

## CHURCH SESSION

### Class of 2023

Rosemary Gordon  
Sharon Ragghianti  
Becky Stirling

### Class of 2024

Akwi Lillian Aseh  
Susie Hayes  
Janet Wawter  
Moderator: John Michael Krech  
Clerk: Becky Stirling  
Treasurer: Jere Lawson

### Class of 2025

Jere Lawson  
John Price  
Matthew Smith

## CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	John Michael Krech, jmkrech@yahoo.com
Organist/Choirmaster	Susan Steppe, susansteppe@comcast.net
Director Tech. Services/Instrumental Music	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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[www.grace-pres.org](http://www.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 in Word and Sacrament at 11:00 a.m.

April 23, 2023

Third Sunday of Easter

## The Bell Calls Us to Worship

**Prelude** Praise the Lord, Ye Heavens Adore Him (Hyfrydol)

arr. Anna Laura Page

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 113** Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Llanfair

## Easter Greeting

**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, whose Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of the bread, open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **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 safely greet one another with the peace of Christ and then sit for the announcements.)

## Welcome and Announcements

The children bring their ringing offering and come to the Baptismal Font for a  
**Time for Young Christians**

The congregation stands to sing

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

The congregation sits.

## Prayer for Illumination

### First Lesson

Acts 2:36-41

### Psalm 116:1-4,12-17

Unison

I love the Lord because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

Because he inclined his ear to me,

I will call on him as long as I live.

The snares of death encompassed me;

the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;

I suffered distress and anguish.

Then I called on the name of the Lord, "O Lord, I pray, save my life!"

What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.

O Lord, I am your servant; you have loosed my bonds.

I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice

and call on the name of the Lord.

In your presence there is fullness of joy;

in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

### Anthem

In Remembrance of Me

Beryl Red, 1972

### Epistle

1 Peter 1:17-23

### Gospel

Luke 24:13-35

### Sermon

Urging Jesus to Stay

Mike Krech

"But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them." Luke 24:29

The congregation stands to sing

### Hymn 543

Abide with Me, Fast Falls the Eventide

Eventide

### Nicene Creed

Unison; Hymnal, page 15, Ecumenical

## 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

### Offertory Sentence

**Offertory** We Walk by Faith and Not By Sight Tune Dunlap's Creek  
(The text of this hymn by Henry Alford, 1844 and tune by Samuel McFarland, c. 1816, may be found at Hymn 399.)

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.

The congregation sits.

## Invitation to the Lord's Table

### Words of Institution

### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

You may come by the center aisle to receive the bread and cup from the pastor and elders.

**OR** you may go to the table to the left

and eat the bread and drink from a cup there.

Please give the person in front of you adequate time for a reverent Communion.

Place the empty cup in the basket provided.

All Christians are invited to receive the Sacrament.

### Hymn 594

This Is the Feast of Victory

Festival Canticle

## Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion and Benediction

The congregation stands to sing

### Hymn 106

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks

Alleluia No. 1

The congregation is encouraged to be seated for the postlude,

or you may depart the sanctuary quietly and quickly now if necessary.

### Postlude

This the Feast of Victory Tune: Festival Canticle

John W. Arthur/Richard Hilbert; Fanfare and Outro. by Susan Steppe

Welcome to worship at Grace Presbyterian Church on the third Sunday of Easter.

## Hymn Texts for Online Worship

### **Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!**

“Christ the Lord is risen today!” Alleluia! All creation, join to say; Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high; Alleluia! Sing, O heaven, and earth reply, Alleluia!  
Love’s redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won; Alleluia!  
Death in vain forbids Him rise; Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!  
Lives again our glorious King; Alleluia! Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!  
Jesus died, our souls to save; Alleluia! Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!  
Hail, the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia! Praise to You by both be given, Alleluia!  
Every knee to You shall bow, Alleluia! Risen Christ, triumphant now. Alleluia!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.;

Tune: LLANFAIR; Robert Williams, 1817; Harm. David Evans, 1927

### **That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright**

That Easter day with joy was bright, The sun shone out with fairer light,  
When, to their longing eyes restored, Th’apostles saw their risen Lord.

O Jesus, King of gentleness, Do all our inmost hearts possess,  
And we to You will ever raise The tribute of our grateful praise.

From every weapon death can wield, Your own redeemed forever shield;  
O Lord of all, with us abide In this our joyful Eastertide.

Text: Latin hymn, 5<sup>th</sup> century; Trans. John Mason Neale, 1852, alt.;

Tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR; Trier ms., 15<sup>th</sup> century;

Adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1609; Harm. George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1910

### **Abide with Me, Fast Falls the Eventide**

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide; The darkness deepens, Lord, with me abide.  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee, Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life’s little day; Earth’s joys grow dim, its glories pass away;  
Change and decay in all around I see; O Thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need Thy presence every passing hour; What but Thy grace can foil the tempter’s  
power? Who, like Thyself my guide and stay can be?

Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless; Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death’s sting? Where grave, thy victory? I triumph still if Thou abide with me

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes; Shine through the gloom and point me  
to the skies. Heaven’s morning breaks, and earth’s vain shadows flee;

In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Text: Henry Frances Lyte, 1847; Tune: EVENTIDE, William Henry Monk, 1861

## **This Is the Feast of Victory**

Refrain:

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God. (Refrain)

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength  
and honor, blessing and glory are His. (Refrain)

Sing with all the people of God  
and join in the hymn of all creation. (Refrain)

Blessing, honor, glory, and might  
be to God and the lamb forever. Amen. (Refrain)

For the Lamb who was slain  
has begun His reign. Alleluia! (Refrain)

Text: Adapt. by John W. Arthur, 1978;

Tune: FESTIVAL CANTICLE; Richard Hillert, 1978

## **Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks**

(Refrain) Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to His name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth, He is the King of creation.

Spread the good news o'er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen.

We have been crucified with Christ, Now we shall live forever.

Come, let us praise the living God, Joyfully sing to our Savior.

Text: Donald Fishel, 1973;

Tune: ALLELUIA NO. 1; Donald Fishel, 1973;

Arr. Betty Pulkingham and Donald Fishel, 1979