

CHURCH SESSION

Class of 2023

Rosemary Gordon
Sharon Ragghianti
Becky Stirling

Class of 2024

Akwi Lillian Aseh
Susie Hayes
Janet Wawter
Moderator: John Michael Krech
Clerk: Becky Stirling
Treasurer: Jere Lawson

Class of 2025

Jere Lawson
John Price
Matthew Smith

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 in Word and Sacrament at 11:00 a.m.

May 28, 2023

The Fiftieth Day of Easter/The Day of Pentecost

The Bell Calls Us to Worship

Prelude O Spirit of the Living God (Llanfyllin) arr. Anna Laura Page

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 130 Let Every Christian Pray Laudes Domini

Easter Greeting

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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**.)

Almighty God, at the feast of Pentecost you sent the Holy Spirit to the disciples, filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel. Empower us with that same Spirit to witness to your redeeming love and draw all people to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

An Affirmation of Faith for Easter Heidelberg Catechism, 1563

Pastor: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

Unison: **That I belong, body and soul, in life and in death,**

not to myself, but to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ,

who at the cost of his own blood, has fully paid for all my sins

and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil;

that he protects me so well that without the will of my Father in heaven

not a hair can fall from my head.

Indeed, everything must fit his purpose for my salvation.

Therefore, by his Holy Spirit, he also assures me of eternal life

and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Pastor: The peace of the risen 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 Baptismal Font for a

Time for Young Christians

Prayer for Illumination

Epistle 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

Psalm 104:24-34,35b Unison

O Lord, how manifold are your works!

In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

Yonder is the sea, great and wide.

Creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great.

There go the ships and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.

These all look to you to give them their food in due season.

When you give it to them, they gather it up;

when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

When you hide your face, they are dismayed;

when you take away their breath, they die and return to the dust.

When you send forth your spirit, they are created;

and you renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in his works:

who looks on the earth and it trembles,

who touches the mountains and they smoke.

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live.

I will sing praise to God while I have being.

May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the Lord.

Bless the Lord, O my soul. Praise the Lord!

Anthem A Fire Is Meant for Burning Tune: Beach Spring, *Sacred Harp*

As a fire is meant for burning with a bright and warming flame, so the church is meant for mission, giving glory to God's name. Not to preach our creeds or customs, but to build a bridge of care, we join hands across the nations, finding neighbors everywhere. We are learners, we are teachers, we are pilgrims on the way. We are seekers, we are givers, we are vessels made of clay. By our gentle, loving actions, we would show that Christ is light. In a humble, listening spirit, we would live to God's delight. As a green bud in the springtime is a sign of life renewed, so may we be signs of oneness, 'mid earth's peoples, many hued. As a rainbow lights the heavens when a storm is past and gone, may our lives reflect the radiance of God's new and glorious dawn. (--Ruth Duck, 1992)

Gospel John 20:19-23

Pentecost Lesson from Acts Acts 2:1-21

Sermon Spiritual Discourse Dr. Steven Parrish

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 319 Spirit

Nicene Creed Unison; Hymnal, page 15, Ecumenical

Gloria for Easter Season Refrain of Hymn 122 Judas Maccabeus

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son.

Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.

The congregation sits.

Pastoral Prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession, and Dedication

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Seek Ye First (with Pachelbel's Canon) Karen Lafferty

Grace Notes Hand Bell Choir arr. Lynne Hollander

The congregation stands to sing the

Doxology for Easter Season (to the tune of Hymn 455) Lasst Uns Erfreuen

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

The congregation sits.

Invitation to the Lord's Table and Words of Institution

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

You may come by the center aisle to receive the bread and cup from the minister and elders.

OR you may go to the table to the left and eat the bread and drink from a cup there.

Please give the person in front of you adequate time for a reverent Communion.

Place the empty cup in the basket provided. All Christians are invited to receive the Sacrament.

Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion and Benediction

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 131 Wind Who Makes All Wind That Blows St. George's, Windsor

The congregation is encouraged to be seated for the postlude,

or you may depart the sanctuary quietly and quickly now if necessary.

Postlude I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord Tune: St. Thomas

Aaron Williams, 1770; arr. Gayden Sikes

Hymn Texts for Online Worship

Let Every Christian Pray

Let every Christian pray, This day and every day, Come, Holy Spirit, come!
Was not the church we love Commissioned from above? Come, Holy Spirit, come!
The Spirit brought to birth The church of Christ on earth To seek and save the lost:
God never has withdrawn, Since that tremendous dawn, The gifts at Pentecost.
Only the Spirit's power Can fit us for this hour: Come, Holy Spirit, come!
Instruct, inspire, unite, And help us see Your light: Come, Holy Spirit, come!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1970;

Tune: LAUDES DOMINI; Joseph Barnby, 1868

Spirit

Refrain:

Spirit, spirit of gentleness, Blow through the wilderness, calling and free.
Spirit, spirit of restlessness, Stir me from placidness, Wind, wind on the sea.

You moved on the waters, You called to the deep,
Then you coaxed up the mountains From the valleys of sleep.
And over the eons You called to each thing,
“Arise from your slumbers And rise on your wings.”

You swept through the desert, You stung with the sand,
And you gifted your people With a law and a land,
And when they were blinded With their idols and lies
Then you spoke through Your prophets To open their eyes.

You sang in a stable, You cried from a hill,
Then you whispered in silence When the whole world was still,
And down in the city You called once again
When you blew through Your people On the rush of the wind.

You call from tomorrow, You break ancient schemes,
From the bondage of sorrow The captives dream dreams;
Our women see visions, Our men clear their eyes
With bold new decisions Your people arise.

Text and Tune: James K. Manley, 1975

Wind Who Makes All Winds that Blow

Wind who makes all winds that blow – Gusts that bend the saplings low,
Gales that heave the sea in waves, Stirrings in the mind's deep caves –
Aim Your breath with steady power On your church this day, this hour.
Raise, renew the life we've lost, Spirit God of Pentecost.

Fire who fuels all fires that burn – Suns around which planets turn,
Beacons marking reefs and shoals, Shining truth to guide our souls –
Come to us as one You came: Burst in tongues of sacred flame!
Light and Power, Might and Strength, Fill Your church, its breadth and length.

Holy Spirit, Wind and Flame, Move within our mortal frame.
Make our hearts an altar pyre, Kindle them with Your own fire.
Breathe and blow upon that blaze Till our lives, our deeds and ways,
Speak that tongue which every land By Your grace shall understand.

Text: Thomas Troeger, 1983;

Tune: ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR; George Job Elvey, 1859