

## 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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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.

September 10, 2023

## The Bell Calls Us to Worship

### Prelude

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (Lobe Den Herren)  
Arr. Diane Bish

The congregation stands to sing

### Hymn 417

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation Regent Square

## 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**.)

Direct us, O Lord, in all our actions with Thy most gracious favor and further us with Thy continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in Thee, we may glorify Thy holy name, and finally, by Thy mercy, obtain everlasting life; 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 God, our heavenly Father:**

we have sinned against you through our own fault,  
in thought, word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.

**For the sake of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,**

forgive us all our offenses,  
and grant that we may serve you

**in newness of life to the glory of your Name ...**

## Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 411** Arise, Your Light Is Come Festal Song

**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 12:1-14

**Psalm 149:1-6a, 9c** Unison

**Praise the Lord!**

**Sing to the Lord a new song, God's praise in the assembly of the faithful.**

**Let Israel be glad in its Maker;**

**let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.**

**Let them praise God's name with dancing,**

**making melody with tambourine and lyre.**

**For the Lord takes pleasure in his people, adorning the humble with victory.**

**Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches.**

**Let the high praises of God be in their throats. Praise the Lord!**

**Anthem** Bought with a Price Natalie Sleeth (1930-1992)

You were blessed by the Word, Born of the Spirit, Called by the Pow'r divine.

You were led by the light, Washed with the water, Marked by a sacred sign.

You are part of the chosen people, You are children of Abraham.

You were bought with a price, Spared by a sorrow, Saved by the blood of the Lamb!

So, what then, does God require of you? Nothing in truth you cannot do:

This, this alone, your whole life thru, But to walk in the way of the Lord!

You were claimed by a cross, Graced by a glory, Loved by the Lord on high.

You were fed by the faith, Filled from the fountain, Destined to testify!

(-- Natalie Sleeth, freely adapted from 1 Cor. 6:20; Micah 6:8)

**Gospel** Matthew 18:15-20

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 257** Give Praise to the Lord Laudate Dominum

The congregation sits.

**Epistle** Romans 13:8-14

**Sermon** Love, the Center of All Mike Krech

“Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.” Romans 13:8

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 367** Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love Chereponi

**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 Walk as a Child of the Light Tune: Houston

Kathleen Thomerson; setting by John A. Behnke

The congregation stands to sing the

**Doxology 592** Old Hundredth

### Benediction

**Hymn 376** Love Divine, All Loves Excelling Hyfrydol

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

**Postlude** Festive Trumpet Tune David German

### 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, Exodus, and Paul's letter to the Romans.

As we seek to grow in our Christian faith, green is the liturgical color. (JMK)

## Hymn Texts for Online Worship

### **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 away.

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: 7<sup>th</sup> century Latin, Trans. John Mason Neale, 1851; alt. 1861, 1972;  
Tune: REGENT SQUARE, Henry Thomas Smart, 1867

### **Arise, Your Light Is Come!**

Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey;  
Show forth the glory of your God, Which shines on you today.

Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door;  
Proclaim the captives' liberty, Good tidings to the poor.

Arise, your light is come! All you in sorrow born,  
Bind up the broken-hearted ones And comfort those who mourn.

Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song!  
Rise up like eagles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, 1974;

Tune: FESTAL SONG; William H. Walter, 1894

### **Give Praise to the Lord**

Give praise to the Lord and sing a new song.

Amid all the saints God's praises prolong.

A song to your maker and ruler now raise,

All children of Zion, rejoice and give praise.

With timbrel and harp and joyful acclaim,

With gladness and mirth, we praise Your great name.

For now in Your people good pleasure You seek,

With robes of salvation You cover the meek.

In glory exult, all saints of the Lord;

With song in the night high praises accord.

Go forth in God's service and strong in God's might

To conquer all evil and stand for the right.

For this is God's word: the saints shall not fail.

But over the earth their power shall prevail.

All kingdoms and nations shall yield to their sway.

To God give the glory; sing praises for aye.

Text: Psalm 149; *The Psalter*, 1912; alt. 1984;

Tune LAUDATE DOMINUM; C. Hubert H. Parry, c. 1915

### **Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love**

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,

Show us how to serve the neighbors we have from You.

Kneels at the feet of His friends, Silently washes their feet,

Master who acts as a slave to them. (Repeat above)

Neighbors are rich and poor, Varied in color and race,

Neighbors are near and far away. (Repeat above)

These are the ones we should serve, These are the ones we should love,

All are neighbors to us and You. (Repeat above)

Loving puts us on our knees, Serving as though we are slaves,

This is the way we should live with You. (Repeat above)

Kneel at the feet of our friends, Silently washing their feet,

This is the way we should live with You (Repeat above)

Text: Ghanaian folk song; Trans. Tom Colvin, 1969;

Tune: CHEREPONI; Ghanaian folk melody; Adapt. Tom Colvin, 1963;

Arr. Jane Marshall, 1982

### **Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven to earth come down.  
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling, All Thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, Thou art all compassion, Pure, unbounded love Thou art;  
Visit us with Thy salvation, Enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit Into every troubled breast.  
Let us all in Thee inherit, Let us find the promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning, Alpha and Omega be;  
End of faith, as its beginning, Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver, Let us all Thy life receive;  
Suddenly return and never, Never-more Thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing, Serve Thee as Thy hosts above;  
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing, Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish, then, Thy new creation; Pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see Thy great salvation Perfectly restored in Thee;  
Changed from glory into glory, Till in heaven we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before Thee, Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1747;

Tune: HYFRYDOL; Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1831