

CHURCH SESSION

Class of 2020

Rosemary Gordon
Brooks Keiser
Elizabeth Velazquez

Class of 2021

Rickie Cooke
Anna Tate
Janet Vawter
Moderator: John Michael Krech
Clerk: Elizabeth Velazquez
Treasurer: Jere Lawson

Class of 2022

Kevin Bopp
Bob Gammon
Emily Mayne

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

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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 at 11:00 a.m.

October 25, 2020

Reformation Sunday/Commitment Sunday

In the sanctuary and live-streamed

The Bell Calls Us to Worship

Prelude A Mighty Fortress Is Our God Martin Luther; arr. Brant Adams
Bob Vawter, trombone; Susan Steppe, piano

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 457 I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art Toulon

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**.)

Send your Holy Spirit into our hearts, almighty God, to rule and direct us according to your will, to comfort us in all our temptations and afflictions, to defend us from all error, and to lead us into all truth; that we, being steadfast in faith, may increase in love and in all good works, and, finally, obtain everlasting life; through 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.

Prayer of Confession

Unison

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father: we have sinned against you,
through our own fault, in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have left undone.**

**For the sake of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
forgive us all our offenses,
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your Name ...**

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 220 All People That on Earth Do Dwell Old Hundredth

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 Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Psalms 90:1-6,14,16-17ab Unison

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

You turn us back to dust, and say, "Turn back, you mortals."

For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past,
or like a watch in the night.

You sweep them away; they are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning;
in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.

Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

Let your work be manifest to your servants
and your glorious power to their children.

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,
and prosper for us the work of our hands.

Gospel Matthew 22:34-40

Epistle 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 441 I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord St. Thomas

The congregation sits.

Sermon Sharing the Gospel and Ourselves Mike Krech

"So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God, but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us." 1 Thess. 2:8

An Opportunity to Present Commitments for A.D. 2021

Maintaining social distancing, worshipers are invited to place their 2021 commitment cards on the Communion table or in an offering plate on the tables to their right or left.

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 430 Come Sing, O Church, in Joy Darwall's 148th

Apostles' Creed Unison; Hymnal, page 14, Traditional

Gloria Patri 579 Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

The congregation sits.

Pastoral Prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession, and Dedication

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

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word (Erhalt Uns, Herr)
Martin Luther/J. Klug (tune)

The congregation stands to sing the

Doxology 592 Old Hundredth

Benediction

Hymn 260 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God Ein' Feste Burg

Worshipers are invited to sit and conclude worship through the postlude.

Or you may depart the sanctuary quietly and briskly.

Postlude For All the Saints (Sine Nomine) Ralph Vaughan Williams
with Symphony No. 1, Part 4 Johannes Brahms

Welcome to worship at Grace Presbyterian Church.

On this last Sunday in October we observe Reformation Sunday. The Protestant Reformation is often dated to October 31, 1517, when Martin Luther (1483-1546) posted 95 theses, items for debate, at the church at Wittenberg, Germany. During the 16th century Protestantism spread throughout Europe. It emphasized the authority of scripture, justification by grace through faith, the priesthood of all believers, the Christian vocation of laypersons, and more inclusive and representative church government.

Presbyterianism is part of the Reformed Tradition within Protestant Christianity, looking to John Calvin (1509-1564) and his emphasis upon the sovereignty of God and the office of Elder (*presbuteros* in Greek). Many Protestant groups settled in North America in the seventeenth century and later, giving the United States a majority Protestant population. The first, second, and final hymns in today's service are three of the best known hymns from the time of Martin Luther and John Calvin. (JMK)

We also observe Commitment Sunday today.

Your pledges for A.D. 2021 will be gratefully received.

Hymn Texts for Online Worship

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

I greet Thee, who my sure Redeemer art,
My only trust and Savior of my heart.
Who pain didst undergo for my poor sake;
I pray Thee from our hearts all cares to take.

Thou art the King of mercy and of grace,
Reigning omnipotent in every place;
So come, O King, and our whole being sway;
Shine on us with the light of Thy pure day.

Thou art the life by which alone we live,
And all our substance and our strength receive.
Sustain us by Thy faith and by Thy power,
And give us strength in every trying hour.

Thou hast the true and perfect gentleness,
No harshness hast Thou and no bitterness;
O grant to us the grace we find in Thee,
That we may dwell in perfect unity.

Our hope is in no other save in Thee;
Our faith is built upon Thy promise free;
Lord, give us peace, and make us calm and sure,
That in Thy strength we evermore endure.

Text: Attr. John Calvin; French Psalter, Strassburg, 1545;

Trans. Elizabeth Lee Smith, 1868

Tune: TOULON; Adapt. from Genevan 124; Genevan Psalter, 1551

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

All people that on earth do dwell, Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with mirth, His praise forth tell; Come ye before Him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed; Without our aid He did us make;
We are His folk, He doth us feed, And for His sheep He doth us take.

O enter then His gates with praise, Approach with joy His courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless His name always, For it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good, His mercy is forever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood, And shall from age to age endure.

Text: Psalm 100, William Kethe, 1560

Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH; Attr. Louis Bourgeois (c. 1510-c. 1561)

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

I love Thy kingdom, Lord, The house of Thine abode,
The church our blest Redeemer saved With His own precious blood.

I love Thy church, O God; Her walls before Thee stand,
Dear as the apple of Thine eye, And graven on Thy hand.

For her my tears shall fall, For her my prayers ascend;
To her my toils and cares be given, Till toils and cares shall end.

Beyond my highest joy I prize her heavenly ways,
Her sweet communion, solemn vows, Her hymns of love and praise.

Sure as Thy truth shall last, To Zion shall be given
The brightest glories earth can yield, And brighter bliss of heaven.

Text: Timothy Dwight, 1800

Tune: ST. THOMAS; *The Universal Psalmist*, 1763; Adapt. Aaron Williams, 1770

Come, Sing, O Church, in Joy!

Come, sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!

For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!

In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Long years have come and gone, And still God reigns supreme,

Empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream!

In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Let courage be our friend, Let wisdom be our guide,

As we in mission magnify the Crucified!

In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Come, sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!

For Christ the Lord has triumphed o'er the ages long!

In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Text: Brian Dill, 1988;

Tune: DARWALL'S 148th; John Darwall, 1770

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God, A bulwark never failing;
Our helper He amid the flood Of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe Doth seek to work us woe
His craft and power are great, And, armed with cruel hate, On earth is not his equal.
Did we in our own strength confide, Our striving would be losing;
Were not the right Man on our side, The Man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He,
Lord Sabaoth His name, From age to age the same, And He must win the battle.
And though this world, with devils filled, Should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim, We tremble not for him,
His rage we can endure, For lo! his doom is sure, One little word shall fell him.
That word above all earthly powers, No thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours Through Him who with us sideth;
Let goods and kindred go, This mortal life also;
The body they may kill, God's truth abideth still, His kingdom is forever.

Text: Martin Luther, 1529; Trans. Frederick Henry Hodge, 1852;

Tune: EIN' FESTE BURG; Martin Luther, 1529