

## CHURCH SESSION

### Class of 2024

Akwi Lillian Aseh  
Susie Hayes

### Class of 2025

Jere Lawson  
John Price  
Matthew Smith

Moderator: John Michael Krech  
Clerk: Becky Stirling  
Treasurer: Jere Lawson

### Class of 2026

Sandy Kehrli  
AZ Ndingwan  
Becky Stirling

## 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

6671 Yale Road

Bartlett, TN 38134

Phone: 901-386-3241

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

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

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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.

**February 11, 2024**

**Last Sunday after Epiphany/The Transfiguration of the Lord**

## **The Bell Calls Us to Worship**

### **Prelude**

Prelude in G

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

The congregation stands to sing

### **Hymn 462**

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

Ratisbon

## **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, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah; and in the voice from the cloud you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us, with Christ, heirs of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness; 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

**God of compassion, in Jesus Christ you reveal the light of your glory.**

**But we turn away, distracted by our own plans.**

**We confess that we speak when we should listen,  
and act in haste rather than wait for your Word.**

**Forgive our unwillingness to follow Jesus  
to the mountaintop of prayer or the valley of service.**

**Grant us wisdom to live in your light, radiant from the face of our Lord. ...**

## **Silent Prayers of Confession**

## **Assurance of Pardon**

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 69** O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright Wie Schön Leuchtet

**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**

2 Kings 2:1-12

**Psalm 50:1-6**

Unison

**The mighty one, God the Lord, speaks**

**and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.**

**Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.**

**Our God comes and does not keep silence,**

**before him is a devouring fire, and a mighty tempest all around him.**

**God calls to the heavens above and to the earth,**

**that he may judge his people.**

**“Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!”**

**The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge.**

**Anthem**

On Holy Ground

Geron Davis, 1987

Soloist: Stephanie Polk

arr. Susan Steppe

**Epistle**

2 Peter 1:16-19

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 75** O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair

Deo Gracias

The congregation sits.

**Gospel**

Mark 9:2-9

**Sermon**

Transfiguring Moments

Mike Krech

“Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them,”

Mark 9:2

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 474** O Splendor of God’s Glory Bright Puer Nobis Nascitur

**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** Partita on I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light John Behnke

The congregation stands to sing the

**Doxology 592**

Old Hundredth

**Benediction**

**Hymn 306**

Fairest Lord Jesus

Crusaders’ Hymn

After the three stanzas in the hymnal, we also sing:

**Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man.**

**Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be Thine.**

Worshippers are encouraged to be seated for the postlude,

or you may depart the sanctuary quietly and quickly now if necessary.

**Postlude**

Agincourt Hymn (Deo Gracias)

John Dunstable, 1415

At the Name of Jesus (King’s Weston) Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1925

### Welcome to worship at Grace Presbyterian Church.

Today we conclude the Sundays after Epiphany with the account of the Transfiguration of Jesus. This is an appropriate final lesson for the season of light. As we began with the light of a star guiding the wise men to Jesus’ cradle, today that light is shining in the face of Jesus on the mountaintop. Peter, James, and John are granted this vision of the glorified Christ, which is intended to encourage their faith as shadows arise when Jesus sets his face toward Jerusalem and takes up the cross. The Transfiguration can help sustain our faith during the coming season of Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14. JMK

## Hymn Texts for Online Worship

### **Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies**

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ the true, the only light,  
Sun of Righteousness, arise, Triumph o'er the shades of night;  
Day-spring from on high be near; Day-star in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn Unaccompanied by Thee;  
Joyless is the day's return Till Thy mercy's beams I see,  
Till they inward light impart, Cheer my eyes and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine; Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
Fill me, radiancy divine; Scatter all my unbelief;  
More and more Thyself display, Shining to the perfect day.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1740;

Tune: RATISBON; Freylinghausen's *Gesangbuch*, 1704;

Rev. in Werner's *Choralebuch*, 1815; As in *Old Church Psalmody*, 1847

### **O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright**

O Morning Star, how fair and bright Thou beamest forth in truth and light!

O Sovereign meek and lowly!

Thou Root of Jesse, David's Son, My Lord and Savior Thou hast won  
My heart to serve Thee solely!

Thou art holy, Fair and glorious, all victorious, Rich in blessing,  
Rule and might o'er all possessing.

Thou heavenly brightness! Light divine! O deep within my heart now shine,  
And make Thee there an altar!

Fill me with joy and strength to be Thy member, ever joined to Thee  
In love that cannot falter!

Toward Thee longing Doth possess me; turn and bless me; Here in sadness  
Eye and heart long for Thy gladness!

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1597; Alt. Johann Adolf Schlegel, 1768;

Trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1863.

Tune: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET; Philipp Nicolai, 1599;

Harm. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1740

### **O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair**

O wondrous sight, O vision fair Of glory that the church shall share,  
Which Christ upon the mountain shows, Where brighter than the sun He glows!

From age to age the tale declare, How with the three disciples there,  
Where Moses and Elijah meet, The Lord holds converse high and sweet.

The law and prophets there have place, Two chosen witnesses of grace;  
The Father's voice from out the cloud Proclaims His only Son aloud.

With shining face and bright array Christ deigns to manifest today  
What glory shall be theirs above Who joy in God with perfect love.

And faithful hearts are raised on high By this great vision's mystery,  
For which in joyful strains we raise The voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.

Text: Latin, 15<sup>th</sup> century; trans. John Mason Neale, 1851; alt. 1861;  
Tune: DEO GRACIAS; "The Agincourt Song," England, c. 1415

### **O Splendor of God's Glory Bright**

O splendor of God's glory bright, From light eternal bringing light;  
Thou light of life, light's living spring, True day, all days illumining.

Come, Holy Sun of heavenly love, Shower down Thy radiance from above,  
And to our inward hearts convey The Holy Spirit's cloudless ray.

O joyful be the passing day When thoughts as clear as morning's ray,  
With faith like noontide shining bright, Our souls unshadowed by the night.

O Lord, with each returning morn Thine image to our hearts is born;  
O may we ever clearly see Our Savior and our God in Thee!

Text: Ambrose of Milan, c. 374; trans. composite, *Rejoice in the Lord*, 1985;  
Tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR; Trier ms., 15<sup>th</sup> century;  
Adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1609; Harm. George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1902

### **Fairest Lord Jesus**

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O Thou of God to earth come down,  
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor, Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, Fairer still the woodlands, Robed in the blooming garb of  
spring: Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, And all the twinkling, starry host:  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shine purer, Than all the angels heaven can boast.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man.  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be Thine.

Text: Münster *Gesangbuch*, 1677; Trans. *Church Chorals and Choir Studies*, 1850; alt.  
Tune: CRUSADER'S HYMN; Silesian folk melody, in *Schlesische Volkslieder*, 1842