

CHURCH SESSION

Class of 2024

Akwi Lillian Aseh
Susie Hayes

Class of 2025

Jere Lawson
John Price
Matthew Smith

Moderator: John Michael Krech
Clerk: Becky Stirling
Treasurer: Jere Lawson

Class of 2026

Sandy Kehrli
AZ Ndingwan
Becky Stirling

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	John Michael Krech, jmkrech@yahoo.com
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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

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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.

March 24, 2024

Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion

The Bell Calls Us to Worship

Prelude

Let the Song Go Round the Earth Buryl Red (1936-2013)
adapted for organ by Anna Laura Page

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 88

All Glory, Laud, and Honor Valet Will Ich Dir Geben

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**.)

O God, we praise you for your redemption of the world through Jesus Christ, who today entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph and was proclaimed Messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Grant that we, who bear our palm branches, may follow him in the way of the cross and, united with Christ and all the faithful, one day enter in triumph the city not made by human hands, the new Jerusalem, eternal in the heavens, where with you and the Holy Spirit, Christ lives in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The congregation sits.

Prayer of Confession

Unison

God of mercy, in Jesus Christ you came to seek and save the lost.

Christ's entry into Jerusalem reveals the depth of Your love and sacrifice.

We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way.

**For hopes and ideals which we parade, but do not pursue,
and for enthusiasms which too easily fade, forgive our sins.**

Grant us amendment of life and renewed dedication to Your purpose...

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon – Epistle

Philippians 2:5-11

The congregation stands to sing
Hymn 89 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna Ellacombe

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

Old Testament Isaiah 50:4-9

Psalm 24:1-8b, 10 Unison

**The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof,
the world and all who dwell in it.**

For God has founded it on the seas and established it on the rivers.

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? Who shall stand in God's holy place?

**Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,
who do not lift up their soul to what is false, nor swear deceitfully.**

**They will receive blessing from the Lord
and vindication from the God of their salvation.**

**Such is the company of those who seek the Lord,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.**

**Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.**

**Who is this King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty.
The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.**

Anthem Sing to the Lord Hosanna! G.F. Handel (from *Julius Caesar*)

Hosanna! Sing to the Lord hosanna! Sing to the mighty King. Praise to the Lord we bring.

He rides in majesty; the Lord shall set us free. Proclaim the blessed One. Celebrate.

He comes to us as God's own Son. He comes to save us; the Lord shall bring salvation.

He comes to reign in victory. Rejoice and give him adoration arr. Patrick M. Liebergen, 1995

Gospel Mark 11:1-11

Sermon The Passing Parade Mike Krech
"Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, 'Hosanna! ...'" Mark 11:9

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 103 Deep Were His Wounds, and Red Marlee

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 Anthem And No Bird Sang Douglas E. Wagner, 1983

Calm was the wind and dark was the sky when our Lord came to die.

Lone on the cross for our sins He did hang, and no bird sang.

Women and men with anguish and fear then to His cross drew near.

Hushed then to feel the bitter pang and no bird sang. *Kyrie, eleison.* Lord, have mercy,

God's will be done. No bird sang in the sky when Christ did come to die. (-- Douglas E. Wagner)

The congregation stands to sing the

Doxology 592 Old Hundredth

The congregation sits.

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ, According to Mark

Using the text provided in the bulletin insert,

members of the church read Mark 14:10-15:39.

The congregation speaks the lines in bold print,

remains seated to sing the indicated stanzas of Hymn 76,

stands where indicated (at the mention of Golgotha)

and remains standing to sing stanza 5 of

Hymn 76 My Song Is Love Unknown Love Unknown

Benediction

**The congregation is encouraged to be seated for the postlude,
or you may depart the sanctuary quietly and quickly following the benediction.**

Postlude Meditation on Ah, Dearest Jesus Clarence Dickinson (1873-1962)

Hymn Texts for Online Worship

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Refrain: All glory, laud, and honor To Thee, Redeemer King!
To whom the lips of children Made sweet hosannas ring.

Thou art the King of Israel, Thou David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed One. (Refrain)

The people of the Hebrews With palms before Thee went;
Our praise and prayers and anthems Before Thee we present. (Refrain)

To Thee, before Thy passion, They sang their hymns of praise;
To Thee, now high exalted, Our melody we raise. (Refrain)

Thou didst accept their praises, Accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest, Thou good and gracious King. (Refrain)

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 820; Trans, John Mason Neale, 1851; alt, 1859.

Tune: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN; Melchior Teschner, 1614;
arr. William Henry Monk, 1861

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Hosanna, loud hosanna, The little children sang;
Through pillared court and temple The joyful anthem rang;
To Jesus, who had blessed them Close folded to His breast,
The children sang their praises, The simplest and the best.

