

**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**

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

**March 10, 2024**

**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

**The Bell Calls Us to Worship**

**Prelude** Prelude and Fugue in E Minor J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

**Introit** Lead Me, Lord Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1861

Lead me, Lord, lead me in Thy righteousness; make Thy way plain before my face,  
For it is Thou, Lord, Thou Lord only, that makest me dwell in safety. (Psalm 5:8;4:8)

**Prayer to the Lamb of God**

After each section of the prayer, the pastor says, "Hear us as we pray,"  
The congregation joins the pastor, saying:

**Lord, have mercy.**

**Hymn 76** My Song is Love Unknown Love Unknown

**Prayer of Confession** Unison

**God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost.**

**We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way.**

**We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained,  
and great when we are small.**

**We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth.**

**Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin.**

**Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ our Savior ...**

**Silent Prayers of Confession**

**Kyrie 574** sung by all David N. Johnson, 1972

**Concluding Prayer by the Pastor**

**Assurance of Pardon – Epistle** Ephesians 2:1-10

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 485** To God Be the Glory To God Be the Glory

## 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**.)

Everlasting God, in whom we live and move and have our being, you have made us for yourself, so that our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Give us purity of heart and strength of purpose, that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will, no weakness keep us from doing it; that in your light we may see light, and in your service find perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**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

Numbers 21:4-9

### Psalm 107:1-3,17-22

Unison

**O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
for his steadfast love endures forever.**

**Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those God redeemed from trouble  
and gathered in from the lands,  
from the east and from the west,  
from the north and from the south.**

**Some were sick through their sinful ways,  
and because of their iniquities endured affliction;**

**They loathed any kind of food, and they drew near to the gates of death.**

**Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,  
and God saved them from their distress.**

**God sent out his word and healed them  
and delivered them from destruction,  
Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love,  
for his wonderful works to humankind.  
And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices  
and tell of God's deeds with songs of joy.**

**Anthem** Depth of Mercy Chad Cates & Tony Wood  
Soloist: Daniel Whitaker

**Gospel** John 3:1-21

**Sermon** God's Promise of Life Dr. LindaJo McKim  
"Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life."  
John 3:14-15

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 366** Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me St. Catherine  
**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** Sinfonia from Church Cantata 156 J. S. Bach (1685-1750)  
Arr. Arthur Wildman

The congregation stands to sing the

**Doxology 592** Old Hundredth

**Benediction**  
**Hymn 398** There's a Sweet, Sweet, Spirit Sweet, Sweet Spirit

**Welcome to worship** at Grace Presbyterian Church.

Today is the fourth Sunday in the season of Lent, which began with Ash Wednesday on February 14, 2024. Our order of service is intended to reflect the penitential nature of this season, as we in heart and mind join Jesus in his 40 days in the wilderness. Welcome to Dr. LindaJo McKim, who leads worship and preaches today.

## Hymn Texts for Online Worship

### **My Song Is Love Unknown**

My song is love unknown, My Savior's love to me,  
Love to the loveless shown That they might lovely be.  
O who am I That for my sake My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?  
Christ came from heaven's throne Salvation to bestow,  
But people scorned and none The longed-for Christ would know.  
But O my Friend, My Friend indeed, Who at my need His life did spend.  
Sometimes they strew His way, And His sweet praises sing,  
Resounding all the way Hosannas to their King.  
Then "Crucify" is all their breath, And for His death They thirst and cry.  
They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made away;  
A murderer they save, The Prince of Life they slay.  
Yet steadfast He To suffering goes, That He his foes From thence might free.  
Here might I stay and sing No story so divine;  
Never was love, dear King, never was grief like Thine.  
This is my Friend, In whose sweet praise I all my days Could gladly spend.

Text: Samuel Crossman, 1664;

Tune: LOVE UNKNOWN; John Ireland, 1918

### **To God Be the Glory**

To God be the glory, great things He hath done!  
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,  
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,  
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth His voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
And give Him the glory: great things He hath done!

Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,  
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
But purer, and higher, and greater will be  
Our wonder, our transport when Jesus we see.

Repeat Refrain

Text: Fanny Jane Crosby, 1875;

Tune: TO GOD BE THE GLORY; William Howard Doane, 1875

### **Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me**

Jesus, Thy boundless love to me No thought can reach, no tongue declare;  
O knit my thankful heart to Thee, And reign without a rival there!  
Thine wholly, Thine alone, I'd live, Myself to Thee entirely give.

O grant that nothing in my soul May dwell, but Thy pure love alone;  
O may Thy love possess me whole, My joy, my treasure, and my crown!  
All coldness from my heart remove; May every act, word, thought be love.

O Love, how gracious is Thy way! All fear before Thy presence flies;  
Care, anguish, sorrow melt away, Where'er Thy healing beams arise,  
O Jesus, nothing may I see, Nothing desire, or seek, but Thee.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1653; trans. John Wesley, c. 1739, alt.

Tune: ST CATHERINE; Henri Frederick Hemy, 1864;

alt. James George Walton, 1874

### **There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit**

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,  
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord.  
There are sweet expressions on each face,  
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

#### Refrain

Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet heavenly Dove,  
Stay right here with us, Filling us with Your love.  
And for these blessings We lift our hearts in praise.  
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived  
When we shall leave this place.

There are blessings you cannot receive  
Till you know Him in His fullness and believe;  
You're the one to profit when you say,  
"I am going to walk with Jesus all the way. (Repeat Refrain)

Text: Doris Akers, 1962

Tune: SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT, Doris Akers, 1962