

CHURCH SESSION

Class of 2020

Rosemary Gordon
Brooks Keiser
Elizabeth Velazquez

Class of 2021

Rickie Cooke
Anna Tate
Janet Vawter

Class of 2022

Kevin Bopp
Bob Gammon
Emily Mayne

Moderator: John Michael Krech
Clerk: Elizabeth Velazquez
Treasurer: Jere Lawson

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	John Michael Krech, jmkrech@yahoo.com
Director of Music	Charlotte Eaheart Hicks, CCM, charlotteschurch@gmail.com
Organist	Susan Steppe, susansteppe@comcast.net
Director of Technical Services	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, blewis@grace-pres.org
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

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 in Word and Sacrament at 5:00 p.m.

December 24, 2020

Christmas Eve

In the sanctuary and live streamed

The Bell Calls Us to Worship

Prelude

Festal Fanfare from the Fourth Concerto

J. S. Bach

Arr. Van Denman Thompson

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 41

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Adeste Fideles

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, give us such love and wonder that with shepherds, magi, and pilgrims unknown, we may come to adore the holy child, the promised King, and with our gifts worship him, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The congregation sits.

Lighting the Christ Candle

The Krech/Mayne Family

At the conclusion of the candle lighting service, all stand to sing

Hymn 23

Angels We Have Heard on High

Gloria

Pastor: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Passing of the Peace (Worshippers greet one another with the peace of Christ.)

Welcome, Announcements, and a Word to Children

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament

Isaiah 9:2,6-7

Psalm 96

Unison

O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.**Sing to the Lord; bless God's name;**

tell of God's salvation from day to day.

Declare God's glory among the nations,

his marvelous works among the peoples.

For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised.**For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the heavens.****Honor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.****Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,**

ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;

bring offerings and come into his courts.

Worship the Lord in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth.**Let the heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice.****Let the sea roar and all that fills it. Let the field exult and everything in it.****Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord.****For the Lord is coming to judge the earth.****He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with his truth.**

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 4 Creator of the Stars of Night Conditor Alme Siderum

The congregation sits.

Epistle

Titus 2:11-14

Meditation O, Holy Night Adolphe Adam, 1847; arr. Gary Burch

Rickie Cooke, baritone horn; Susan Steppe, piano

Gospel

Luke 2:1-20 (KJV)

Sermon

Surprised by Joy

Mike Krech

“And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.” Luke 2:9-10 (KJV)

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 28 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice In Dulci Jubilo**Nicene Creed** Unison; Hymnal, page 15, Ecumenical**Gloria in Excelsis** Refrain of Hymn 23 Gloria

The congregation sits.

Pastoral Prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession, and Dedication

Offertory Pastoral Symphony (from Messiah) G.F. Handel, 1742
arr. Virgil Fox

The congregation stands to sing the

Doxology 592

Old Hundredth

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

Please observe physical distancing of six feet as you come to one of the tables.

Carefully take a piece of bread, and/or a small cup.

Eat and drink while at the table and place the empty cup in the basket provided.

All Christians are invited to receive the Sacrament.

The pastor offers a prayer of spiritual Communion for those not receiving.**Hymns during Communion**

25 Away in a Manger

Mueller

45 O Sleep, Dear Holy Baby

A La Ru

After the Passing of the Light

Silent Night

Stille Nacht

Silent night, holy night! All is calm all is bright Round yon virgin mother and child!**Holy infant, so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.****Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight, Glories stream from heaven afar****Heavenly host sing alleluia. Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.****Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light, Radiant beams from thy holy face****With the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.****Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light; With the angels let us sing****Alleluias to our King: Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.****Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion and Benediction**

Worshippers may carefully depart the partially darkened sanctuary, or remain for prayer. In the interest of safety and health, talking with others should be avoided.

Hymn Texts for Online Worship

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come, and behold Him, Born the King of angels. O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning, Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing! O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation! Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all Glory in the highest! O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

Text: John Francis Wade, c. 1740; Trans. Frederick Oakeley, 1841;
Tune: ADESTE FIDELES; John Francis Wade, c. 1740;
Harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see Him, whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Text: French carol; Trans. James Chadwick (1813-1882); alt.
Tune: GLORIA; French carol; Arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937

Creator of the Stars of Night

Creator of the stars of night, Your people's everlasting light,
O Christ, Redeemer of us all, We pray You hear us when we call.

When this old world drew on toward night, You came, but not in splendor bright,
Not as a monarch, but the child Of Mary, blameless mother mild.

At Your great name, O Jesus, now All knees must bend, all hearts must bow:
All things on earth with one accord, Like those in heaven, shall call You Lord.

To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One,
Praise, honor, might, and glory be From age to age eternally. Amen.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th century; Trans. John Mason Neale, 1851,
as in *The Hymnal 1940*; alt.

Tune: CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM; Sarum plainsong, Mode IV, 9th century;
Harm. C. Winfred Douglas, 1943

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Good Christian friends, rejoice With heart, and soul, and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Ox and ass before Him bow, and He is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice, With heart, and soul, and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this.
He hath opened heaven's door, And we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice With heart, and soul, and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all To gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin; Trans. and Para. John Mason Neale, 1853; alt.;
Tune: IN DULCI JUBILO; German folk tune, 14th century;
Harm. David Hugh Jones, 1953

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for His bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the poor Baby wakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.

Text: Stanzas 1-2, *Little Children's Book for Schools and Families*, c. 1885;
Stanza 3, Gabriel's *Vineyard Songs*, 1892;
Tune: MUELLER; Attr. James R. Murray, 1887; Harm. John Weaver, 1986

A La Ru O Sleep, Dear Holy Baby

O sleep, dear holy Baby, with Your head against my breast;
Meanwhile the pangs of my sorrow are soothed and put to rest.
A la ru, a la me, a la ru, a la me. A la ru, a la me, a la ru, a la ru, a la me.

You need not fear King Herod. He will bring no harm to You;
So rest in the arms of Your mother, who sings You a la ru.
A la ru, a la me, a la ru, a la me. A la ru, a la me, a la ru, a la ru, a la me.

Text: Hispanic folk song; Trans. John Donald Robb, 1954
Tune: Hispanic folk melody; Arr. John Donald Robb, 1954

The text of Silent Night may be found in the bulletin.