pure hearts
Let us not lift our souls to another

Words and Music: Charlie Hall.

Grapes + Peas Blessing

At this time children from Pre-K through 2nd grade may come up to the front of the sanctuary to be prayed over. After the prayer, they will meet their teachers at the door in the front right corner of the sanctuary to walk to their classroom in the Stedman Hall for a short lesson. Pre-K through Kindergarten will meet in Room S106, and 1st through 2nd grade will meet in Room S105. They will return just before communion. For first-time visitors, please escort your child with us to the classroom so we can introduce ourselves.

Passing of the Peace

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Epistle Reading | *Hebrews 4:11-16, ESV (Pew Bible page 1003)*

¹¹ Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. ¹² For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³ And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

¹⁴ Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

New Testament Reading | *Revelation 2:12-17, ESV (Pew Bible page 1029)*

¹² “And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: ‘The words of him who has the sharp two-edged sword.

¹³ “I know where you dwell, where Satan’s throne is. Yet you hold fast my name, and you did not deny my faith even in the days of Antipas my faithful witness, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells. ¹⁴ But I have a few things against you: you have some there who hold the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, so that they might eat food sacrificed to idols and practice sexual immorality. ¹⁵ So also you have some who hold the teaching of the Nicolaitans. ¹⁶ Therefore repent. If not, I will come to you soon and war against them with the sword of my mouth. ¹⁷ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, with a new name written on the stone that no one knows except the one who receives it.’

Celebrant: This is the Word of the Lord

People: *Thanks be to God!*

Sermon Series: Revelation: Seeing and Believing

Sermon: Lesser Loves | *Rev. John Sweet*

Sermon Notes:

Offertory | *Bring Me Back to My First Love*

Bring me back to my first love oh, God. Nothing else has satisfied
Lesser loves have held my gaze, but left me dry.
Bring me back to my first joy oh, God. Nothing else has brought true life
From my soul, I cry for love, for joy, for life

Help me turn from bitterness, from hate, from lust, from all the things
That keep my eyes away from you, remind me when your hope was new
When all my heart and all my soul and all my mind and all my strength
Were given each in love for you, your presence felt in all I do

Words and Music: Mac Meador, 2024.

[Please pass the blue sign-in pads on the left end of the row at this time.]

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

*People: Our Father who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.*

Profession of Faith | *Apostle's Creed*

*All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, dead, and buried;
He descended into hell;
The third day he rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
And is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit;
The holy catholic Church;
The communion of saints;
The forgiveness of sins;
The resurrection of the body;
And the life everlasting. Amen.*

Celebration of Communion

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is very good and right, our duty and privilege, to at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify your glorious Name; evermore praising you, and singing,

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest!

Arrangement: David Lutes and David Breeding.

Words of Institution

Memorial Acclamation

Celebrant: Let us now proclaim the mystery of the faith:

*People: Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.*

Prayer of Consecration

Table Blessing

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died and rose again for you, and feed on him by Faith, with thanksgiving.

Table Welcome

We welcome all baptized Christians who believe in the Gospel (good news) of Jesus Christ to participate in the Communion meal. This includes all Christians, whether members here or not. Children who have been baptized and interviewed by the elders of this church or the ruling body of another church are also welcome to the table. If you're still investigating Christianity, not sure what you believe, or simply choose not to participate in the Eucharist, you may either remain in your seat or come forward, cross your arms over your chest, and receive a blessing.

Note: Grape juice is provided in the center of each tray. All bread is gluten free.

Prayer of Searching for Truth:

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Believing:

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my savior. Amen.

Prayer of Struggling Against Sin:

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my needs, and turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely to me, and run with perseverance the race that you have set before me, looking only to you, the pioneer and champion of my faith. Amen.

Communion | *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Words: Isaac Watts, Hymns and Spiritual Songs, 1707. Music: Hamburg, Lowell Mason, 1824.

Communion | *As The Deer Panteth For the Water*

As the deer panteth for the water
So my soul longeth after Thee
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship Thee

Refrain:

*You alone are my strength, my shield
To You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship Thee*

You're my friend and You are my brother
Even though You are a king
I love You more than any other
So much more than anything

Refrain

I want You more than gold or silver
Only You can satisfy
You alone are the real joy giver
And the apple of my eye

Refrain

[Please stand to sing.]

Sending Song | *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, His covenant, and blood
Support me in the whelming flood;
When every earthly prop gives way,
He then is all my Hope and Stay.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne!
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

Words: Edward Mote, 1834. Arr: John Stainer, 1873.

Benediction | *based on Revelation 7:12*

Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honor, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. And the blessing of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you and remain upon you this day and forever. *Amen.*

Sending

Celebrant: Go forth, remembering who you are and to whom you belong.

