

CHURCH SESSION

Class of 2020

Rosemary Gordon
Brooks Keiser
Elizabeth Velazquez

Class of 2021

Rickie Cooke
Anna Tate
Janet Vawter
Moderator: John Michael Krech
Clerk: Elizabeth Velazquez
Treasurer: Jere Lawson

Class of 2022

Kevin Bopp
Bob Gammon
Emily Mayne

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 |

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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.

Grace Presbyterian Church

Worships God

July 26, 2020

The Bell Calls Us to Worship

Prelude

I Need Thee Every Hour Robert Lowry, 1872
Bob Vawter, trombone Susan Steppe, organ

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 487

When Morning Gilds the Skies Laudes Domini

Opening Sentences

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,
People: **The Maker of heaven and earth.**
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, protector of all who put their trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Fill us with your mercy and your grace, that, with you to rule and guide, we may so use the good things of this present life that we do not neglect those of eternal worth; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The congregation sits.

Prayer of Confession

Unison

Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you.

You call, but we have not listened.

We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped up in our own concerns.

We condone evil, prejudice, warfare and greed.

God of grace, help us to admit our sin,

so that, as you come to us in mercy,

we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness;

through Jesus Christ our Redeemer ...

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 370 Just As I Am Woodworth

Pastor: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Passing of the Peace (Worshippers greet one another with the peace of Christ.)

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Genesis 29:15-28

Psalms 105:1-11,45b Unison

O give thanks to the Lord; call on God's name.

Make known God's deeds among the peoples.

Sing to God, sing praises; tell of all God's wonderful works.

Glory in God's holy name;

let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually.

Remember the wonderful works God has done,

the miracles and the judgments he uttered,

O offspring of his servant Abraham,

children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

Our God is the Lord; his judgments are in all the earth.

God is mindful of his covenant forever,

of the word he commanded for a thousand generations,

the covenant that God made with Abraham,

his sworn promise to Isaac,

which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute,

to Israel as an everlasting covenant, saying,

"To you I will give the land of Canaan

as your portion for an inheritance."

Praise the Lord.

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 307 Fight the Good Fight Duke Street

The congregation sits.

Epistle Romans 8:26-39

Gospel Matthew 13:31-33,44-53

Sermon The Pearl Mike Krech

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it." Matthew 13:45-46

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 392 Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord Hall

Apostles' Creed Unison; Hymnal, page 14, Traditional

Gloria Patri 579 Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

The congregation sits.

Pastoral Prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession, and Dedication

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

Offertory Sentence

Offertory On an English Melody, "The Turtle Dove"

Hugh S. Livingston, Jr. (1945-2014)

The congregation stands to sing the

Doxology 592 Old Hundredth

Benediction

Hymn 361 How Firm a Foundation Foundation

Postlude Psalm 19 – The Heavens Declare
Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)

Welcome to worship at Grace Presbyterian Church.

We are in the season of Sundays after Trinity Sunday, also called Ordinary Time.

Our Old Testament readings are following the stories of the Patriarchs in Genesis.

The Epistle readings are from Romans, the Gospel readings from Matthew.

The liturgical color is green, emblematic of the growth these lessons lead us to receive. (JMK)

Hymn Texts for Online Worship

When Morning Gilds the Skies

When morning gilds the skies, My heart awaking cries:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Alike at work and prayer To Jesus I repair:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Does sadness fill my mind? A solace here I find:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Or fades my earthly bliss? My comfort still is this:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Let earth's wide circle round In joyful notes resound:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Let air and sea and sky From depth to height reply:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this, while life is mine, My canticle divine:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this the eternal song Through all the ages long:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Text: German hymn, c. 1800; Trans. Edward Caswall, 1853, 1858, alt.

Tune: LAUDES DOMINI; Joseph Barnby, 1868

Just As I Am, Without One Plea

Just as I am, without one plea But that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou biddest me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, though tossed about With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve,
Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, Thy love unknown Has broken every barrier down;
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1834;

Tune: WOODWORTH; William Batchelder Bradbury, 1849;

Harm. *The Hymnbook*, 1955

Fight the Good Fight

Fight the good fight with all thy might; Christ is thy strength and Christ thy right;
Lay hold on life, and it shall be Thy joy and crown eternally.

Run the straight race through God's good grace,

Lift up thine eyes and seek Christ's face;

Life with its way before us lies, Christ is the path and Christ the prize.

Cast care aside, lean on thy guide; God's boundless mercy will provide;

Trust, and thy trusting soul shall prove Christ is its life, and Christ its love.

Faint not nor fear, God's arms are near; God changeth not, and thou art dear;

Only believe, and thou shalt see That Christ is all in all to thee.

Text: John Samuel Bewley Monsell, 1863, alt.

Tune: DUKE STREET, John Hatton (d. 1793)

Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord

Take Thou our minds, dear Lord, we humbly pray;

Give us the mind of Christ each passing day;

Teach us to know the truth that sets us free;

Grant us in all our thoughts to honor Thee.

Take Thou our hearts, O Christ, they are Thine own;

Come Thou within our souls and claim Thy throne;

Help us to shed abroad Thy deathless love;

Use us to make the earth like heaven above.

Take Thou our wills, Most High! Hold Thou full sway;

Have in our inmost souls Thy perfect way;

Guard Thou each sacred hour from selfish ease;

Guide Thou our ordered lives as Thou dost please.

Take Thou ourselves, O Lord, heart, mind, and will;

Through our surrendered souls Thy plans fulfill.

We yield ourselves to Thee – time, talent, all;

We hear, and henceforth heed, Thy sovereign call.

Text: William H. Foulkes, st. 1-3, 1918; st. 4, c. 1920

Tune: HALL; Calvin Weiss Laufer, 1918

How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said that to you God hath said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid.
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply.
The flame shall not hurt thee, I only design
Thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine.

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose
I will not, I will not desert to its foes.
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

Text: "K" in *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787; Ed. John Rippon; alt.

Tune: FOUNDATION; American folk melody; Funk's *Genuine Church Music*, 1832