

# Grace Presbyterian Church

Worships God at 11:00 a.m.

May 16, 2021

Seventh Sunday of Easter/The Ascension of Christ into Heaven

## The Bell Calls Us to Worship

Prelude

Hail Thee Festival Day (Salve Festa Dies)

Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 142

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Coronation

Easter Greeting

**Pastor:** Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**People:** **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Pastor:** Let us pray.

**Prayer for the Day** (spoken by the pastor; the congregation joining the **Amen**.)  
Eternal God, by raising Jesus from the dead you proclaimed his victory, and by his ascension you declared him Lord of all. Lift our hearts to heaven where Christ lives and reigns with you, and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**An Affirmation of Faith for Easter** Heidelberg Catechism, 1563

**Pastor:** What is your only comfort in life and in death?

**Unison:** **That I belong, body and soul, in life and in death,**

**not to myself, but to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ,**

**who at the cost of his own blood, has fully paid for all my sins**

**and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil;**

**that he protects me so well that without the will of my Father in heaven**

**not a hair can fall from my head.**

**Indeed, everything must fit his purpose for my salvation.**

**Therefore, by his Holy Spirit, he also assures me of eternal life**

**and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready**

**from now on to live for him.**

**Pastor:** The peace of the risen Christ be always with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

## CHURCH SESSION

### Class of 2021

Rickie Cooke  
Anna Tate  
Janet Vawter

### Class of 2022

Kevin Bopp  
Bob Gammon  
Emily Mayne

### Class of 2023

Rosemary Gordon  
Sharon Ragghianti  
Becky Stirling

Moderator: John Michael Krech

Clerk: Becky Stirling

Treasurer: Jere Lawson

## CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	John Michael Krech, jmkrech@yahoo.com
Director of Music	Charlotte Eaheart Hicks, CCM, charlotteschurch@gmail.com
Organist	Susan Steppe, susansteppe@comcast.net
Director of Technical Services	Bob Vawter, bvawter@bellsouth.net
Director of Children & Youth Ministry	Cristaldawn Smith, revmiss2002@yahoo.com
Nursery Attendants	Kathe Walker & Judy Thigpun
Financial Administrator/Admin Asst.	Betsy Lewis, blewis@grace-pres.org
Sexton	Scott Hunter
Director of Grace Pres. Child Care	Jill Bailey, childcare@grace-pres.org

## Grace Presbyterian Church

6671 Yale Road

Bartlett, TN 38134

Phone: 901-386-3241

www.grace-pres.org

www.facebook.com/GPCBartlett

Please consider Grace Presbyterian Church in your estate planning.



Grace Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA),  
Presbytery of the Mid-South, Synod of Living Waters.

## Passing of the Peace

(Worshippers safely greet one another with the peace of Christ and then sit for the announcements.)

## Welcome, Announcements, and a Word to Children

### Prayer for Illumination

**Epistle** Ephesians 1:15-23

**Psalm 93** Unison

The Lord is king, robed in majesty;  
the Lord is robed, girded with strength.

God has established the world; it shall never be moved.

Your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting.

The floods have lifted up, O Lord,  
the floods have lifted up their voice;  
the floods lift up their roaring.

More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters,  
more majestic than the waves of the sea,  
majestic on high is the Lord.

Your decrees are very sure;  
holiness befits your house, O Lord, forevermore.

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**Musical Meditation** He Lives arr. Ken Bauer  
Bob Vawter, trombone; Susan Steppe, piano

**Gospel** John 17:6-19

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 153** He Is King of Kings He Is King

The congregation sits.

**Lesson from Acts** Acts 1:1-11

**Sermon** Changes Martha Starnes

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 436** We Are Your People Whitfield

**Apostles' Creed** Unison; Hymnal, page 14, Traditional

**Gloria for Easter Season** Refrain of Hymn 122 Judas Maccabeus

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son.

Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.

The congregation sits.

