

## 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

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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.

**June 18, 2023**

**Second Sunday after Trinity**

## The Bell Calls Us to Worship

**Prelude** Precious Lord, Take My Hand; Just a Closer Walk with Thee  
Bob Vawter, trombone; Susan Steppe, organ

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 489** Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty Unser Herrscher

## 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**.)  
Almighty God, you have called us to serve you; yet without your grace we are unable to please you. Mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The congregation sits.

## Prayer of Confession

Unison

**Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being,**  
**whose face is hidden from us by our sins,**  
**and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts:**  
**Cleanse us from all our offenses,**  
**and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires,**  
**that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you,**  
**confessing our faults, confiding in your grace,**  
**and finding in you our refuge and strength;**  
**through Jesus Christ your Son. ...**

## Silent Prayers of Confession

**Assurance of Pardon**

**The congregation stands to sing**

**Hymn 396** O for a Closer Walk with God Caithness

**Pastor:** The peace of 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

### Prayer for Illumination

**Old Testament** Genesis 18:1-15

**Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19** Unison

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

Because he has inclined his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live.

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, the child of your serving girl.

You have loosed my bonds.

I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice

and call on the name of the Lord.

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

in the courts of the house of the Lord,

in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord

**Anthem** The Summons Kelvingrove, Scottish melody

Will you come and follow Me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and never be the same? Will you let My love be shown, will you let My name be known? Will you let My life be grown in you and you in Me? Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare? Will you let Me answer prayer in you and you in Me? Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name? Will you set the pris'ners free and never be the same? Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen and admit to what I mean in you and you in Me? Will you love the self you hide if I but call your name? Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same? Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around through my sight and

touch and sound in you and you in Me? Lord, Your summons echoes true when You but call my name. Let me turn and follow You and never be the same. In Your company I'll go where Your love and footsteps show. Thus I'll move and live and grow in You and You in me.  
(-- John L. Bell and Graham Maule, 1987)

**Epistle** Romans 5:1-8

**The congregation stands to sing**

**Hymn 126** Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove St. Agnes

The congregation sits.

**Gospel** Matthew 9:35-10:15

**Sermon** The Start Up Mike Krech

“Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. Matthew 9:35

**The congregation stands to sing**

**Hymn 343** Called as Partners in Christ's Service Beecher

**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** My Faith Is Firmly Founded J.S. Bach arr. Dorothy Wells

The congregation stands to sing the

**Doxology 592** Old Hundredth

### Benediction

**Hymn 415** Come, Labor On Ora Labora

Worshippers are invited to sit and conclude worship through the postlude.

Or, you may depart the sanctuary quickly and quietly now if you need to.

**Postlude** Webb (Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus) George J. Webb;  
arr. Jason Payne

**Welcome to worship at Grace Presbyterian Church.** In the long season of Sundays after Trinity Sunday, also called Ordinary Time, we will read semi-continuously in Matthew's Gospel. The Epistle readings are from Romans and the Old Testament from Genesis. We seek to grow in our Christian faith, so green is the liturgical color. JMK

## Hymn Texts for Online Worship

### **Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty**

Open now thy gates of beauty, Zion, let me enter there.

Where my soul in joyful duty Waits for God who answers prayer;

O how blessed is this place, Filled with solace, light, and grace.

Gracious God, I come before Thee, Come Thou also down to me;

Where we find Thee and adore Thee, There a heaven on earth must be;

To my heart O enter Thou, Let it be Thy temple now.

Speak, O Lord, and I will hear Thee, Let Thy will be done indeed;

May I undisturbed draw near Thee, While Thou dost Thy people feed.

Here of life the fountain flows, Here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1732; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1863;

Tune: UNSER HERRSCHER, Joachim Neander, 1680;

Harm. *The Chorale Book for England*, 1863; alt.

### **O for a Closer Walk with God**

O for a closer walk with God, A calm and heavenly frame,

A light to shine upon the road That leads me to the Lamb!

Return, O holy Dove, return, Sweet messenger of rest!

I hate the sins that made Thee mourn And drove Thee from my breast.

The dearest idol I have known, Whate'er that idol be,

Help me to tear it from Thy throne And worship only Thee.

So shall my walk be close with God, Calm and serene my frame;

So purer light shall mark the road That leads me to the Lamb.

Text: William Cowper, 1772;

Tune: CAITHNESS; Scottish Psalter, 1635; Harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906; alt.

### **Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove**

Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly Dove, With all Thy quickening powers;

Kindle a flame of sacred love In these cold hearts of ours.

In vain we tune our formal songs, In vain we strive to rise;

Hosannas languish on our tongues, And our devotion dies.

Dear Lord, and shall we ever live At this poor dying rate?

Our love so faint, so cold to Thee, And Thine to us so great!

Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly Dove, With all Thy quickening powers;

Come, shed abroad a Savior's love, And that shall kindle ours.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1707;

Tune: ST. AGNES; John Bacchus Dykes, 1866

### **Called as Partners in Christ's Service**

Called as partners in Christ's service, Called to ministries of grace,  
We respond with deep commitment, Fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
May we learn the art of sharing, Side by side and friend with friend,  
Equal partners in our caring, To fulfill God's chosen end.

Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
Let us follow, never faltering, Reconciling folk on earth.

Men and women, richer, poorer, All God's people, young and old,  
Blending human skills together, Gracious gifts from God unfold.

Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, In a small or global sense,  
Help us bear each other's burdens, Breaking down each wall or fence.  
Words of comfort, words of vision, Words of challenge, said with care,  
Bring new power and strength for action, Make us colleagues, free and fair.

So God grant us for tomorrow Ways to order human life  
That surround each person's sorrow With a calm that conquers strife.  
Make us partners in our living, Our compassion to increase,  
Messengers of faith, thus giving Hope and confidence and peace.

Text: Jane Parker Huber, 1981;

Tune: BEECHER, John Zundel, 1870

### **Come, Labor On**

Come, labor on. Who dares stand idle on the harvest plain  
While all around us waves the golden grain?  
And to each servant does the Master say, "Go work today."

Come, labor on. Claim the high calling angels cannot share;  
To young and old the gospel gladness bear.  
Redeem the time; its hours too swiftly fly, The night draws nigh.

Come, labor on. Away with gloomy doubts and faithless fear!  
No arm so weak but may do service here.  
Though feeble agents, may we all fulfill God's righteous will.

Come, labor on. No time for rest, till glows the western sky,  
Till the long shadows o'er our pathway lie,  
And a glad sound comes with the setting sun, "Well done, well done!"

Text: Jane Laurie Borthwick, 1859; rev. 1863, alt.;

Tune: Ora Labora; Thomas Tertius Noble, 1918