

## 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

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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 21, 2017**

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

## **The Bell Calls Us to Worship**

**Prelude** Brethren, We Have Met to Worship arr. Don Hustad (1918-2013)

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 482** Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty Lobe Den Herren

## **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**.)

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding.  
Pour into our hearts such love for you, that, loving you above all else, we may obtain  
your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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, 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.**

**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 17:22-31

**Psalm 66:8-11,12b-14,16-20** Unison

Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of God’s praise be heard,  
who has kept us among the living and has not let our feet slip.

For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

You brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs;

We went through fire and through water;

yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

I will come into your house with burnt offerings.

I will pay you my vows,

the vows I promised when I was in trouble.

Come and hear, all you who fear God,

and I will tell what God has done for me.

I cried aloud to God, and I sang God’s praise with my tongue.

If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.

But truly God has listened and given heed to the words of my prayer.

Blessed be God who has not rejected my prayer

nor removed his steadfast love from me.

**Anthem** Thou Art Jesus, Savior and Lord Heinrich Schutz, 1636

Thou art Jesus, Savior and Lord, Redeemer, King. Hear our prayer; hear us, O Lord.

(-- Text by Elwood Coggin; music arranged and edited by Elwood Coggin, 1966)

**Gospel** John 14:15-21

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 316** Breathe on Me, Breath of God Trentham

The congregation sits.

**Epistle** 2 Corinthians 1:8-11

**Sermon** Why Pray for Others? Dr. Donald K. McKim

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 403** What a Friend We Have in Jesus Converse

**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** Adagio (Op. 65) Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

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**

**Recessional Hymn 145** Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart Marion

**Postlude** Toccatino Christopher Tambling (b. 1964)

Today is the sixth Sunday of the season of Easter, which extends through the Great Fifty Days from Easter Day through Pentecost (April 16 – June 4, 2017). We celebrate this joyful season of the resurrection victory in worship through the hymns, the Gloria and Doxology for the season, and an affirmation of faith in place of a prayer of confession. It has long been common to omit confession of sin during the Easter season as an expression of the absolute victory over sin won for us by the risen Lord. Thanks to **Dr. Don McKim** for leading worship and preaching today. (JMK)