People: *With God's help, we will!*

Calendar

This Week

2/4	9:30 am	Sunday School (<i>see page 21 for more information</i>)
2/4	10:45 am	Sunday Worship Service*
2/4	3-5 pm	Grace Teens Student Ministry Meeting @ Gym
2/5	7 am	Men's Morning Bible Study @ Central Market
2/5	8 pm	Contemplative Prayer Meeting
2/6	7 pm	Women's Evening Bible Study @ S105
2/7	10 am	Women's Morning Bible Study @ Stedman Hall
2/8	9 am	Joy Club @ G102
2/10	8 am	Church Work Day

February

12	7:30 pm	Men's Firepit @ Williams' house
14	12:15 pm	Ash Wednesday Service @ Sanctuary
14	6 pm	Ash Wednesday Service @ Sanctuary
17	9:30 am	The King's Crafters: Knitting and Crochet Club @ Library
18	4-6 pm	Safe Families Celebration @ Hope Chapel
19	12:15 pm	Lent Prayer Meetings Begin
23	7 pm	Marriage Works
23-25		High School Ranchopalooza
24-25		Women's Retreat @ Summer's Mill Retreat Center

*Note: Sunday morning worship services stream live on YouTube at 10:45 am

Announcement Highlights

Church Work Day

One of the blessings of having a building is the opportunity to come together as a church and make improvements so that our ministry can move forward without any obstacles. We will be coming together on **February 10th from 8am to 12pm** for a Church Work Day. We will have a number of projects to take on, from cleaning and serious reorganization to cosmetic repairs like painting. There are jobs for all skill levels and abilities, so whether you are a pro handyman, or have never touched a tool in your life, join us as we work to make our building the best it can be so we can be more effective in ministry. Please sign up using the QR code below so that we can get a head count.



Ash Wednesday Services

Join us on **Wednesday, February 14th at 12:15pm or 6:00pm** in the sanctuary for our Ash Wednesday services. These services are intimate gatherings that begin the liturgical season of Lent. They will be short services (30 minutes total) with a few songs, a short homily, and end with the imposition of ashes. See you there! There will be no childcare provided for either service, but children are encouraged to join.

Announcements

Lent Prayer Meetings | Lent is a time for contemplation on the life and death of Christ, for introspection, and for prayer. One of the ways we'll lean into that this season is through weekly prayer meetings. Please join us at the church on **Mondays from 12:15-12:45pm** over the lunch hour for a brief time of singing, prayer, and silence. **We'll meet each Monday in Lent (2/19, 2/26, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25)**. A zoom link will be available, though gathering in-person is encouraged! If you have any questions reach out to Mac at mac@graceandpeaceaustin.com

Men's Firepit Nights | All men are invited to the Williams' home (2816 Woolridge) for an evening around the firepit. No advance notice is needed, come as you are. There will be plenty of cigars, but BYO beverages. There is no agenda. Just the men of G+P hanging out and enjoying each other's fellowship. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Matt Williams by email matthew.e.williams@gmail.com or text him 512-879-8071. **Time: 7:30-9:30pm. Future Dates: 2/12, 3/6**

Women's Bible Study | Women's Bible Study begins this week, **January 30th and 31st**, and will run through April 9th and 10th, taking a week off for Spring Break. Please join us either **Tuesday evenings at 7pm** (Contact: marthaglowe@gmail.com) or **Wednesday mornings at 10am** (Contact: lauren.buescher@gmail.com) as we learn from Paul's letters to the Colossians and Philemon. Childcare is provided for the morning study only, with an rsvp to Laura Perez.

Men's Morning Bible Study | Guys, we'd love for you to join us **Monday mornings at 7AM** as we apply the gospel to our lives using the sermon discussion questions and pray for one another. We meet every week at Central Market (North Lamar) in the upstairs cafe area! For more info email Eric Buescher (edbuescher@hotmail.com).

Women's Prayer Group | Hello Ladies! Please join us in praying through the Psalms, Friday mornings at 7:00 am on Zoom. We spend 30 minutes praying through the Psalms of the day and individual prayers and petitions. It is a delightful and refreshing way to start your Friday! Reach out to Jeanette Sands at jeanette.sands@gmail.com to RSVP and get the Zoom link.

Announcements

Sunday School | We would love for you to join us for Sunday School at 9:30 AM each Sunday. We look forward to having you join us in further study of God's Word this spring! *Childcare will be available for children 1st grade and younger*

Adult 1/HS | **Intro to the Reformed Faith** with Matthew Brownfield in G101.

Adult 2 | **Brentwood Legacy Class** with Jimmy Shackelford in Stedman Hall.

6th - 8th Grade | **New City Catechism** - Room G204. Contact: Joey Perez

2nd - 5th Grade | **Telling Others** - Room S104. Contact: Laura Perez

Safe Families Partnership | Sunday, February 18th is Safe Families Sunday. It is a day to highlight the ministry and care of Safe Families through the participation of G+P. Here are a couple of ways to get involved:

- **February 18th** - Ministry update during our worship service followed by an informational meeting in G101
- **February 18th** - Sunday Celebration Party: 4-6 pm at Hope Chapel for those who want to learn more, and meet folks who are volunteering already, and families that are being served. There will be games and crafts, food, music, and fun.
- **March 21st** - Safe Families 101 - Basic Core Training for anyone interested in volunteering. Followed by SF 201 on April 4 (Family Friend Training & Host family training); SF 301 on April 18 (Family Friend Training & Host family training).
- **April 11th** - Safe Families Fundraiser - hosted by Grace + Peace featuring Black's BBQ. Free to attend; RSVP to follow.

