

## CHURCH STAFF

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## SESSION

**Moderator: John Michael Krech**

**Clerk: Jean Markham**

<u>Class of 2017</u>	<u>Class of 2018</u>	<u>Class of 2019</u>
John Gordon	Paula Bishop	Kevin Bopp
Sara Lawson	Bob Harrold	Ruth Ellen Cox
Jean Markham	John Price	Emily Mayne

## Grace Presbyterian Church

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[www.grace-pres.org](http://www.grace-pres.org)

[www.facebook.com/GPCBartlett](http://www.facebook.com/GPCBartlett)



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 at 11:00 a.m.

**May 7, 2017**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter/Good Shepherd Sunday**

## The Bell Calls Us to Worship

### Prelude

Prelude in G minor (BWV 558) J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

The congregation stands to sing

### Hymn 108

Christ Is Alive!

Truro

### Opening Sentences

**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**.)

Almighty God, you sent Jesus, our good shepherd, to gather us together. May we not wander from his flock, but follow wherever he leads us, listening for his voice and staying near him, until we are safely in your fold, to live with you forever; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

**An Affirmation of Faith for Easter** Heidelberg Catechism, 1562

**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.**

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

## Welcome and Announcements

The children may bring their “ringing collection” and come to the **Baptismal Font** for a

## Time for Young Christians

### First Lesson

Acts 2:42-47

### Psalm 23

Unison

**The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.**

**He maketh me to lie down in green pastures.**

**He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul.**

**He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.**

**Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,**

**I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me;**

**thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.**

**Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies.**

**Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.**

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,**

**and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

**Anthem** When Morning Gilds the Skies arr. Ken Berg, 2004

When morning gilds the skies, my heart, awak’ning cries, May Jesus Christ be praised. Alike at work and prayer, to Jesus I repair; may Jesus Christ be praised. The night becomes as day when from the heart we say, May Jesus Christ be praised. The pow’rs of darkness fear when this sweet song they hear, May Jesus Christ be praised. Ye nations of mankind, in this your concord find: May Jesus Christ be praised! Let all the earth around right joyous with the sound: May Jesus Christ be praised. In heav’n’s eternal bliss the lov’liest strain is this, May Jesus Christ be praised. Let earth and sea and sky, from depth to height reply, May Jesus Christ be praised.

(Text: Katholisches Gesangbuch Wurzburg, 1828; translated by Edward Caswall; hymn tune by Joseph Born, arr. by Ken Berg)

### Epistle

1 Peter 2:19-25

**The congregation stands to sing**

**Hymn 387** Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Bradbury

**The congregation sits.**

### Gospel

John 10:1-10

**Solo** He Shall Feed His Flock (*Messiah*) G.F. Handel, 1742

He shall feed his flock like a shepherd; and He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young. Karen Schlichte, soprano

### Sermon

Abundance in Abundance

Mike Krech

“I came that they might have life, and have it abundantly.

John 10:10b

**The congregation stands to sing**

**Hymn 121** That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright Puer Nobis Nascitur

**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** Seek Ye First with Pachelbel’s Canon arr. Lynne Hollander

Grace Notes Hand Bell Choir

**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.**

## Benediction

**Recessional Hymn 171** The King of Love My Shepherd Is St. Columba

**Postlude** Christian Hearts, in Love United arr. Anne A. Davis

Today is the **Fourth Sunday of Easter**. We continue to celebrate Jesus’ victory over sin and death today and through the Great Fifty Days of Easter, including Ascension Day, May 25, and culminating with the Day of Pentecost on June 4. This fourth Sunday in Easter is also called Shepherd Sunday or Good Shepherd Sunday because the Gospel readings are taken each year from the tenth chapter of John, where in an extended metaphor Jesus calls himself the Good Shepherd. Israel was a nomadic community of herders prior to its time n slavery in Egypt, as it was again during the Exodus from Egypt and in the early days of return to the promised land. It was fitting that God be described as Israel’s shepherd (Psalm 23) and that Israel’s kings were also so described. David was out tending the flock when summoned by Samuel to be anointed as king (1 Samuel 16). The prophets Jeremiah and Ezekiel in particular continue to preach the need for Israel’s kings to be good shepherds of the nation so that the people will keep the covenant and not fall into danger from the attacks of other nations. In Matthew 9 Jesus has compassion on the people because they are like sheep without a shepherd. That same imagery is used in today’s epistle from 1 Peter 2, as he urges believers not to go astray but to remain in the fold of Jesus, the shepherd and guardian of souls. (JMK)