

CHURCH SESSION

Class of 2019

Kevin Bopp
Ruth Ellen Cox
Emily Mayne

Class of 2020

Rosemary Gordon
Brooks Keiser
Elizabeth Velazquez
Moderator: John Michael Krech
Clerk: Elizabeth Velazquez
Treasurer: Jere Lawson

Class of 2021

Rickie Cooke
Anna Tate
Janet Vawter

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	John Michael Krech, jmkrech@yahoo.com
Director of Music	Charlotte Eaheart Hicks, CCM, charlotteschurch@gmail.com
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
Co-Directors of Grace Pres. Child Care	Andrea Nichols/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.
January 5, 2020
Second Sunday of Christmas and Epiphany

The Bell Calls Us to Worship

Prelude On *Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning* arr. John M. Rasley

The congregation stands to sing

Processional Hymn 56 The First Nowell The First Nowell

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, the radiance of faithful souls, who brought nations to your light and
kings to the brightness of your rising: Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself
to all the nations; through him who is the true light and the bright morning star,
Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The congregation sits.

Hymns of Confidence and Trust at the Beginning of a New Year

Hymn 275 God of Our Life Sandon

Hymn 276 Great Is Thy Faithfulness Faithfulness

Congregation stands the third time we sing the refrain of Hymn 276

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 and Announcements

The children bring their ringing collection and come to the Chrismon Tree for a

Time for Young Christians

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament

Psalm 72:1-7,10a,11-12

Unison

Isaiah 60:1-6

Give the king your justice, O God,

and your righteousness to the king's son.

May he judge your people with righteousness and your poor with justice.

May the mountains yield prosperity for the people

and the hills, in righteousness.

May he defend the cause of the poor among the people,

give deliverance to the needy and crush the oppressor.

May he live while the sun endures,

as long as the moon through all generations.

May he be like the rain that falls on the mown grass,

like showers that water the earth.

In his days may righteousness flourish,

and peace abound until the moon is no more.

May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute.

May all kings fall down before him, all nations give him service,

for he delivers the needy when they call,

the poor and those who have no helper.

Anthem Bethlehem, of Noblest Cities

Howard Helvey, 2009

Bethlehem, of noblest cities, none can once with thee compare;

thou alone the Lord from heaven didst for us incarnate bear.

Fairer than the sun at morning was the star that told his birth

to lands their God announcing seen in fleshly form on earth.

By its lambent beauty guided see the eastern kings appear;

see them bend their gifts to offer, gifts of incense, gold and myrrh,

solemn things of mystic meaning: incense doth the God disclose,

gold a royal Child proclaimeth, myrrh a future tomb foreshows.

Holy Jesus, in Thy brightness to the Gentile world displayed

with the Father and the Spirit endless praise to Thee be paid.

(--Aurelius Prudentius Clemens, c. 400; based on the tune Woodhaven)

Epistle

Ephesians 3:1-12

Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon

Star Struck

Mike Krech

"... and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was."
Matthew 2:9bc

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 68 What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright Puer Nobis Nascitur

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 Sentence

Offertory

On *Jesulein Suss*

arr. David Paxton

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

The elders serve worshippers at their places.

All Christians are welcome to receive the Sacrament.

You may receive the bread and cup when you are spiritually prepared.

Hymn 69

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright Wie Schon Leuchtet

Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion

Unison

O God, you have so greatly loved us,

long sought us, and mercifully redeemed us.

Give us grace that in everything we may yield ourselves,

our wills and our works, a continual thank-offering to you;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Benediction

The congregation stands to sing

Recessional Hymn 63 As With Gladness Men of Old

Dix

Postlude

Then Shall Your Light Break Forth arr. Patricia Lou Harris

Welcome to worship at **Grace Presbyterian Church**. Today we conclude the Christmas cycle with the Epiphany. January 6 may be the date of the most ancient observance of the Nativity. In the Western Church (Roman Catholic and Protestant) Epiphany focuses upon the arrival of the Magi or Wise Men, as recorded in Matthew 2, the significance of which – the welcoming of the Gentiles – is indicated in the epistle lesson from Ephesians 3. (JMK)