## Pastoral Prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession, and Dedication

**The Lord's Prayer** (debts/debtors) Unison; Hymnal, page 16, Traditional

### Offertory Sentence

**Offertory** Jesus, Remember Me Jacques Berthier, 1981

The congregation stands to sing the

**Doxology for Easter Season** (to the tune of Hymn 455) Lasst Uns Erfreuen

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

## Benediction

**Hymn 147** Blessing and Honor O Quanta Qualia

The congregation is encouraged to be seated for the postlude,  
or you may depart the sanctuary quickly and quietly now if you need to.

**Postlude** Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending (Helmsley)  
from Select Hymns with Tunes Annexed, 1765; arr. Stephen Burtonwood

**Welcome to worship** at Grace Presbyterian Church.

Today is the seventh Sunday of the season of Easter, which extends through the Great Fifty Days from Easter Day to Pentecost (April 4 – May 23, 2021). We celebrate this joyful season of the resurrection victory through the Gloria and Doxology for the season, and an affirmation of faith in place of a prayer of confession. Today we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord into heaven in our Scripture readings and hymns. This occurred forty days from the resurrection according to Acts 1. The Ascension is the “bridge,” linking the final verses of Luke’s Gospel and the opening verses of the Book of Acts, which was also written by Luke. Next Sunday is the Day of Pentecost, when the promised power from on high, the Holy Spirit, descended upon the disciples. (JMK)

## Hymn Texts for Online Worship

### All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

All hail the power of Jesus' name, Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem, And crown Him Lord of all!  
Bring forth the royal diadem, And crown Him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, Ye ransomed from the fall,  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace, And crown Him Lord of all!  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace, And crown Him Lord of all!

Let every kindred, every tribe, On this terrestrial ball,  
To Him all majesty ascribe, And crown Him Lord of all!  
To Him all majesty ascribe, And crown Him Lord of all!

O that with yonder sacred throng, We at His feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song, And crown Him Lord of all!  
We'll join the everlasting song, And crown Him Lord of all!

Text: Stanzas 1-3, Edward Perronet, 1779, 1780; stanzas 2-3, alt. John Rippon, 1787;  
stanza 4, John Rippon, 1787; Tune: CORONATION; Oliver Holden, 1793

### He Is King of Kings

Refrain: He is King of kings, He is Lord of lords,  
Jesus Christ, the first and last, No one works like him.

He built a throne up in the air, No one works like him.  
And called His saints from everywhere, No one works like Him. (Refrain)

He pitched His tents on Canaan ground, No one works like Him,  
And broke oppressive kingdoms down, No one works like Him (Refrain)

I know that my Redeemer lives, No one works like Him,  
And by His love sweet blessing gives, No one works like Him. (Refrain)

Text: African-American spiritual;

Tune: HE IS KING; African-American spiritual,

Arr. Joseph T. Jones (1902-1983); Adapt. Melva W. Costen, 1989

## **We Are Your People**

We are Your people: Lord, by Your grace,  
You dare to make us Christ to our neighbors of every nation and race.  
Called to portray You, help us to live  
Closer than neighbors, open to strangers, clash and forgive.  
Glad of tradition, Help us to see  
In all life's changing where You are leading, Where our best efforts should be.  
Joined in community, breaking Your bread,  
May we discover gifts in each other, willing to lead and be led.  
Lord, as we minister in different ways,  
May all we're doing show that You're living, meeting Your love with our praise.

Text: Brian Wren, 1973;

Tune: WHITFIELD; John J. Wilson, 1980

## **Blessing and Honor**

Blessing and honor and glory and power,  
Wisdom and riches and strength evermore,  
Give we to Christ who our battle has won,  
Whose are the kingdom, the crown, and the throne.

Hear through the heavens the sound of the Name,  
While rings the earth with Christ's glory and fame;  
Ocean and mountain, stream, forest, flower  
Echo these praises and tell of God's power.

Ever ascending the song and the prayer;  
Ever descending the love that we share;  
Blessing and honor and glory and praise –  
This is the theme of the hymns that we raise.

Give we the glory and praise to the Lamb;  
Take we the robe and the harp and the palm;  
Sing we the song of the Lamb that was slain,  
Dying in weakness but rising to reign.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1866, alt.;

Tune: O QUANTA QUALIA; Paris *Antiphoner*, 1681,  
As in La Feillee's *Methode du plain-chant*, 1808