

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
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

Grace Presbyterian Church

6671 Yale Road

Bartlett, TN 38134

Phone: 901-386-3241

www.grace-pres.org

www.facebook.com/GPCBartlett

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 through Lessons and Carols at 11:00 a.m.

December 19, 2021

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

The Bell Calls Us to Worship

Prelude

Canticle of Joy

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

arr. Van Denman Thompson

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 41

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Adeste Fideles

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 grace, you chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Savior. Now fill us with your grace, that with her, we may rejoice in your salvation, and in all things embrace your will; 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.

Lighting the Fourth Candle in the Advent Wreath Vawter/Starnes Family

At the conclusion of the candle lighting service, all stand to sing:

O come, O come, Thou *Lord* of might, Who to thy tribes on *Si-nai's* height

In ancient times didst *give* the law, In cloud and majes-ty and awe.

Rejoice; rejoice. Emmanuel shall come to thee, O *Israel*.

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 and Announcements

The children bring their ringing offering and come to the Chrism Tree for a
Time for Young Christians

Anthem Joyful Worship (Joy to the World/Angels from the Realms of Glory)
Bob Vawter, trombone; Rickie Cooke, baritone horn; Susan Steppe, Organ

Prayer for Illumination

Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden.

First Lesson Genesis 3:1-15

Organ I Wonder as I Wander *Songs of the Hill-Folk*, John Jacob Niles, 1934

The Spirit of the Lord will rest upon the Holy One.

Second Lesson Read by Akwi Lillian Aseh Isaiah 11:1-9

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 48 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming Es Ist Ein' Ros'

The congregation sits.

The promised King will establish a righteous reign.

Third Lesson Read by Bob Gammon Isaiah 9:1-7

Anthem Promises of Isaiah Michael Barrett & David Angerman

The angel Gabriel addresses the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Fourth Lesson Read by Suzanne Getman Luke 1:26-38

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 16 The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came Gabriel's Message

The congregation sits.

St. Luke tells of the birth of the Savior.

Fifth Lesson Read by Becky Stirling Luke 2:1-7

Anthem Infant Holy, Infant Lowly
Grace Notes Hand Bell Choir

The shepherds go to the manger.

Sixth Lesson Read by Janet Vawter Luke 2:8-20

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 22 Angels, from the Realms of Glory Regent Square

The congregation sits.

St. John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation.

Seventh Lesson John 1:1-14

Sermon Mystery and Wonder Mike Krech

“And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory ... full of grace and truth.” John 1:14

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 309 Of the Father's Love Begotten Divinum Mysterium

Apostles' Creed Unison; Hymnal, page 14, Traditional

Gloria in Excelsis Refrain of Hymn 23 Gloria

The congregation sits.

The Bidding Prayer and The O Antiphons

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

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Trio on French Carol “Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella”

The congregation stands to sing the

Doxology 592 Old Hundredth

Benediction

Hymn 40 Joy to the World Antioch

You may depart the sanctuary quickly and quietly now if you need to.

But worshipers are invited to sit and conclude worship through the postlude.

You are also welcome to sing along with the Hallelujah Chorus.

Please stand at the first appearance of the line, “King of kings and Lord of lords.”

Postlude Hallelujah Chorus G.F. Handel, 1742

Welcome to worship at Grace Presbyterian Church.

Today we follow a worship pattern of lessons and carols, popularized beginning Christmas Eve, 1918, at the chapel of King's College, Cambridge, England.

Thanks to all our musicians for sharing their musical gifts to the glory of God, the good of the Church, and the love of neighbor.

Hymn Texts for Online Worship

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come, and behold Him, Born the King of angels. O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning, Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing! O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation! Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all Glory in the highest! O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

Text: John Francis Wade, c. 1740; Trans. Frederick Oakeley, 1841;

Tune: ADESTE FIDELES; John Francis Wade, c. 1740;

Harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming From tender stem hath sprung,
Of Jesse's lineage coming, By faithful prophets sung.
It came a floweret bright, Amid the cold of winter When half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, The rose I have in mind,
With Mary we behold it, The virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright She bore for us a Savior, When half spent was the night.

Text: German carol, 15th century; Trans. Theodore Baker (1851-1934)

Alt. *Rejoice in the Lord*, 1985

Tune: ES IST EIN' ROS'; *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesang*, Cologne, 1599;

Arr. Michael Praetorius, 1609

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

The angel Gabriel from heaven came, His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
“All hail,” said he, “O lowly maiden Mary,” Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

“For know a blessed mother you shall be, All generations praise continually,
Your Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold.” Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head, “To me be as it pleases God,” she said,
“My soul shall laud and magnify God’s holy name.” Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:

Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Text: Para. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)

Tune: GABRIEL’S MESSAGE;

Basque carol; Arr. by Edgar Pettman and John Wickham

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

Angels, from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o’er all the earth;

Ye, who sang creation’s story, Now proclaim Messiah’s birth:

Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ the new-born King.

Shepherds, in the fields abiding, Watching o’er your flocks by night,

God with us is now residing, Yonder shines the infant light:

Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ the new-born King.

Sages, leave your contemplations, Brighter visions beam afar;

Seek the great desire of nations; Ye have seen His natal star:

Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ the new-born King.

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,

Evermore your voices raising To the eternal Three in One:

Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ the new-born King.

Text: Stanzas 1-3, James Montgomery, 1816,1825; Stanza 4, *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857

Tune: REGENT SQUARE, Henry Thomas Smart, 1867

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Of the Father's love begotten, Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been, And that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heaven adore Him; Angel hosts, His praises sing;
Powers, dominions, bow before Him, And extol our God and King;
Let no tongue on earth be silent, Every voice in concert ring,
Evermore and evermore!

Christ, to Thee with God the Father, And O Holy Ghost to Thee,
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving And unwearied praises be:
Honor, glory, and dominion, And eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore! Amen.

Text: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-413);

Trans. John Mason Neale, 1854, and Henry Williams Baker, 1859;

Tune: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM; Plainsong, Mode V;

Harm. C. Winfred Douglas, 1940

Joy to the World!

Joy to the world! The Lord is come; Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room, And heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns: Let us our songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness, And wonders of His love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

Tune: ANTIOCH; Attr. George Frederick Handel, 1742; Arr. Lowell Mason, 1836