

CHURCH SESSION

Class of 2023

Rosemary Gordon
Sharon Raggianti
Becky Stirling

Class of 2024

Akwi Lillian Aseh
Susie Hayes
Janet Vawter

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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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.

May 7, 2023

Fifth Sunday of Easter

The Bell Calls Us to Worship

Prelude Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation (Unser Herrscher) arr. A.L. Page

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 478 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven Lauda Anima

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**.)
Almighty God, whose Son, Jesus Christ, is the way, the truth, and the life: Form the minds of your faithful people into a single will, that we may love what you command and desire what you promise, and so share the risen life of 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 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 417 Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation Regent Square

The congregation sits.

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson Acts 7:55-60

Psalm 31:1-5,15-16 Unison

In you, O Lord, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame.

In your righteousness deliver me.

Incline your ear to me; rescue me quickly.

Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.

You are indeed my rock and my fortress;

for your name's sake, lead me and guide me.

Take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge.

Into your hand I commit my spirit;

you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.

My times are in your hand;

deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.

Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

Anthem Resurrection Hymn Keith Getty, Stuart Townend

Sung by Daniel Whitaker and Susan Steppe

See what a morning gloriously bright, With the dawning of hope in Jerusalem
Folded the grave-clothes tomb filled with light, As the angels announce Christ is risen
See God's salvation plan, wrought in love, Borne in pain, paid in sacrifice
Fulfilled in Christ the Man, for He lives, Christ is risen from the dead

See Mary weeping where is He laid, As in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb
Hears a voice speaking calling her name, It's the Master the Lord raised to life again
The voice that spans the years, Speaking life, stirring hope, bringing peace to us
Will sound till He appears, For He lives, Christ is risen from the dead

One with the Father Ancient of Days, Through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty
Honour and blessing, glory and praise, To the King, crowned with pow'r and authority
And we are raised with Him, Death is dead, love has won, Christ has conquered
And we shall reign with Him, For He lives, Christ is risen from the dead

Epistle 1 Peter 2:2-10

Gospel John 14:1-14

Sermon The Way of Jesus Mike Krech

“Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life.’” John 14:1

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 485 To God Be the Glory To God Be the Glory

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 His Eye Is On the Sparrow Mrs. C.D. Martin, Charles Gabriel, 1934

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 God, all creatures here below;

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Benediction

Hymn 123 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today Easter Hymn

Welcome to worship at Grace Presbyterian Church.

Today is the fifth Sunday of the season of Easter, which extends through the Great Fifty Days from Easter Day through Pentecost (April 9 – May 28, 2023). JMK

Hymn Texts for Online Worship

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; To His feet thy tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, Evermore His praises sing:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His grace and favor To His people in distress;
Praise Him still the same as ever, Slow to chide and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in His faithfulness.

Father-like He tends and spares us; Well our feeble frame He knows;
In His hands He gently bears us, Rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely yet His mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore Him; Ye behold Him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before Him, Dwellers all in time and space.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

Text: Henry Francis Lyte, 1834; alt;

Tune: LAUDA ANIMA, John Goss, 1869

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone.
Chosen of the Lord and precious, Binding all the church in one.
Holy Zion's help forever, and our confidence alone.

To this temple where we call You, Come, O Lord of Hosts, today;
With Your wonted loving-kindness Hear Your people as they pray,
And Your fullest benediction Shed within its walls always.

Here bestow on all Your servants What they ask of You to gain,
What they gain from You forever With the blessed to retain,
And here-after in Your glory Evermore with You to reign.

Laud and honor to the Father, Laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit, Ever three and ever one;
One in might and one in glory While unending ages run.

Text: 7th century Latin, Trans. John Mason Neale, 1851; alt. 1861, 1972;

Tune: REGENT SQUARE, Henry Thomas Smart, 1867

To God Be the Glory

To God be the glory, great things He hath done!
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory: great things He hath done!
Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport when Jesus we see.

Repeat Refrain

Text: Fanny Jane Crosby, 1875;

Tune: TO GOD BE THE GLORY, William Howard Doane, 1875

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! Our triumphant, holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!
Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Unto Christ, our heavenly king, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!
But the pains which He endured, Alleluia! Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky He's King, Alleluia! Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!
Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as God's love; Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

Text: stanzas 1-3, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708; stanza 4, Charles Wesley, 1740;

Tune: EASTER HYMN;

Lyra Davidica, 1708; Adapted from *The Compleat Psalmodist*, 1749