

## 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, eaclewis@yahoo.com
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](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.

**October 22, 2023**

## The Bell Calls Us to Worship

**Prelude** O For a Thousand Tongues (Azmon) arr. Jason Payne

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 229** From All That Dwell Below the Skies Lasst Uns Erfreuen

## 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**.)

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations. Preserve the works of your mercy that your church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your name; 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

(This prayer was written by the children's Sunday School class, Sept. 17, 2023)

**We know you forgive us.**

**So we can ask that you will forgive us:**

**when we don't listen, when we are not kind to others,**

**when we do not share with others, when we do not put you first in our lives.**

**Be with us, Lord, guiding us and the choices we make.**

**Help us to love you and others ...**

## Silent Prayers of Confession

## Assurance of Pardon

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 441** I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

St. Thomas

**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

## Stewardship Reflections

A.Z. Ndingwan

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn** Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me Toplady

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee.

Let the water and the blood, From Thy wounded side which flowed,

Be of sin the double cure, Cleanse me from its guilt and power.

Not the labors of my hands Can fulfill Thy law's demands;

Could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow,

All for sin could not atone, Thou must save and Thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, Simply to Thy cross I cling;

Naked, come to Thee for dress, Helpless look to Thee for grace;

Foul, I to the fountain fly; Wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, When my eyelids close in death,

When I soar to worlds unknown, See Thee on Thy judgment throne,

Rock of Ages, cleft for me; Let me hide myself in Thee.

(-- text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1776; tune: Thomas Hastings, 1830)

The congregation sits.

## Prayer for Illumination

### Old Testament

Exodus 33:12-23

### Psalm 99

Unison

The Lord is king; let the peoples tremble!

God sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

The Lord is great in Zion, exalted over all the peoples.

Let them praise your great and awesome name. Holy is he!

Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity.

You have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

Extol the Lord our God; worship at his footstool. Holy is he!

Moses and Aaron were among his priests;

Samuel also was among those who called on his name.

They cried to the Lord, and he answered them.

He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud;

they kept his decrees and the statutes that he gave them.

O Lord our God, you answered them;

you were a forgiving God to them, but an avenger of wrongdoings.

Extol the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain;

for the Lord our God is holy.

**Anthem** Service Medley – What Does the Lord Require?

Jim Strathlee

Together We Serve

Daniel C. Damon

**Epistle**

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

**Gospel**

Matthew 22:15-22

**Sermon**

Legitimate Obligations

Mike Krech

“Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s and to God the things that are God’s.”  
Matthew 22:21

## An Opportunity to Present Commitments for A.D. 2024

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 420** God of Grace and God of Glory Cwm Rhondda

**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** Highland Cathedral Ulrich Roever & Michael Korb

The congregation stands to sing the

**Doxology 592** Old Hundredth

**Benediction**

**Hymn 438** Blest Be the Tie That Binds Dennis

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

**Postlude** A Mighty Fortress arr. Anna Laura Page

## Hymn Texts for Online Worship

### **From All That Dwell Below the Skies**

From all that dwell below the skies Let the Creator's praise arise:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let the Redeemer's name be sung Through every land, in every tongue.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

In every land begin the song, To every land the strains belong:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

In cheerful sound all voices raise And fill the world with joyful praise.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord; Eternal truth attends Thy word:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore, Till suns shall rise and set no more.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1719; Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN;

*Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1623; alt. Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

### **I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord**

I love Thy kingdom, Lord, The house of Thine abode,

The church our blest Redeemer saved With His own precious blood.

I love Thy church, O God; Her walls before Thee stand,

Dear as the apple of Thine eye, And graven on Thy hand.

For her my tears shall fall, For her my prayers ascend;

To her my toils and cares be given, Till toils and cares shall end.

Beyond my highest joy I prize her heavenly ways,

Her sweet communion, solemn vows, Her hymns of love and praise.

Sure as Thy truth shall last, To Zion shall be given

The brightest glories earth can yield, And brighter bliss of heaven.

Text: Timothy Dwight, 1800

Tune: ST. THOMAS; *The Universal Psalmist*, 1763; Adapt. Aaron Williams, 1770

**Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me** (The text of this hymn is in the worship bulletin.)

### **God of Grace and God of Glory**

God of grace and God of glory, On Thy people pour Thy power;  
Crown Thine ancient church's story; Brings its bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage For the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us Scorn Thy Christ, assail Thy ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us Free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage For the living of these days.

Cure Thy children's warring madness, Bend our pride to Thy control;  
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, Rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal.

Set our feet on lofty places; Gird our lives that they may be  
Armored with all Christ-like graces, Pledged to set all captives free.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, That we fail not them nor Thee!

Save us from weak resignation To the evils we deplore;  
Let the gift of Thy salvation Be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, Serving Thee whom we adore.

Text: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930; alt.;

Tune: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1907

### **Blest Be the Tie That Binds**

Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Christian love:  
The fellowship of kindred minds Is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne We pour our ardent prayers:  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, Our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes, Our mutual burdens bear,  
And often for each other flows The sympathizing tear.

From sorrow, toil, and pain, And sin we shall be free;  
And perfect love and friendship reign Through all eternity.

Text: John Fawcett, 1782;

Tune: DENNIS; Johann Georg Nägeli (1773-1836) arr. Lowell Mason, 1845