

Grace Presbyterian News

December 2021

Sunday Worship Continues, In Person and Livestream

We continue Sunday worship in person under the protocols we have used since we resumed on March 7. You are welcome to attend, masked and distanced. We do sing. We do not pass the offering plates nor friendship pads. Please arrive no sooner than 10:45 and no later than 10:55. Enter the sanctuary by the doors on the east or west side that lead directly into the sanctuary, rather than using the hallways. We want to make worship in person possible for those who want to attend, but we are also practicing due caution in light of COVID-19. Please remember to wear your mask over your mouth and nose at all times inside the church. We continue to live stream the service as an alternative to in person worship at the church website www.grace-pres.org

Pastor Mike Krech

Sunday School for Adults, Children, and Youth Meet on Zoom

The adult Sunday School class meets on Zoom Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. John Price is leading the class, studying Genesis. Send Mike an email at jmkrech@yahoo.com to be added to the list receiving the Zoom link. Children and youth are also meeting online Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Contact Cristaldawn Smith for more details at revmiss2002@yahoo.com. Both classes end at 10:00 a.m. to give time to get to church.

Morning Prayer Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom

Morning prayer on Zoom continues on Wednesdays. Email Mike at jmkrech@yahoo.com to receive the link to join us. You will get an email by Tuesday noon with the link to join the Zoom chat and a list of the Scripture readings and hymn for the meeting. We pray for each person by name at morning prayer. I warmly invite those who find it meaningful to be remembered on the prayer list to also be among those who pray for those on the prayer list in this service. We try to open the room by 9:20 a.m. so we can chat and visit, start at 9:30, and conclude by 10:00.

Thursday Night Study Group at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

Our Thursday night study group on Zoom has proved quite meaningful to several folks across our first few months of meeting, and we would be glad to welcome others. Our book this month is the Charles Dickens' classic *A Christmas Carol*. This study will meet on Thursday, December 2, Wednesday, December 8, Thursdays December 16 and 23. Send Mike an email at jmkrech@yahoo.com to be added to the list receiving the Zoom link.

Game Nights on Zoom – Fridays, December 3 and 17, at 7:00 p.m.

We meet on Zoom for fellowship, word games, trivia, and many laughs. If you would like to be added to the list receiving the Zoom link, email Mike at jmkrech@yahoo.com.

Poinsettias

If you wish to give a poinsettia on honor or memory of a loved one, you can complete the order form in the Sunday bulletin, or email Mike at jmkrech@yahoo.com with your name and the name(s) of people being remembered. Deadline is Monday, December 13. Cost is \$8.50; send your check to the church.

Presbyterian Women Circle Meetings on Zoom

Evening Circle meets Monday, December 13, at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom.

Day Circle meets Tuesday, November 14, at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom.

If you received emails with the Zoom links in previous months, you will receive emails for the Zoom links to these meetings. If you have not participated, but wish to do so, email patsykrech@gmail.com

Lessons and Carols in Worship, Sunday, December 19, at 11:00

This favorite format for worship in the Advent and Christmas seasons, begun in England over a century ago, gives us the chance to hear beautiful and powerful Bible passages and beautiful and powerful music in various styles, sung and instrumental, congregational and ensemble. I hope you can be present for worship on December 19 for Lessons and Carols.

2021 Secret Pal Reveal

On Sunday, December 19, at 12:45 pm, those who participated in the Secret Pal program are invited to the sanctuary for the final gift exchange. We will have cookies and drinks in a socially distanced circle near the Chrismon tree as we reveal our identities to our Secret Pals.

Christmas Eve Worship with Communion – Friday, December 24, at 5:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve candlelight Communion on Friday, December 24, begins at 5:00 p.m. This service requires masks to be worn throughout the service.

Here We Come A'Caroling

Please help us spread good cheer as we go outdoor caroling to some of our church members who have not been able to attend worship in person. We will meet at the church at 3 pm on Wednesday, December 29th, divide into groups of carolers, receive our song packets and routes, and caravan like the Wise Men (in our cars, rather than camels) to the homes of our church friends. Then we'll return to the church for hot chocolate, treats, and fellowship. There will be plenty of treats to enjoy, but you are welcome to bring something to share if you like.

Pinecrest Cinnamon Rolls Available as Gifts or for Yourself

Rolls are prepared in pans of 6 rolls, packaged for gifting. 1-9 pans - \$15 each; 10+ pans - \$13 each. Order by December 3 at 901.878.1247 or email Amanda at amanda@camppinecrest.org. Pick up in east Memphis on Saturday, December 11, or by appointment.

Pastoral Patio Visits

Pastor Mike Krech is happy to visit on your patio, deck, or yard if you are comfortable with it. These outdoor visits of 30-60 minutes can be planned with an eye to the weather. Invite Mike via an email to jmkrech@yahoo.com

December 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
		<i>Names in Italics indicate it is that person's birthday</i>	9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer on Zoom	10:00 a.m. Child Care Christmas Rehearsal Sanctuary 7:00 p.m. Book Group <i>A Christmas Carol</i>	7:00 p.m. Game Night on Zoom	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:00 Adult Sunday School on Zoom 9:30 Children's Sun Sch. on Zoom 11:00 Worship In Person & Live Stream Advent 2			9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer on Zoom 7:00 p.m. Book Group <i>A Christmas Carol</i>	10:00 a.m. Child Care Christmas Rehearsal Sanctuary	10:00 a.m. Child Care Christmas Program Sanctuary	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:00 Adult Sunday School on Zoom 9:30 Children's Sun Sch. on Zoom 11:00 Worship In Person & Live Stream Advent 3	7:00 p.m. Presbyterian Women Night Circle on Zoom	10:00 a.m. Presbyterian Women Day Circle on Zoom	9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer on Zoom <i>Paula Bishop</i>	7:00 p.m. Book Group <i>A Christmas Carol</i>	7:00 p.m. Game Night on Zoom	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:00 Adult Sunday School on Zoom 9:30 Children's Sun Sch. on Zoom 11:00 Worship, Lessons & Carols In Person & Live Stream Advent 4 12:45 Secret Pal Reveal, Sanctuary	5:30 p.m. Session Mtg. <i>Harold Howard</i>		9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer on Zoom	7:00 p.m. Book Group <i>A Christmas Carol</i>	5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Communion	Christmas Day
26	27	28	29	30	31	
9:00 Adult Sunday School on Zoom 9:30 Children's Sun Sch. on Zoom 11:00 Worship In Person & Live Stream Christmas 1			9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer Zoom 3:00 p.m. Caroling <i>Gerald Lawson Kendall Walker</i>	<i>Mike Krech</i>		

A Prayer for Advent

Almighty God, you have made us and all things to serve you. Now prepare the world for your rule. Come quickly to save us, so that wars and violence shall end and your children may live in peace, honoring one another with justice and love; through Jesus Christ, who lives in power with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Lectionary Readings for Worship:

Dec. 5: Malachi 3:1-4; Psalm 126;
Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6

Dec. 12: Zephaniah 3:14-20; Psalm 85;
Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18

Dec. 19: Micah 5:2-5; Psalm 80:1-7;
Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve) Isaiah 9:2-7;
Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20

Dec. 26: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26; Psalm 148
Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52

Grace Presbyterian Church

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Sent With Love To: