

CHURCH SESSION

Class of 2023

Rosemary Gordon
Sharon Ragghianti
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

Grace Presbyterian Church

6671 Yale Road

Bartlett, TN 38134

Phone: 901-386-3241

www.grace-pres.org

www.facebook.com/GPCBartlett

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 21, 2023

Seventh Sunday of Easter/The Ascension of Christ into Heaven

The Bell Calls Us to Worship

Prelude He Is Exalted Twila Paris, 1985; arr. Fred Bock

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 142 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name Coronation

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**.)

Eternal God, by raising Jesus from the dead you proclaimed his victory, and by his ascension you declared him Lord of all. Lift our hearts to heaven, where Christ lives and reigns with you and 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 153 He Is King of Kings He Is King

The congregation sits.

Prayer for Illumination

Epistle Ephesians 1:15-23

Psalm 47 Unison

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.

For the Lord, the Most High, fills us with awe.

He is a great king over all the earth.

God subdued peoples under us and nations under our feet.

God chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves.

God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

For God is the king of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm.

God is king over the nations. God sits on his holy throne.

The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham.

For the shields of the earth belong to God, who is highly exalted.

Anthem Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks Donald Fishel, 1973

The text of this anthem can be found at Hymn 106.

Luke-Acts Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:1-11

Sermon Jesus Is Lord Mike Krech

“This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” Acts 1:11

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 423 Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun Duke Street

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 Blessed Assurance Phoebe Palmer Knapp, 1873
arr. Mark Hayes and Douglas Wagner

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 155 Rejoice, the Lord Is King Darwall's 148th

The congregation is encouraged to be seated for the postlude,

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

Postlude

Agincourt Hymn

John Dunstable, c. 1415, Trinity College, Cambridge

At the Name of Jesus, (King's Weston) Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1925

Welcome to worship at Grace Presbyterian Church.

Today is the seventh Sunday of the season of Easter, which extends through the Great Fifty Days from Easter Day through Pentecost (April 9 – May 28, 2023). This joyful season of the resurrection victory is celebrated in worship through our hymns, the Gloria and Doxology for the season, and an affirmation of faith in place of a prayer of confession. It has long been customary 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. Today we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord into heaven, which occurred forty days from the resurrection according to Acts 1. The Ascension is the “bridge,” linking the final verses of Luke's Gospel and the opening verses of the Book of Acts, which was also written by Luke. Next Sunday is the Day of Pentecost, when power from on high, the Holy Spirit, promised in the reading from Acts, descended upon the disciples. JMK

Hymn Texts for Online Worship

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

All hail the power of Jesus' name, Let angels prostrate fall;

Bring forth the royal diadem, And crown Him Lord of all!

Bring forth the royal diadem, And crown Him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, Ye ransomed from the fall,

Hail Him who saves you by His grace, And crown Him Lord of all!

Hail Him who saves you by His grace, And crown Him Lord of all!

Let every kindred, every tribe, On this terrestrial ball,

To Him all majesty ascribe, And crown Him Lord of all!

To Him all majesty ascribe, And crown Him Lord of all!

O that with yonder sacred throng, We at His feet may fall!

We'll join the everlasting song, And crown Him Lord of all!

We'll join the everlasting song, And crown Him Lord of all!

Text: Stanzas 1-3, Edward Perronet, 1779, 1780; stanzas 2-3, alt. John Rippon, 1787; stanza 4, John Rippon, 1787;

Tune: CORONATION; Oliver Holden, 1793

He Is King of Kings

Refrain: He is King of kings, He is Lord of lords,

Jesus Christ, the first and last, No one works like him.

He built a throne up in the air, No one works like him.

And called His saints from everywhere, No one works like Him. (Refrain)

He pitched His tents on Canaan ground, No one works like Him,

And broke oppressive kingdoms down, No one works like Him (Refrain)

I know that my Redeemer lives, No one works like Him,

And by His love sweet blessing gives, No one works like Him. (Refrain)

Text: African-American spiritual;

Tune: HE IS KING; African-American spiritual,

Arr. Joseph T. Jones (1902-1983); Adapt. Melva W. Costen, 1989

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun Does its successive journeys run,
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore, Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To Him shall endless prayer be made, And praises throng to crown His head;
His name, like sweet perfume shall rise With every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue Dwell on His love with sweetest song,
And infant voices shall proclaim Their early blessings on His name.

Blessings abound where'er He reigns; The prisoners leap to lose their chains,
The weary find eternal rest, And all who suffer want are blessed.

Let every creature rise and bring Honors peculiar to our King;
Angels descend with songs again, And earth repeat the loud Amen!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.;

Tune: DUKE STREET, John Hatton, d. 1793

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore!

Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, And triumph ever more:

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say rejoice!

God's kingdom cannot fail, Christ rules o'er earth and heaven;

The keys of death and hell Are to our Jesus given:

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope! For Christ, the Judge shall come

To glorify the saints for their eternal home:

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say rejoice!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1746;

Tune: DARWALL'S 148th; John Darwall, 1770