

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

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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 31, 2024

Easter Day/Sunday of the Resurrection

The Bell Calls Us to Worship

Prelude This Joyful Eastertide (Vruechten) 17th century Dutch melody
Arr. Raymond H. Hahn
Bob Vawter, trombone; Rickie Cooke, baritone horn; Susan Steppe, organ

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 119 The Strife Is O'er Victory

Easter Greeting

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen.
People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
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**.)
Glorious Lord of life, by the mighty resurrection of your Son you overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in Christ. Grant that we who celebrate with joy Christ's rising from the dead may be raised from the death of sin to the life of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Hymn 115 Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain St. Kevin

Pastor: The peace of the risen 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

Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalm 118:1a,2, 14-15,17,22-24

Unison

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

Let Israel say, God's love endures forever.

The Lord is my strength and my song; God is my salvation.

There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous.

The right hand of the Lord has done mighty things.

I shall not die, but I shall live, and proclaim the deeds of the Lord.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Anthem

An Easter Call to Praise

Gelobt Sei Gott

Melchior Vulpius, 1609; arr: Stacey Nordmeyer, 2023

Let all the world rejoice and sing, let every festive bell now ring. Worship with joy the Risen King. Alleluia. This is the day that Love has made. Jesus has risen from the grave. Easter is rolling stones away. Run to the garden see the sight, all of creation blooming bright. Come and celebrate the light. Let us all join our hearts as one. See now the rising of the Son. Rejoice, a new song has begun. Alleluia. (— Joseph M. Martin, 2023)

Epistle

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn (see bulletin insert)

Welcome, Happy Morning

Fortunatus

The congregation sits.

Gospel

Mark 16:1-8

Sermon

The Sands of Time

Mike Krech

“You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here.”

Mark 16:6b,c

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 122

Thine Is the Glory

Judas Maccabeus

Note: the refrain is sung only after the final stanza

An Affirmation of Faith for Easter

Heidelberg Catechism, 1563

Pastor: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

Unison: That I belong, body and soul, in life and in death,

not to myself, but to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ,

who at the cost of his own blood, has fully paid for all my sins

and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil;

that he protects me so well that without the will of my Father in heaven

not a hair can fall from my head.

Indeed, everything must fit his purpose for my salvation.

Therefore, by his Holy Spirit, he also assures me of eternal life

and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Gloria for Easter Season

Refrain of Hymn 122

Judas Maccabeus

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son.

Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.

The congregation sits.

Pastoral Prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession, and Dedication

The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors) Unison; Hymnal, page 16, Traditional

Offertory Sentence

Offertory

He Lives

Rev. A. H. Ackley, 1933

The congregation stands to sing the

Doxology for Easter Season (to the tune of Hymn 455) Lasst Uns Erfreuen

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Benediction

Hymn 123

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Easter Hymn

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

Postlude

Crown Him with Many Crowns (Diademata)

arr. Jason Payne

Welcome to worship at Grace Presbyterian Church on Easter Day, the Sunday of the resurrection. Please linger for the fellowship meal and egg hunt.

Hymn Texts for Online Worship

The Strife Is O'er

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The strife is o'er, the battle done, The victory of life is won;
The song of triumph has begun, Alleluia!

The powers of death have done their worst, But Christ their legions hath
dispersed:

Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!

The three sad days are quickly sped, Christ rises glorious from the dead:
All glory to our risen Head! Alleluia.

Lord, by your wounds on Calvary From death's dread sting Your servants free,
That we may live eternally, Alleluia!

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Text: Latin, c. 1695; Trans. Francis Pott, 1861;

Tune: VICTORY;

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, 1591; Adapt. William Henry Monk, 1861

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain Of triumphant gladness;

God hath brought forth Israel Into joy from sadness;

Loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters;

Led them, with un-moistened foot, Through the Red Sea waters.

'Tis the spring of souls today; Christ hath burst His prison,

And from three days' sleep in death As a sun hath risen.

Now rejoice, Jerusalem, And with true affection

Welcome in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection!

Text: John of Damascus (c.675-749); Trans. John Mason Neale, 1859; alt.;

Tune: ST. KEVIN; Arthur Seymour Sullivan, (1842-1900); alt.

Thine Is the Glory

Thine is the glory, Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment Rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes Where Thy body lay.

Lo! Jesus meets us, Risen from the tomb;
Lovingly He greets us, Scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness Hymns of triumph sing.
For the Lord now liveth; Death hath lost its sting.

No more we doubt Thee, Glorious Prince of life!
Life is nought without Thee; Aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors Through Thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan To Thy home above.

Thine is the glory, Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.

Text: Edmond Louis Budry, 1884; Trans. R. Birch Hoyle, 1923, alt.;
Tune: JUDAS MACCABEUS; George Frederick Handel, 1748

Welcome, Happy Morning

“Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say:
“Hell today is vanquished, heaven is won today!”
Lo! the dead is living, God forevermore!
Him their true Creator all His works adore!
“Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say.

Earth her joy confesses, clothing her for spring,
All fresh gifts returned with her returning King:
Bloom in every meadow, leaves on every bough,
Speak His sorrow ended, hail His triumph now.
“Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say.

Thou, of life the Author, death didst undergo,
Tread the path of darkness, saving strength to show;
Come then, True and Faithful, now fulfill Thy word;
‘Tis Thine own third morning; rise, O buried Lord!
“Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say.

Text: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus; c. 600;
Tune: FORTUNATUS; Arthur Seymour Sullivan, 1872

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! Our triumphant, holy day, Alleluia!

Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Unto Christ, our heavenly king, Alleluia!

Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which He endured, Alleluia! Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!

Now above the sky He's King, Alleluia! Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as God's love; Alleluia!

Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

Text: stanzas 1-3, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708; stanza 4, Charles Wesley, 1740;

Tune: EASTER HYMN;

Lyra Davidica, 1708; Adapted from *The Compleat Psalmodist*, 1749