

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

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Clerk: Elizabeth Velazquez
Treasurer: Jere Lawson

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Grace Presbyterian Church

Worships God

May 24, 2020

Seventh Sunday of Easter/The Ascension of Christ into Heaven

(Today's worship is online only)

The Bell Calls Us to Worship

Prelude Agincourt Hymn and At the Name of Jesus (King's Weston)
John Dunstable/Ralph Vaughan Williams

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 142 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name Coronation

Opening Sentences

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**.)
Eternal God, by raising Jesus from the dead you proclaimed his victory, and by his ascension you declared him Lord of all. Lift our hearts to heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Hymn 423 Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun Duke Street

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.

Grace Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA),
Presbytery of the Mid-South, Synod of Living Waters.

Pastor: The peace of the risen 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

Prayer for Illumination

Epistle Ephesians 1:15-23

Psalm 47 Unison

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.

For the Lord, the Most High, fills us with awe.

He is a great king over all the earth.

God subdued peoples under us and nations under our feet.

God chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves.

God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

For God is the king of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm.

God is king over the nations. God sits on his holy throne.

The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham.

For the shields of the earth belong to God, who is highly exalted.

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 153 He Is King of Kings He Is King

The congregation sits.

Luke-Acts Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:1-11

Sermon Lost in Space? Mike Krech

“When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.” Acts 1:9

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 148 At the Name of Jesus King’s Weston

Apostles’ Creed Unison; Hymnal, page 14, Traditional

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 Look, Ye Saints, the Sight Is Glorious (Bryn Calfaria)

Arr. Anna Laura Page

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 Him, all creatures here below;

Alleluia, Alleluia.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Benediction

Recessional Hymn 155 Rejoice, the Lord Is King Darwall’s 148th

Postlude All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name (Diadem)

arr. Diane Bish

Welcome to worship at Grace Presbyterian Church.

Today is the seventh Sunday of the season of Easter, which extends through the Great Fifty Days from Easter Day through Pentecost (April 12 – May 31, 2020). This joyful season of the resurrection victory is celebrated 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. Today we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord into heaven, which occurred forty days from the resurrection according to Acts 1. The Ascension is the “bridge,” linking the final verses of Luke’s Gospel and the opening verses of the Book of Acts, which was also written by Luke.

Next Sunday is the Day of Pentecost, when power from on high, the Holy Spirit, promised in the reading from Acts, descended upon the disciples. (JMK)

Hymn Texts for Online Worship

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

All hail the power of Jesus' name, Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem, And crown Him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem, And crown Him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him who saves you by His grace, And crown Him Lord of all!
Hail Him who saves you by His grace, And crown Him Lord of all!

Let every kindred, every tribe, On this terrestrial ball,
To Him all majesty ascribe, And crown Him Lord of all!
To Him all majesty ascribe, And crown Him Lord of all!

O that with yonder sacred throng, We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song, And crown Him Lord of all!
We'll join the everlasting song, And crown Him Lord of all!

(Text: Stanzas 1-3, Edward Perronet, 1779, 1780; stanzas 2-3, alt. John Rippon, 1787; stanza 4, John Rippon, 1787; Tune: Coronation; Oliver Holden, 1793)

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun Does its successive journeys run,
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore, Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To Him shall endless prayer be made, And praises throng to crown His head;
His name, like sweet perfume shall rise With every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue Dwell on His love with sweetest song,
And infant voices shall proclaim Their early blessings on His name.

Blessings abound where'er He reigns; The prisoners leap to lose their chains,
The weary find eternal rest, And all who suffer want are blessed.

Let every creature rise and bring Honors peculiar to our King;
Angels descend with songs again, And earth repeat the loud Amen!

(Text: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.; Tune: Duke Street, John Hatton, d. 1793)

He Is King of Kings

Refrain: He is King of kings, He is Lord of lords,
Jesus Christ, the first and last, No one works like him.

He built a throne up in the air, No one works like him.
And called His saints from everywhere, No one works like Him. (Refrain)

He pitched His tents on Canaan ground, No one works like Him,
And broke oppressive kingdoms down, No one works like Him (Refrain)

(He Is King of Kings, continued)

I know that my Redeemer lives, No one works like Him,
And by His love sweet blessing gives, No one works like Him. (Refrain)

At the Name of Jesus

At the name of Jesus Every knee shall bow,
Every tongue confess Him King of glory now;
'Tis the Father's pleasure We should call Him Lord,
Who from the beginning Was the mighty Word.
Humbled for a season, To receive a name
From the lips of sinners, Unto whom He came.
Faithfully He bore it, Spotless to the last,
Brought it back victorious, When from death He passed.
Bore it up triumphant, With its human light
Through all ranks of creatures To the central height,
To the throne of Godhead, To the Father's breast;
Filled it with the glory Of that perfect rest.
Christians, this Lord Jesus Shall return again,
With His Father's glory O'er the earth to reign;
For all wreaths of empire Meet upon His brow,
And our hearts confess Him King of glory now.

(Text: Caroline Maria Noel, 1890; alt. 1931;
Tune: King's Weston; Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1925)

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, And triumph ever more:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say rejoice!
God's kingdom cannot fail, Christ rules o'er earth and heaven;
The keys of death and hell Are to our Jesus given:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say rejoice!
Rejoice in glorious hope! For Christ, the Judge shall come
To glorify the saints for their eternal home:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say rejoice!

(Text: Charles Wesley, 1746;
Tune: Darwall's 148th; John Darwall, 1770)