

## 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.grace-pres.org](http://www.grace-pres.org)

[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 27, 2023

## The Bell Calls Us to Worship

### Prelude

Be Strong in the Lord

Tom Fettke

Arr. Anna Laura Page

The congregation stands to sing

### Hymn 482

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

Lobe Den Herren

## 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**.)

O God, fount of all wisdom, in the witness of the apostle Peter you have shown the foundation of our faith. Grant us the light of your Spirit, that, recognizing in Jesus of Nazareth the Son of the living God, we may be living stones for the building up of your holy church; 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

**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 236**                      Now Israel May Say                      Old 124th

**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

Exodus 1:8-2:10

#### Psalm 124

Unison

If it had not been the Lord who was on our side – let Israel now say:

If it had not been the Lord who was on our side,  
when our enemies attacked us,  
then they would have swallowed us up alive  
when their anger was kindled against us.

Then the flood would have swept us away;

the torrent would have gone over us;  
then over us would have gone the raging waters.

Blessed be the Lord, who has not given us as prey to their teeth.

We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers;  
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

Our help is in the name of the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

#### Anthem

We Worship As One

Jay Althouse, 1995

Lord, we are as one united, for you guide us and show the way.

We worship and pray together and sing your praise on this holy day.

With one voice we sing this song, to one church we all belong.

Tho' we are many, in you we are one, we worship as one.

Lord, you are a sure foundation. We walk with you hand in hand.

Guide us to a true understanding, and on this solid ground we shall stand.

(-- Sally K. Albrecht and Jay Althouse)

## Epistle

Romans 12:1-8

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 379**                      My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less                      Solid Rock

The congregation sits.

## Gospel

Matthew 16:13-20

### Sermon

Profiles in Courage

Mike Krech

“But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live.”  
Exodus 1:17

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 441**                      I Love thy Kingdom, Lord                      St. Thomas

**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**                      I Want to Be a Christian                      American Melody  
Arr. Mary McDonald

The congregation stands to sing the

**Doxology 592**                      Old Hundredth

### Benediction

**Hymn 442**                      The Church's One Foundation                      Aurelia

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

### Postlude

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

Aaron Williams  
Arr. Gayden Sikes

## Welcome to worship at Grace Presbyterian Church.

We are in the season of Sundays after Trinity Sunday, also called Ordinary Time.

Our Old Testament readings have been from Genesis and today move to Exodus.

The Epistle readings are from Romans, the Gospel readings from Matthew.

The liturgical color is green, emblematic of the growth these lessons lead us to receive. JMK

## Hymn Texts for Online Worship

### **Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty**

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear, Now to His temple draw near;  
Join me in glad adoration!

Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!  
Hast thou not seen How thy desires e'er have been  
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise ye the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!  
Let the amen Sound from His people again;  
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

Text: Joachim Neander, 1680; Trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1863; alt.  
Tune: LOBE DEN HERREN; Stralsund *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, 1665;  
Harm. *The Chorale Book for England*, 1863

### **Now Israel May Say**

Now Israel may say, and that in truth.  
If that the Lord had not our right maintained,  
If that the Lord had not with us remained  
When cruel foes against us rose to strive,  
We surely had been swallowed up alive.  
Yea, when their wrath against us fiercely rose,  
The swelling tide had o'er us spread its wave,  
The raging stream had then become our grave,  
The surging flood in proudly swelling roll,  
Most surely then had overwhelmed our soul.  
Blest be the Lord, who made us not their prey,  
As from the snare a bird escapeth free,  
Their net is rent and so escaped are we.  
Our only help is in God's holy name,  
Who made the earth and all the heavenly frame.

Text: Psalm 124, *The Psalter*, 1912;  
Tune: OLD 124TH; Genevan Psalter, 1551

### **My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less**

My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, But wholly lean on Jesus' name: Refrain

Refrain:

On Christ the solid Rock, I stand,  
All other ground is sinking sand,  
All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;  
In every high and stormy gale, My anchor holds within the veil. Refrain

His oath, His covenant, His blood Support me in the whelming flood;  
When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay. Refrain

When He shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in Him be found,  
Dressed in His righteousness alone, Faultless to stand before the throne. Refrain

Text: Edward Mote, c. 1834;

Tune: SOLID ROCK; William Batchelder Bradbury, 1863

### **I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord**

I love Thy kingdom, Lord, The house of Thine abode,  
The church our blest Redeemer saved With His own precious blood.

I love Thy church, O God; Her walls before Thee stand,  
Dear as the apple of Thine eye, And graven on Thy hand.

For her my tears shall fall, For her my prayers ascend;  
To her my toils and cares be given, Till toils and cares shall end.

Beyond my highest joy I prize her heavenly ways,  
Her sweet communion, solemn vows, Her hymns of love and praise.

Sure as Thy truth shall last, To Zion shall be given  
The brightest glories earth can yield, And brighter bliss of heaven.

Text: Timothy Dwight, 1800;

Tune: ST. THOMAS; *The Universal Psalmist*, 1763; Adapt. Aaron Williams, 1770

### **The Church's One Foundation**

The church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
She is His new creation, By water and the word.  
From heaven He came and sought her To be His holy bride;  
With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, Yet one o'er all the earth,  
Her charter of salvation One Lord, one faith, one birth;  
One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses, With every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder This world sees her oppressed,  
By schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed,  
Yet saints their watch are keeping; Their cry goes up, "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song.

Mid toil and tribulation, And tumult of her war,  
She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore;  
Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great church victorious, Shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union With God the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won:  
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we  
Like them, the meek and lowly, May live eternally.

Text: Samuel John Stone, 1866; alt.

Tune: AURELIA; Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864