

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 in Word and Sacrament at 11:00 a.m.

April 14, 2024

Third Sunday of Easter

The Bell Calls Us to Worship

Prelude Christ Has Triumphed Alleluia (Lasst Uns Erfreuen)
Arr. Edward Broughton

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 104 Christ Is Risen, Shout Hosanna Hymn to Joy

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**.)
O God, your Son became known to his disciples in the breaking of the bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see Christ in all his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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.**

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

First Lesson

Acts 3:12-19

Psalm 4

Unison

Answer me when I call, O God of my right!

You gave me room when I was in distress.

Be gracious to me and hear my prayer.

How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame?

How long will you love vain words and seek after lies?

But know that the Lord has set apart the faithful for himself;

The Lord hears when I call to him.

When you are disturbed, do not sin; meditate on your bed and be still.

Offer right sacrifices and put your trust in the Lord.

There are many who say, “O that we might see some good!

Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord!”

You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine abound.

I will lie down and sleep in peace;

for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Anthem

One Bread, One Body

John B. Foley, S.J.

Karen Schlichte, soprano; Susan Steppe, piano

Epistle

1 John 3:1-7

Gospel

Luke 24:36-48

Sermon

Joy and Wonder in the Risen Presence

Mike Krech

“While in their joy they were disbelieving and wondering ...”

Luke 24:41a

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 121 That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright Puer Nobis Nascitur

Nicene Creed Unison; Hymnal, page 15, Ecumenical

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

Offertory Sentence

Offertory

In Christ Alone

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

arr. Lloyd Larsen

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.

The congregation sits.

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

Words of Institution

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

You may come by the center aisle to receive the bread and cup from the minister and elders.

OR you may go to the table to the left and eat the bread and drink from a cup there.

Please give the person in front of you adequate time for a reverent Communion.

Place the empty cup in the basket provided. All Christians are invited to receive the Sacrament.

Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion

Benediction

The congregation stands to sing the

Hymn 594

This Is the Feast of Victory

Festival Canticle

The congregation is encouraged to be seated for the postlude,

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

Postlude

Trumpet Tune on The Day of Resurrection (Lancashire)

arr. Jason Payne

Welcome to worship at Grace Presbyterian Church.

Today is the third Sunday in the Great Fifty Days from Easter Day to Pentecost (March 31 – May 19, 2024).

This joyful season of the resurrection victory we celebrate in worship through our hymns,

the Gloria and Doxology for the season, and an affirmation of faith in place of a prayer of confession.

It has long been customary to omit confession of sin during the Easter season as an expression of the

absolute victory over sin won for us by the Risen Lord. Another practice in Easter season is reading

the first lesson from the Book of Acts. This fifth book of the New Testament, written by Luke,

author of the third Gospel, records the spread of faith in the Risen Christ. (JMK)

Hymn Texts for Online Worship

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: All creation is amazed.
In the desert all surrounding, See, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding Bring a taste of love unknown.
Christ is risen! Raise your spirits From the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection, Not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.
Christ is risen! Earth and heaven Nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation Where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna, everyone.

Text: Brian Wren, b.1936;

Tune: HYMN TO JOY; Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; adapt. Edward Hodges, alt.

That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright

That Easter day with joy was bright, The sun shone out with fairer light,
When, to their longing eyes restored, Th'apostles saw their risen Lord.
O Jesus, King of gentleness, Do all our inmost hearts possess,
And we to You will ever raise The tribute of our grateful praise.
From every weapon death can wield, Your own redeemed forever shield;
O Lord of all, with us abide In this our joyful Eastertide.

Text: Latin hymn, 5th century; Trans. John Mason Neale, 1852, alt.;

Tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR; Trier ms., 15th century;

Adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1609; Harm. George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1910

This Is the Feast of Victory

Refrain:

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God. (Refrain)

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength
and honor, blessing and glory are His. (Refrain)

Sing with all the people of God
and join in the hymn of all creation. (Refrain)

Blessing, honor, glory, and might
be to God and the lamb forever. Amen. (Refrain)

For the Lamb who was slain
has begun His reign. Alleluia! (Refrain)

Text: Adapt. by John W. Arthur, 1978;

Tune: FESTIVAL CANTICLE; Richard Hillert, 1978