The King's Crafters: Knitting and Crochet Club | Join us for fellowship and crafting on the third Saturday of every month in the Library. All skill levels welcome, whether you're an expert or have never picked up a needle or hook in your life! Contact Alisha Ligon for more information. **This month's meeting: February 17th at 9:30am**

Women's Firepit Nights | Ladies, join us for a fire pit night at the McMahan's . Byob and byo-chair. Contact Mary Carlisle (mccrehore@gmail.com) for more information. **Future Dates: 3/21, 4/29**

Sermon Series Scripture Readings

- 2/4/2024 Revelation 2:12-17
- 2/11/2024 Revelation 2:18-28
- 2/18/2024 Revelation 3:1-6
- 2/25/2024 Revelation 3:7-13
- 3/3/2024 Revelation 3:14-22
- 3/10/2024 Revelation 4-5
- 3/17/2024 Revelation 8-11
- 4/7/2024 Revelation 12-14
- 4/14/2024 Revelation 15-16
- 4/21/2024 Revelation 17-19
- 4/28/2024 Revelation 20:1-15
- 5/5/2024 Revelation 21:1-15
- 5/12/2024 Revelation 21:6-22:5
- 5/19/2024 Revelation 22:6

F E B R U A R Y 4 , 2 0 2 4

Giving to Grace + Peace

You can give in several ways, including online through our secure website, graceandpeaceaustin.com/give. If you choose to give online, paying by bank versus credit/debit is preferred to avoid fees coming out of your tithe.

Connect on a Deeper Level

Our Parish Groups are a great way to get to know people in the church.

To get connected with one of these groups, reach out to

Avery Kelly: avery@graceandpeaceaustin.com

Grace + Peace Prayer List

If you have a prayer need and/or would like to be added to the Prayer List, please

contact Laura Perez: laura@graceandpeaceaustin.com

Women's Care

Please reach out to: womenscare@graceandpeaceaustin.com

Facility Requests

If you would like to rent any of our rooms, please go to: graceandpeaceaustin.com/facilityrequest

Discussion Questions

1. John points out that we can be faithful in some ways (v13), while following idols in other areas of our lives. These idols are lesser loves that pull us away from Jesus, just as we saw with the Ephesian church earlier. What are the Balaams and Nicolaitans of our day? What are the lesser loves we end up following now?
2. Jesus's clear warning shows us these lesser loves aren't just harmless distractions, they're rival loyalties empowered by Satan that seek to draw us away from the only One deserving of our loyalty. That's why we're called to repent of them (v16). How can we lovingly encourage one another to forsake our idols and refocus on Jesus instead?
3. What is it about Jesus and His love that makes all our rival loyalties and lesser loves worth abandoning? How can we share this news with our neighbors and friends as we come across them in our every day life?



GRACE + PEACE A U S T I N

Session Contact Info: You can contact the Session at activeelders@graceandpeaceaustin.com with any questions or directly at any of their individual emails below.

- Jeff Brown | jsbrown@gmail.com
 - Brent Coley | robertbcoley@gmail.com
 - Jon Kim | jonaikim@yahoo.com
 - Jeff Marshall | marshall.jeff@gmail.com
 - Ryan Motola | ryan.motola@gmail.com
 - Marvin Olasky | marvin.olasky@gmail.com
 - Barrett Raven | barrettraven@gmail.com
 - Matt Williams | matthew.e.williams@gmail.com
- (Peter Croft is on sabbatical in 2024)*

Diaconate Contact Info: If you or someone you know has a need (big or small!) or crisis, the G + P Deacons want to help care for you. Please email us at activedeacons@graceandpeaceaustin.com. You may also seek us out to speak with one of us directly. The Diaconate members are:

- Justin Barclay
 - Mary Kate Peters
 - John Lamb
 - Mark Schwarz
- (Lance Lawhon and Anna Marshall are on sabbatical in 2024)*

Grace + Peace Staff

- John Sweet, *Senior Pastor*..... john@graceandpeaceaustin.com
- Avery Kelly, *Director of Parish & Adult Discipleship* avery@graceandpeaceaustin.com
- Mac Meador, *Minister of Music* mac@graceandpeaceaustin.com
- Laura Perez, *Director of Children's Ministry & Administration* laura@graceandpeaceaustin.com
- Jose Perez, *Student Director* joey@graceandpeaceaustin.com
- Alisha Ligon, *Facilities & Sunday Operations Manager* facilities@graceandpeaceaustin.com