

## 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, eaclewis@yahoo.com          |
| 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.

**November 26, 2023**

**The Sunday Next before Advent/The Reign of Christ the King**

## The Bell Calls Us to Worship

### Prelude

He Is Exalted Twila Paris; arr. Fred Bock

The congregation stands to sing

### Hymn 478

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven Lauda Anima

## 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.**)

Eternal God, you set Jesus Christ to rule over all things and made us servants in your kingdom. By your Spirit empower us to love the unloved and to minister to all in need. Then at last bring us into your eternal realm, where we may worship you and be welcomed into your everlasting joy; 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

**Eternal God, you have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all.**

**We confess that we have not bowed before him,  
and we are slow to acknowledge his rule.**

**We have pledged our allegiance to the powers of this world,**

**and we have failed to be governed by justice and love.**

**In your mercy forgive us. Raise us to acclaim Christ as Lord,**

**that we may be loyal ambassadors, who obey his commands ...**

## Silent Prayers of Confession

## Assurance of Pardon

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 153** He Is King of Kings He Is King

**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** Ezekiel 34:11-24

**Psalm 100** Unison

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness;  
come into God's presence with singing.

Know that the Lord is God.

It is God who made us, and not we ourselves.

We are God's people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise.

Give thanks to God; bless his name.

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever,  
and his faithfulness to all generations.

**Anthem** King of Glory Tom Fettke, 2004

At the name of Jesus ev'ry knee shall bow, ev'ry tongue confess Him King of glory now. 'Tis the Father's pleasure we should call Him Lord, Who from the beginning was the mighty Word.

At the name of Jesus Christ triumphantly we bow. Let us declare that He is Lord and the King of glory now. Glory and honor, blessing and thanks we offer in accord. Wisdom and riches, power and strength He'll receive forever more. In your hearts enthrone Him; there let Him subdue all that is not holy, all that is not true. Crown Him as your Master in temptation's hour. Let His will enfold you in its light and pow'r forevermore.

(--Caroline Maria Noel, 1890 & Tom Fettke)

**Epistle** Ephesians 1:15-23

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 143** All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name Diadem

The congregation sits.

**Gospel** Matthew 25:31-46

**Sermon** Un-Self-Conscious Service Mike Krech

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink?'" Matthew 25:37

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 434** Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples Kingsfold

**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** Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

The congregation stands to sing the

**Doxology 592** Old Hundredth

### Benediction

**Hymn 151** Crown Him with Many Crowns Diademata

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

**Postlude** Rejoice, the Lord is King Darwall's 148<sup>th</sup>

John Darwall, 1770; arr. Jason D. Payne

### Welcome to worship at Grace Presbyterian Church.

Today we come to the close of the church's liturgical year, with the celebration of The Reign of Christ the King. This observance is the most recent on the church calendar, having been begun in 1925 by Pope Pius XI to affirm the lordship of Christ amid the rising secularism in Europe and much of the world following World War I.

For the church today, including us Protestants, The Reign of Christ the King marks the culmination of the long season following Pentecost and rightly foreshadows the coming season of Advent with its theme of Christ's return in glory and judgment. (JMK)

## Hymn Texts for Online Worship

### **Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven**

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; To His feet thy tribute bring;  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, Evermore His praises sing:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His grace and favor To His people in distress;  
Praise Him still the same as ever, Slow to chide and swift to bless.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in His faithfulness.

Father-like He tends and spares us; Well our feeble frame He knows;  
In His hands He gently bears us, Rescues us from all our foes.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely yet His mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore Him; Ye behold Him face to face;  
Sun and moon, bow down before Him, Dwellers all in time and space.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

Text: Henry Francis Lyte, 1834; alt;  
Tune: LAUDA ANIMA, John Goss, 1869

### **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

### **All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name**

All hail the power of Jesus' name, Let angels prostrate fall; Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem,

And crown Him, crown Him, crown Him, crown Him,  
crown Him, crown Him, crown Him, And crown Him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, Ye ransomed from the fall, Ye ransomed from the fall  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,

And crown Him, crown Him, crown Him, crown Him,  
crown Him, crown Him, crown Him, And crown Him Lord of all!

Let every kindred, every tribe, On this terrestrial ball, On this terrestrial ball,  
To Him all majesty ascribe,

And crown Him, crown Him, crown Him, crown Him,  
crown Him, crown Him, crown Him, And crown Him Lord of all!

O that with yonder sacred throng, We at His feet may fall! We at His feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song,

And crown Him, crown Him, crown Him, crown Him,  
crown Him, crown Him, crown Him, 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: DIADEM; James Ellor, 1838

### **Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples**

Today we all are called to be Disciples of the Lord,  
To help to set the captive free, Make plowshare out of sword,  
To feed the hungry, quench their thirst, Make love and peace our fast,  
To serve the poor and homeless first, Our ease and comfort last.

God made the world and at its birth Ordained our human race  
To live as stewards of the earth, Responding to God's grace.  
But we are vain and sadly proud, We sow not peace but strife,  
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud that threatens all of life.

Pray justice may come rolling down As in a mighty stream,  
With righteousness in field and town To cleanse us and redeem.  
For God is longing to restore An earth where conflicts cease,  
A world that was created for A harmony of peace.

May we in service to our God Act out the living Word,  
And walk the road the saints have trod Till all have seen and heard.  
As stewards of the earth may we Give thanks in one accord  
To God who calls us all to be Disciples of the Lord.

Text: H. Kenn Carmichael, 1985;

Tune: KINGSFOLD; *English Country Songs*, 1893;

arr. and harm Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

### **Crown Him with Many Crowns**

Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His throne;  
Hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns All music but its own!  
Awake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee.  
And hail Him as thy matchless King Through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of love; Behold His hands and side,  
Rich wounds, yet visible above, In beauty glorified;  
No angel in the sky Can fully bear that sight,  
But downward bends his burning eye At mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of peace, Whose power a scepter sways  
From pole to pole, that wars may cease, Absorbed in prayer and praise:  
His reign shall know no end; And round His pierced feet  
Fair flowers of Paradise extend Their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown Him the Lord of years, The Potentate of time;  
Creator of the rolling spheres, Ineffably sublime.  
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For Thou hast died for me;  
Thy praise shall never, never fail Throughout eternity.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1851;

Tune: DIADEMATA; George Job Elvey, 1868