CHURCH SESSION

Class of 2022Class of 2023Class of 2024Kevin BoppRosemary GordonAkwi Lillian AsehBob GammonSharon RagghiantiSusie HayesEmily MayneBecky StirlingJanet VawterModerator: John Michael Krech

Clerk: Becky Stirling
Treasurer: Jere Lawson

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor John Michael Krech, jmkrech@yahoo.com
Organist/Choirmaster Susan Steppe, susansteppe@comcast.net
Director Tech. Services/Instrumental Music 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. January 9, 2022

The First Sunday after Epiphany/The Baptism of the Lord

The Bell Calls Us to Worship

Prelude If You Will Only Let God Guide You George Neumark, 1657 Arr. Anna Laura Page

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 446 Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken Austrian 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, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Grant that all who are baptized into his name may keep the covenant they have made and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The congregation sits.

Confession of Sin

Unison

Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the body of Christ.

We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from sisters and brothers in Christ.

We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges,

and are reluctant to welcome one another.

In your loving kindness, have mercy on us and free us from sin.

Remind us of the promises you make in baptism,

so that we may rise to new life and live together in grace ...

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 495 We Know That Christ Is Raised Engelberg

The peace of Christ be always with you. Pastor:

And also with you. People:

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 baptismal font for a Time for Young Christians

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Isaiah 43:1-7

Psalm 29:1-3a,4,5b,7-8a,9-10 Unison

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory of God's name; worship the Lord in holy splendor.

The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders.

The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.

The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness.

The voice of the Lord causes the oak trees to whirl, and strips the forest bare. and in the temple all cry "Glory."

The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.

Lesson from Acts Acts 8:14-17

Luke 3:15-17,21-22 Gospel

Mike Krech The Deep Waters of Baptism Sermon "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you ..." Isaiah 43:2a

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 492 Baptized in Water Bunessan

Unison; Hymnal, page 14, Traditional **Apostles' Creed**

Gloria Patri 579 Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

The congregation sits.

Ordination and Installation of Ruling Elders

Akwi Lillian Aseh, Susie Hayes, Janet Vawter

Scripture Sentences

Statement on Ordination and Installation

Questions to the Elders Elect

The congregation stands to respond to the

Questions to the Congregation

Rosemary Gordon

Do we, the members of the church, accept Akwi, Susie, and Janet as ruling elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ? We do.

Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church? We do.

Hymn 524

Holy Spirit, Lord of Love

Salzburg

The congregation sits.

Prayer of Ordination and Installation

Declaration of Ordination and Installation

Charge and Welcome

Pastoral Prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession, and Dedication

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

Offertory When Jesus Came to Jordan Tune: De Eersten Zijn De Laatsten (see Hymn 72 for the text by Fred Pratt Green) Frederick August Mehrtens

The congregation stands to sing the

Doxology 592

Old Hundredth

Benediction

Hymn 361 How Firm a Foundation Foundation

Worshipers are invited to sit and conclude worship through the postlude. Or, you may depart the sanctuary quickly and quietly now if you need to.

Postlude

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty Tune: Lobe Den Herren

Arr. Diane Bish

Welcome to worship at Grace Presbyterian Church. Today we continue the Epiphany theme of the ongoing revealing of Jesus Christ to the world through his baptism in which God declared Jesus to be the Beloved Son, and the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus "in bodily form like a dove." The descent of the Spirit is also evident through the laying on of hands in the lesson today from Acts 8. We believe the Spirit falls upon us in our baptism and in the laying on of hands as we ordain elders.

JMK

Hymn Texts for Online Worship

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God. God, whose word cannot be broken, Formed thee for a blest abode. On the rock of ages founded, What can shake thy sure repose? With salvation's walls surrounded, Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters, Springing from eternal love, Well supply thy sons and daughters And all fear of want remove. Who can faint while such a river Ever flows their thirst to assuage? Grace, which like the Lord, the giver, Never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hovering, See the cloud and fire appear For a glory and a covering, Showing that the Lord is near. Thus deriving from their banner Light by night and shade by day, Safe they feed upon the manna Which God gives them when they pray.

Text: John Newton, 1779; alt.

Tune: AUSTRIAN HYMN; Franz Joseph Haydn, 1797

We Know That Christ Is Raised

We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. Embraced by death He broke its fearful hold; And our despair He turned to blazing joy. Alleluia!

We share by water in His saving death. Reborn we share with Him an Easter life As living members of a living Christ. Alleluia!

The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life. The Spirit's power shakes the church of God. Baptized we live with God the Three in One. Alleluia!

A new creation comes to life and grows As Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood. The universe, restored and whole, will sing: Alleluia! Amen.

Text: John Brownlow Geyer, 1969;

Tune: ENGELBERG; Charles Villiers Stanford, 1904

Baptized in Water

Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit, Cleansed by the blood of Christ our King; Heirs of salvation, Trusting the promise, Faithfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit, Dead in the tomb with Christ our King; One with His rising, Freed and forgiven, Thankfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit, Marked with the sign of Christ our King; Born of the Spirit, We are God's children, Joyfully now God's praises we sing.

Text: Michael A. Saward, 1981;

Tune: BUNESSAN; Gaelic melody; Arr. Dale Grotenhuis, 1985

Holy Spirit, Lord of Love

Holy Spirit, Lord of love, Who descended from above, Gifts of blessing to bestow On Your waiting church below, Once again in love draw near To Your servants gathered here; From their bright baptismal day You have led them on their way.

When the sacred vow is made, When the hands on them are laid, Come in this most solemn hour With Your strengthening gift of power. Give them light Your truth to see; Give them life Your own to be, Daily power to conquer sin, Patient faith the crown to win.

Text: William Dalrymple MacIagen, c. 1873; alt.

Tune: SALZBURG; Jacob Hintze, 1678; Harm. J.S. Bach (1685-1750);

As in Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1861

How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, Is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word! What more can be said that to you God hath said, To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, For I am thy God and will still give thee aid. I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go, The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow; For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless, And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie, My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply. The flame shall not hurt thee, I only design Thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine.

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose I will not, I will not desert to its foes. That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

Text: "K" in A Selection of Hymns, 1787; Ed. John Rippon; alt.

Tune: FOUNDATION; American folk melody; Funk's Genuine Church Music, 1832