

CHURCH SESSION

Class of 2021

Rickie Cooke
Janet Vawter

Class of 2022

Kevin Bopp
Bob Gammon
Emily Mayne
Moderator: John Michael Krech
Clerk: Becky Stirling
Treasurer: Jere Lawson

Class of 2023

Rosemary Gordon
Sharon Ragghianti
Becky Stirling

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	John Michael Krech, jmkrech@yahoo.com
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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.

July 4, 2021

Fifth Sunday after Trinity – Recognition of Independence Day

The Bell Calls Us to Worship

Prelude My Country, 'Tis of Thee arr. Lani Smith

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 262 God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand National Hymn

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**.)

Eternal God, in your perfect realm no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, and there is no strength but the strength of love. So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered as your children under the banner of the Prince of Peace, to whom be dominion and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

The congregation sits.

Prayer of Confession Unison

Almighty God, ruler of all the peoples of the earth,
forgive, we pray, our shortcomings as a nation.

Purify our hearts to see and love truth.

Give wisdom to our counselors and steadfastness to our people,
and bring us at last to that fair city of peace,
whose foundations are mercy, justice and goodwill,
and whose builder and maker you are;
through Jesus Christ our Lord ...

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

The congregation stands to sing
Hymn 561 My Country, 'Tis of Thee America

Pastor: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Passing of the Peace

(Worshippers safely greet one another with the peace of Christ and then sit for the announcements.)

Welcome, Announcements, and a Word to Children

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament 2 Samuel 5:1-5,9-10

Psalm 48 Unison

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised in the city of our God.

God's holy mountain, beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth,
Mount Zion, the city of the great King.

Within its citadels God has proved to be our sure defense.

The kings assembled; they came on together.

As soon as they saw Zion, they were astounded.

They were in panic; they took to flight.

Trembling took hold of them

as when an east wind shatters the ships of Tarshish.

As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the Lord of hosts,
in the city of our God which God establishes forever.

We ponder your steadfast love, O God, in the midst of your temple.

Your name, O God, like your praise, reaches to the ends of the earth.

Your right hand is filled with victory. Let Mount Zion be glad.

Let the towns of Judah rejoice because of your judgments.

Walk about Zion; go all around it; count its towers.

Consider well its ramparts; go through its citadels,
that you may tell the next generation that this is God,
our God and our guide forever and ever.

Musical Meditation It Is Well with My Soul Philip P. Bliss, 1870
Grace Notes Hand Bells, Susan Steppe, organ arr. Anna Laura Page

Epistle 2 Corinthians 12:2-10
Gospel Mark 6:1-13

The congregation stands to sing
Hymn 563 Lift Every Voice and Sing Lift Every Voice
The congregation sits.

Sermon Closer Kin Beneath the Skin Mike Krech
"Then all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, 'Look, we are your bone and flesh.'" 2 Samuel 5:1

The congregation stands to sing
Hymn 438 Blest Be the Tie That Binds Dennis
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 America the Beautiful Samuel Ward, 1882
arr. Jeremy Corcoran
Rickie Cooke, baritone horn; Clyde Getman, trumpet; Bob Vawter, trombone

The congregation stands to sing the
Doxology 592 Old Hundredth

Benediction

Hymn 564 O Beautiful, for Spacious Skies Materna

Worshippers are encouraged to be seated for the postlude,
or you may depart the sanctuary quickly and quietly now if you need to.

Postlude Battle Hymn of the Republic

Welcome to worship at Grace Presbyterian Church.
We are in the long season of Sundays after Trinity Sunday, sometimes also called Ordinary Time.
Today we are focusing upon the Independence Day national holiday.
Today's prayer of confession was written by Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States
from 1913-1921, and the son of a Presbyterian pastor.

JMK

Hymn Texts for Online Worship

God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

God of the ages, whose almighty hand
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,
Our grateful songs before Thy throne arise.

Thy love divine hath led us in the past;
In this free land by Thee our lot is cast;
Be Thou our ruler, guardian, guide and stay,
Thy word our law, Thy paths our chosen way.

From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence,
Be Thy strong arm our ever-sure defense.
Thy true religion in our hearts increase,
Thy boundless goodness nourish us in peace.

Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way;
Lead us from night to never-ending day;
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine,
And glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine.

Text: Daniel Crane Roberts, 1876, alt;

Tune: NATIONAL HYMN; George William Warren, 1892

My Country, 'Tis of Thee

My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, Of thee I sing.
Land where my fathers died, Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountainside Let freedom ring.

My native country, thee, Land of the noble free, Thy name I love.
I love thy rocks and rills, Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills Like that above.

Let music swell the breeze, And ring from all the trees Sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake, Let all that breathe partake,
Let rocks their silence break, The sound prolong.

Our fathers' God to Thee, Author of liberty, To Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might, Great God, our King.

Text: Samuel Francis Smith, 1831;

Tune: AMERICA; *Thesaurus Musicus*, London, c. 1740

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring, Ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies; Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun, Let us march on, till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered.
Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who hast by Thy might led us into the light;
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee;
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand may we forever stand,
True to our God, true to our native land.

Text: James Weldon Johnson, 1921;

Tune: LIFT EVERY VOICE; J. Rosamond Johnson, 1921)

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Christian love:
The fellowship of kindred minds Is like to that above.
Before our Father's throne We pour our ardent prayers:
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, Our comforts and our cares.
We share our mutual woes, Our mutual burdens bear,
And often for each other flows The sympathizing tear.
From sorrow, toil, and pain, And sin we shall be free;
And perfect love and friendship reign Through all eternity.

Text: John Fawcett, 1782;

Tune: DENNIS; Johann Georg Nägeli (1773-1836) arr. Lowell Mason, 1845

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties Above the fruited plain.
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for pilgrim feet, Whose stern, impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat Across the wilderness!
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control, Thy liberty in law!

O beautiful for heroes proved In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved, And mercy more than life!
America! America! May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness And every gain divine!

O beautiful for patriot dream That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities glean, Undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea.

Text: Katherine Lee Bates, 1893;

Tune: MATERNA; Samuel Augustus Ward, 1882