

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
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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 5, 2020

The Bell Calls Us to Worship

Prelude Praise the Lord with the Drums and Cymbals Sigfrid Karl-Elert
arr. Diane Bish

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 262 God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand National Hymn

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, in your perfect realm no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness,
and there is no strength but the strength of love. So mightily spread abroad your Spirit,
that all peoples may be gathered as your children under the banner of the Prince of
Peace to whom be dominion and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

The congregation sits.

Prayer of Confession Unison

Almighty God, ruler of all the peoples of the earth,
forgive, we pray, our shortcomings as a nation.

Purify our hearts to see and love truth.

Give wisdom to our counselors and steadfastness to our people,
and bring us at last to that fair city of peace,
whose foundations are mercy, justice and goodwill,
and whose builder and maker you are;
through Jesus Christ our Lord ...

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 561 My Country, 'Tis of Thee America

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 24:34-38,42-49,58-67

Psalms 45:10-17 Unison

Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear;
forget your people and your father's house,
and the king will desire your beauty.

Since he is your lord, bow to him.

The people of Tyre will seek your favor with gifts,
the richest of the people, with all kinds of wealth.

The princess is decked in her chamber with gold-woven robes.

In many-colored robes she is led to the king;
behind her, the maidens, her companions, follow.

With joy and gladness they are led along
as they enter the palace of the king.

In the place of ancestors, you, O king, shall have sons;
you will make them princes in all the earth.

I will cause your name to be celebrated in all generations;
therefore, the peoples will praise you forever and ever.

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 345 Dear Lord and Father of Mankind Rest

The congregation sits.

Epistle Romans 7:15-25a

Gospel Matthew 11:16-19,25-30

Sermon Whether to Laugh or Cry Mike Krech

“But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces
and calling to one another, ‘We played the flute for you and you did not dance; we wailed
and you did not mourn.’” Matthew 11:16-17

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 563 Lift Every Voice and Sing Lift Every Voice

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 Eternal Father, Strong to Save Whiting/Dykes
Arr. David McKeown

Bob Vawter, trombone; Rickie Cooke, baritone horn; Susan Steppe, piano

The congregation stands to sing the

Doxology 592 Old Hundredth

Benediction

Hymn 564 O Beautiful, for Spacious Skies Materna

Postlude God of Our Fathers George Warren
arr. Anna Laura Page

Welcome to worship at Grace Presbyterian Church.

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

Today we also take note of the national Independence Day holiday.

Our Gospel readings from now until Advent begins on November 29 come from Matthew.

The Old Testament readings are from Genesis.

The Epistle readings are from Paul's letter to the Romans.

The liturgical color is green, emblematic of the growth in faith these lessons want us to achieve.

(JMK)

Hymn Texts for Online Worship

God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

God of the ages, whose almighty hand Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,
Our grateful songs before Thy throne arise.

Thy love divine hath led us in the past; In this free land by Thee our lot is cast;
Be Thou our ruler, guardian, guide and stay,
Thy word our law, Thy paths our chosen way.

From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence, Be Thy strong arm our ever-sure defense.
Thy true religion in our hearts increase, Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way; lead us from night to never ending day;
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine And glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine.

(Text: Daniel Crane Roberts, 1876, alt;

Tune: National Hymn; George William Warren, 1892)

My Country, 'Tis of Thee

My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, Of thee I sing.
Land where my fathers died, Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountainside Let freedom ring.

My native country, thee, Land of the noble free, Thy name I love.
I love thy rocks and rills, Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills Like that above.

Let music swell the breeze, And ring from all the trees Sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake, Let all that breathe partake,
Let rocks their silence break, The sound prolong.

Our fathers' God to Thee, Author of liberty, To Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might, Great God, our King.

(Text: Samuel Francis Smith, 1831;

Tune: America; *Thesaurus Musicus*, London, c. 1740)

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

Dear Lord and Father of mankind, Forgive our foolish ways; Re-clothe us in our
rightful mind, In purer lives Thy service find, In deeper reverence praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard, Beside the Syrian sea, The gracious calling of the
Lord, Let us, like them, without a word, Rise up and follow Thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee, O calm of hills above,
Where Jesus knelt to share with Thee the silence of eternity, Interpreted by love!

Drop Thy still dews of quietness, Till all our strivings cease; Take from our souls
The strain and stress, And let our ordered lives confess The beauty of Thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire Thy coolness and Thy balm;

Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;

Speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire, O still, small voice of calm.

(Text: John Greenleaf Whittier, 1872; Tune: Rest; Frederick Charles Maker, 1887)

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring, Ring with the harmonies of liberty.

Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies; Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;

Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;

Facing the rising sun of our new day begun, Let us march on, till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,

Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;

Yet with a steady beat have not our weary feet

Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?

We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;

We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered.

Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last

Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,

Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;

Thou who hast by Thy might led us into the light;

Keep us forever in the path, we pray.

Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee;

Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;

Shadowed beneath Thy hand may we forever stand,

True to our God, true to our native land.

(Text: James Weldon Johnson, 1921;

Tune: Lift Every Voice; J. Rosamond Johnson, 1921)

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties Above the fruited plain.
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for pilgrim feet, Whose stern, impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat Across the wilderness!
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control, Thy liberty in law!

O beautiful for heroes proved In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved, And mercy more than life!
America! America! May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness And every gain divine!

O beautiful for patriot dream That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam, Undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea.

(Text: Katherine Lee Bates, 1893; Tune: Materna; Samuel Augustus Ward, 1882)