

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

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Director of Children & Youth Ministry

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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.

September 12, 2021

Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

The Bell Calls Us to Worship

Prelude

Praise to God, Immortal Praise!

Tune: Xavier; Francis H. Champneys, 1875; arr. Douglas E. Wagner

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 488

The God of Abraham Praise

Leoni

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**.)

God of mercy: Help us to forgive, as you have forgiven us. Help us to trust you, even when hope is failing. Help us to take up our cross daily and follow you in your redeeming work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The congregation sits.

Prayer of Confession

Unison

Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you.

We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy.

**We have not loved you with a pure heart,
nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

We have not done justice, loved kindness or walked humbly with you, our God.

Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness.

In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin.

Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.

Do not cast us from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from us.

Restore to us the joy of your salvation

and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit....

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 426 Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak Canonbury

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 Proverbs 1:20-33

Psalms 19:1-4b,7-14 Unison

The heavens are telling the glory of God,
and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

Day to day pours forth speech and night to night declares knowledge.

There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard.

Yet their sound is gone out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul.

The decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart.

The commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever.

The ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;

sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.

Moreover, by them is your servant warned;

in keeping them there is great reward.

But who can detect their errors?

Clear me from hidden faults.

Keep back your servant from the insolent;

do not let them have dominion over me.

Then I shall be blameless and innocent of great transgression.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart

be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Duet How Deep the Father's Love For Us Stuart Townend, 1990
Sung by Bob Vawter and Daniel Whitaker

Epistle James 3:1-12
Gospel Mark 8:27-38

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 327 O Word of God Incarnate Munich

The congregation sits.

Sermon 21st Century Cross Bearing Mike Krech
"If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." Mark 8:34

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 92 Beneath the Cross of Jesus St. Christopher

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 A Simple Prayer Edvard Grieg; arr. Lani Smith

The congregation stands to sing the

Doxology 592 Old Hundredth

Benediction

Hymn 371 Lift High the Cross Crucifer

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

Postlude On Coronation; Oliver Holden, 1793; arr. Jason D. Payne

Welcome to worship at Grace Presbyterian Church.

We continue in the long season after Pentecost and Trinity Sunday, also called Ordinary Time.

After a few weeks in John's Gospel we have returned to Mark for our Gospel readings.

The Old Testament lessons are from Proverbs and Epistle from James for the next few weeks. JMK

Hymn Texts for Online Worship

The God of Abraham Praise

The God of Abraham praise, Who reigns enthroned above;
The ancient of eternal days, The God of love!
The Lord, the great I Am, By earth and heaven confessed,
We bow before Your holy name, Forever blessed.

Your spirit still flows free, High surging where it will;
In prophet's word You spoke of old, And You speak still.
Established is Your law, And changeless it shall stand,
Deep writ upon the human heart, On sea or land.

You have eternal life Implanted in the soul;
Your love shall be our strength and stay, While ages roll.
We praise You, living God! We praise Your holy name;
The first, the last, beyond all thought, And still the same.

Text: Daniel ben Judah, 1404; Trans. Max Landsberg and Newton Mann, 1885, alt.;
Tune: LEONI; Hebrew melody, Adapt. Thomas Olivers and Meyer Lyon, 1770

Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak

Lord, speak to me that I may speak In living echoes of Thy tone;
As Thou hast sought, so let me seek Thine erring children lost and lone.
O lead me, Lord, that I may lead The wandering and the wavering feet;
O feed me, Lord, that I may feed Thy hungering ones with manna sweet.
O teach me, Lord, that I may teach The precious things Thou dost impart;
And wing my words that they may reach The hidden depths of many a heart.
O fill me with Thy fullness, Lord, Until my very heart o'er flow
In kindling thought and glowing word, Thy love to tell, Thy praise to show.
O use me, Lord, use even me, Just as Thou wilt, and when, and where;
Until Thy blessed face I see, Thy rest, Thy joy, Thy glory share.

Text: Frances Ridley Havergal, 1872;
Tune: CANONBURY; Robert Schumann, 1839

O Word of God Incarnate

O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:
We praise You for the radiance That from the hallowed page,
A lantern to our footsteps, Shines on from age to age.

The church from You, dear Savior, Received this gift divine,
And still that light is lifted On all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass That, all life's journey through,
Amid the rocks and quicksands, Still guides, O Christ, to You.

O make Your church, dear Savior, A lamp of purest gold
To bear before the nations Your true light, as of old;
O teach Your wandering pilgrims By this our path to trace,
Till, clouds and storms thus ended, We see You face to face.

Text: William Walsham Howe, 1867; as in *Psalter Hymnal*, 1987;
Tune: MUNICH; *Neuvermehrtes Meiningsches Gesangbuch*, 1693;
Adapt. Felix Mendelssohn, 1847

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand,
The shadow of a might rock Within a weary land;
A home within the wilderness, A rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noon-tide heat, And the burden of the day.

Upon the cross of Jesus Mine eye at times can see
The very dying form of One Who suffered there for me.
And from my stricken heart with tears Two wonders I confess:
The wonders of redeeming love And my unworthiness.

Text: Elizabeth Cecilia Douglas Clephane, 1868;
Tune: ST. CHRISTOPHER; Frederick Charles Maker, 1881

Lift High the Cross

Refrain:

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod,
The Lamb victorious, Christ, the Son of God. (then sing refrain)

Each newborn servant of the Crucified
Bears on the brow the seal of Christ who died. (then sing refrain)

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
Your death has brought us life eternally. (then sing refrain)

So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory. (then sing refrain)

Text: George William Kitchin (1827-1912); rev. by Michael Robert Newbolt, 1916, alt.
Tune: CRUCIFER; Sidney Hugo Nicholson, 1916