

CHURCH SESSION

Class of 2019

Kevin Bopp
Ruth Ellen Cox
Emily Mayne

Class of 2020

Rosemary Gordon
Brooks Keiser
Elizabeth Velazquez
Moderator: John Michael Krech
Clerk: Elizabeth Velazquez
Treasurer: Jere Lawson

Class of 2021

Rickie Cooke
Anna Tate
Janet Vawter

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	John Michael Krech, jmkrech@yahoo.com
Director of Music	Charlotte Eaheart Hicks, CCM, charlotteschurch@gmail.com
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
Co-Directors of Grace Pres. Child Care	Andrea Nichols/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 at 11:00 a.m.

December 22, 2019

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

The Bell Calls Us to Worship

Prelude

Medley for Christmas

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel/Angels We Have Heard On High
Grace Notes Hand Bell Choir

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 41

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Adeste Fideles

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**.)

God of grace, your eternal Word took flesh when Mary placed her life at the service of your will. Prepare our hearts for his advent among us; keep us steadfast in hope and faithful in service, that we may welcome the coming of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The congregation sits.

Lighting the Fourth Candle in the Advent Wreath

Akwi Aseh and Afah Takwi

At the conclusion of the candle lighting service, all stand to sing:

O come, Desire of nations, bind All peoples in one heart and mind;

Bid envy, strife and discord cease, Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.

Rejoice; rejoice. Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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

The children bring their Ringing Offering and come to the Chrismon Tree for a
Time for Young Christians

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament

Isaiah 7:10-16

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19

Unison

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel. You lead Joseph like a flock.

You are enthroned upon the cherubim;
shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.

Stir up your might and come to save us.

Restore us, O God; let your face shine that we may be saved.

O Lord God of hosts,
how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?

You have fed them with the bread of tears

and given them tears to drink in full measure.

You make us the scorn of our neighbors;

our enemies laugh among themselves.

Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine that we may be saved.

Let your hand be upon the one whom you made strong for yourself.

Then we will never turn back from you;
give us life, and we will call on your name.

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts.

Let your face shine that we may be saved.

Anthem Gentle Mary, Tender Mary Jay Althouse, 1994

Gentle Mary, tender Mary, in a humble stable bed, come and rest your weary head.

All is calm, all is bright, lullaby tonight. God has given you a son, Christ the blessed one.

Sleep in peace, little Child, holy, meek and mild. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Epistle

Romans 1:1-7

Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 16 The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came Gabriel's Message

The congregation sits.

Sermon

God Is with Us

Mike Krech

"...and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means, 'God is with us.'" Matthew 1:23

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 27 Gentle Mary Laid Her Child Tempus Adest Floridum

Apostles' Creed Unison; Hymnal, page 14, Traditional

Gloria in Excelsis Refrain of Hymn 23 Gloria

The congregation sits.

Pastoral Prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession, and Dedication

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

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Jesu/Midnight Clear E. Sears/R. Willis, arr. Jay Rouse

The congregation stands to sing the

Doxology 592 Old Hundredth

Benediction

Recessional Hymn 9 O Come, O Come Emmanuel Veni Emmanuel

Postlude Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella Traditional; arr. Carol Tornquist

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

Today we continue the season of **Advent**, the four Sundays leading up to Christmas. Some signs of the season in the sanctuary and in worship include the **purple** paraments, purple being the color of preparation and royalty, the **Advent wreath**, with four candles marking the four Sundays of the season, the **Chrismon tree**, decorated with Christ Monograms, symbols of Christ, his birth and his rule, the singing of a stanza of **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**, following the advent wreath candle lighting service and singing the **Gloria in Excelsis** from the refrain of the familiar Hymn 23, Angels We Have Heard on High. (JMK)