

## CHURCH SESSION

### Class of 2023

Rosemary Gordon  
Sharon Ragghianti  
Becky Stirling

### Class of 2024

Akwi Lillian Aseh  
Susie Hayes  
Janet Vawter  
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

### Grace Presbyterian Church

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[www.grace-pres.org](http://www.grace-pres.org)

[www.facebook.com/GPCBartlett](https://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 at 11:00 a.m.

July 30, 2023

## The Bell Calls Us to Worship

### Prelude

Give to Our God Immortal Praise Tune: Duke Street  
John Hatton; arr. Wilbur Held

The congregation stands to sing

### Hymn 263

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise St. Denio

## 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, protector of all who put their trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Fill us with your mercy and your grace, that, with you to rule and guide, we may so use the good things of this present life that we do not neglect those of eternal worth; 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

**Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you.**

**You call, but we have not listened.**

**We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped up in our own concerns.**

**We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed.**

**God of grace, help us to admit our sin,**

**so that, as you come to us in mercy,**

**we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness;**

**through Jesus Christ our Redeemer ...**

## Silent Prayers of Confession

### Assurance of Pardon

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 251** Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure Winchester New

**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 baptismal font for a  
**Time for Young Christians**

### Prayer for Illumination

**Gospel** Matthew 13:31-33,44-53

**Psalms 105:1-11,45b** Unison

**O give thanks to the Lord; call on God's name.**

Make known God's deeds among the peoples.

**Sing to God, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.**

Glory in God's holy name;

let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

**Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually.**

Remember the wonderful works God has done,

the miracles and the judgments he uttered,

O offspring of his servant Abraham,

children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

**He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth.**

God is mindful of his covenant forever,

of the word that he commanded for a thousand generations,

the covenant that God made with Abraham,

his sworn promise to Isaac,

which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute,

to Israel as an everlasting covenant, saying,

**"To you I will give the land of Canaan as your portion for an inheritance."**

**Praise the Lord.**

### Anthem

**Epistle** Romans 8:26-39

### Old Testament

Lamentations 3:1-26

**Sermon** The Faithfulness of God Dr. Donald K. McKim

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22-23

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 276** Great Is Thy Faithfulness Faithfulness

**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** Be Thou My Vision Irish Melody; arr. James Pethel

The congregation stands to sing the

**Doxology 592** Old Hundredth

### Benediction

**Hymn 275** God Of Our Life Sandon

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

**Postlude** O Zion Haste James Walch; arr. Dick Torrans

**Welcome to worship at Grace Presbyterian Church.** In the long season of Sundays after Trinity Sunday, also called Ordinary Time, we read semi-continuously from Matthew's Gospel and from Genesis. As we seek to grow in our Christian faith, green is the liturgical color. Thanks to **Dr. Don McKim** for leading worship and preaching today.

## Hymn Texts for Online Worship

### **Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise**

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.  
Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might.  
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.  
To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small;  
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all.  
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,  
Then wither and perish but naught changeth Thee.  
Thou reignest in glory, Thou rulest in light,  
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight.  
All praise we would render, O help us to see  
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee.

Text: Walter Chambers Smith, 1867; alt. 1987;

Tune: ST. DENIO, Welsh folk melody, adapted in *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839

### **Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure**

Your faithfulness, O Lord, is sure In all your words, Your gracious deeds;  
You gently lift all burdened souls And well provide for all or needs.  
The eyes of all are fixed on You; By You their wants are all supplied;  
Your open hand is bountiful And every soul is satisfied.  
Lord, You are just in all Your ways, And kind in everything You do;  
Forever near You stand to hear And help all those who call on You.  
My mouth shall speak Your praise, O Lord, My soul shall bless Your holy name;  
Let all things living join the song Of praise, from age to age the same.

Text: Para. Joy F. Patterson, 1989;

Tune: WINCHESTER NEW; *Musikalisches Handbuch*, 1690;

Harm. William Henry Monk, 1847; alt.

### **Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;  
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided; Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto  
me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
Sun, moon, stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (Refrain)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (Refrain)

Text: Thomas Obediah Chisholm, 1923;

Tune: FAITHFULNESS; William Marion Runyan, 1923

### **God of Our Life**

God of our life, through all the circling years, We trust in Thee;  
In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, Thy hand we see.  
With each new day, when morning lifts the veil,  
We own Thy mercies, Lord, which never fail.

God of the past, our times are in Thy hand; With us abide.  
Lead us by faith to hope's true promised land; Be Thou our guide.  
With Thee to bless, the darkness shines as light,  
And faith's fair vision changes into sight.

God of the coming years, through paths unknown We follow Thee.  
When we are strong, Lord, leave us not alone; Our refuge be.  
Be Thou for us in life our daily bread,  
Our heart's true home when all our years have sped.

Text: Hugh Thomson Kerr, 1916; alt. 1928;

Tune: SANDON; Charles Henry Purday, 1860; Harm. John Weaver, 1986