

### 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

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[www.facebook.com/GPCBartlett](https://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.

August 13, 2023

### The Bell Calls Us to Worship

#### Prelude

It Is Well with My Soul/Blessed Assurance

Philip P. Bliss/Phoebe P. Knapp

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

The congregation stands to sing

#### Hymn 460

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

Grosser Gott, Wir Loben Dich

### 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**.)

Grant us, O Lord, the grace always to do and think what accords with your purpose, that we, who cannot live without you, may, by you, be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The congregation sits.

### Prayer of Confession

Unison

**Almighty and merciful God,**

**we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.**

**We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.**

**We have offended against your holy laws.**

**We have left undone those things which we ought to have done;**

**and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.**

**O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults.**

**Restore those who are penitent,**

**according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may live**

a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name ...

### Silent Prayers of Confession

#### Assurance of Pardon

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 333**                      Seek Ye First                      Lafferty

**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 37:1-4,12-28

#### Psalms 105:1-3,16-22,45b

Unison

**O give thanks to the Lord; call on God's name.**

Make known God's deeds among the peoples.

**Sing to God, sing praises; tell of all God's wonderful works.**

Glory in God's holy name;

let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

**When God summoned famine against the land**

and broke every staff of bread,

**God had sent a man ahead of them, Joseph, who was sold as a slave.**

**His feet were hurt with fetters; his neck was put in a collar of iron;**

until what God had said came to pass,

the word of the Lord kept testing him.

**The king sent and released him;**

the ruler of the people set him free.

**He made him lord of his house and ruler of all his possessions,**

to instruct his officials at his pleasure

**and to teach his elders wisdom. Praise the Lord.**

**Anthem**            Precious Lord, Take My Hand            George Nelson Allen  
Arr. Stephen DeCesare

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

### Epistle

Romans 10:5-17

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 466**                      O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing                      Azmon

The congregation sits.

### Gospel

Matthew 14:22-33

### Sermon

The Steadying Hand

Mike Krech

“But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, ‘Lord, save me!’ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him ... .” Matthew 14:30-31a

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 404**                      Precious Lord, Take My Hand                      Precious Lord

**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**                      Give Thanks                      Henry Smith

The congregation stands to sing the

**Doxology 592**                      Old Hundredth

### Benediction

**Hymn 562**                      Eternal Father, Strong to Save                      Melita

Worshippers are encouraged to be seated for the postlude,  
or you may depart the sanctuary quietly and quickly now if necessary.

**Postlude**                      Immortal, Invisible                      arr. Don Wyrzten

**Welcome to worship at Grace Presbyterian Church.** In the long season of Sundays after Trinity Sunday, also called Ordinary Time, we read semi-continuously from Matthew's Gospel and from Genesis. As we seek to grow in our Christian faith, green is the liturgical color.

## Hymn Texts for Online Worship

### **Holy God, We Praise Your Name**

Holy God, we praise Your name; Lord of all, we bow before You;  
All on earth Your scepter claim, All in heaven above adore You.  
Infinite Your vast domain, Everlasting is Your reign.

Hark, the glad celestial hymn Angel choirs above are raising;  
Cherubim and seraphim, In unceasing chorus praising.  
Fill the heavens with sweet accord: Holy, holy, holy Lord.

All apostles join the strain As Your sacred name they hallow;  
Prophets swell the glad refrain, And the blessed martyrs follow,  
And from morn to set of sun, Through the church the song goes on.

Holy Father, Holy Son, Holy Spirit: Three we name You,  
While in essence only One; Undivided God we claim You,  
And, adoring, bend the knee While we own the mystery.

Text: Attr. Ignaz Franz, c. 1774; Trans. Clarence Alphonsus Walworth, 1858; alt.  
Tune: GROSSER GOTT, WIR LOBEN DICH;  
*Allegemeines Katholisches Gesangbuch*, c. 1774; Alt. Johann Gottfried Schicht, 1819

### **Seek Ye First**

Seek ye first the kingdom of God And His righteousness,  
And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

Ask and it shall be given unto you, Seek and ye shall find,  
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

Text: Karen Lafferty (b.1948)  
Tune: LAFFERTY; Karen Lafferty (b. 1948)

### **O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing**

O for a thousand tongues to sing My dear Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of God's grace!

Jesus, the name that charms our fears, That bids our sorrows cease;  
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'Tis life, and health, and peace.

Christ breaks the power of reigning sin, And sets the prisoner free;  
Christ's blood can make the sinful clean, Christ's blood availed for me.

My gracious Master and my God, Assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the earth abroad, The honors of Thy name.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1738, alt;  
Tune: AZMON; Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839

### **Precious Lord, Take My Hand**

Precious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, help me stand;  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn. Through the storm, through the night,  
Lead me on to the light; Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, Precious Lord, linger near;  
When my life is almost gone, Hear my cry, hear my call,  
Hold my hand lest I fall; Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

Text: Thomas A Dorsey, 1938

Tune: PRECIOUS LORD; George N. Allen, 1844; arr. Thomas A. Dorsey, 1938

### **Eternal Father, Strong to Save**

Eternal Father, strong to save, Whose arm has bound the restless wave,  
Who bade the mighty ocean deep Its own appointed limits keep:  
O hear us when we cry to Thee For those in peril on the sea.

O Savior, whose almighty word The wind and waves submissive heard,  
Who walked upon the foaming deep, And calm amid its rage did sleep:  
O hear us when we cry to Thee For those in peril on the sea.

O Holy Spirit, who did brood Upon the chaos wild and rude,  
And bade its angry tumult cease, And gave, for fierce confusion, peace:  
O hear us when we cry to Thee For those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power, All travelers guard in danger's hour;  
From rock and tempest, fire and foe, Protect them where-so-e'er they go;  
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee Glad praise from air and land and sea.

Text: William Whiting, 1860; alt.

Tune: MELITA; John Bacchus Dykes, 1861