From Olivet they followed 'Mid an exultant crowd,
The victor palm branch waving, And chanting clear and loud;
The Lord of earth and heaven Rode on in lowly state,
Nor scorned that little children Should on His bidding wait.

“Hosanna in the highest!” That ancient song we sing,
For Christ is our Redeemer, The Lord of heaven, our King.
O may we ever praise Him With heart and life and voice,
And in His blissful presence Eternally rejoice.

Text: Jeannette Threlfall, 1873;

Tune: ELLACOMBE; *Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Württembergischen
Katholischen Hofkapelle*, 1784; alt. 1868

Deep Were His Wounds, and Red

Deep were His wounds, and red, On cruel Calvary,
As on the cross He bled In bitter agony.
But they whom sin has wounded sore Find healing in the wounds He bore.
He suffered shame and scorn And wretched dire disgrace;
Forsaken and forlorn, He hung there in our place.
But all who would from sin be free Look to His cross for victory.
His life, His all, He gave When He was crucified;
Our burdened souls to save, What fearful death He died!
But each of us, though dead in sin, Through Christ eternal life may win.

Text: William Johnson, 1953;

Tune: MARLEE; Leland Bernhard Sateren, 1958

My Song Is Love Unknown

My song is love unknown, My Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown That they might lovely be.
O who am I That for my sake My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
Christ came from heaven's throne Salvation to bestow,
But people scorned and none The longed-for Christ would know.
But O my Friend, My Friend indeed, Who at my need His life did spend.
Sometimes they strew His way, And His sweet praises sing,
Resounding all the way Hosannas to their King.
Then "Crucify" is all their breath, And for His death They thirst and cry.
They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save, The Prince of Life they slay.
Yet steadfast He To suffering goes, That He his foes From thence might free.
Here might I stay and sing No story so divine;
Never was love, dear King, never was grief like Thine.
This is my Friend, In whose sweet praise I all my days Could gladly spend.

Text: Samuel Crossman, 1664;

Tune: LOVE UNKNOWN; John Ireland, 1918

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Mark (14:10-15:39)

Evangelist: Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray Jesus to them. When they heard it, they were greatly pleased and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him. On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him,

CONGREGATION: **Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?**

Evangelist: So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them

Jesus: Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, "The Teacher asks, 'Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?'" He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.

Evangelist: So the disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, he came with the Twelve. And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said:

Jesus: Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me.

Evangelist: They became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another:

CONGREGATION: **Surely not I.**

Jesus: It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.

Evangelist: While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them and said.

Jesus: Take; this is my body.

Evangelist: Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them:

Jesus: This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.

-1-

Evangelist: When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Jesus: You will all become deserters; for it is written, "I will strike the shepherd and the sheep of the flock will be scattered." But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.

Peter: Even though all become deserters, I will not.

Jesus: Truly I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times.

Peter: Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.

Evangelist: And all of them said the same. They went to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples.

Jesus: Sit here while I pray.

Evangelist: He took with him Peter and James and John and began to be distressed and agitated.

Jesus: I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here and keep awake.

Evangelist: And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed:

Jesus: Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me. Yet, not what I want, but what you want.

Evangelist: He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter,

Jesus: Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial. The spirit is indeed willing, but the flesh is weak.

Evangelist: And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. He came a third time and said to them:

Jesus: Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.

Hymn 76, stanzas 1, 2

My Song Is Love Unknown

Love Unknown

-2-

Evangelist: Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived. With him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying

Judas: The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard.

Evangelist: So when he came, he went up to him at once and said,

Judas: Rabbi.

Evangelist: And he went out into the forecourt. Then the rooster crowed. And the servant girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders,

Servant Girl: This man is one of them.

Evangelist: But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter,

CONGREGATION: **Certainly you are also one of them,
for you are a Galilean.**

Evangelist: But he began to curse, and he swore an oath,

Peter: I do not know this man you are talking about.

Evangelist: At that moment the rooster crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him,

Jesus: Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times.

Evangelist: And he broke down and wept. As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him,

Pilate: Are you the King of the Jews?

Jesus: You say so.

Evangelist: Then the chief priests accused him of many things.

Pilate: Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.

-4-

Evangelist: But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed. Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them:

Pilate: Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?

Evangelist: For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again:

Pilate: Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?

CONGREGATION: **Crucify him!**

Pilate: Why? What evil has he done?

CONGREGATION: **Crucify him!**

Evangelist: So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Hymn 76, stanzas 3, 4 My Song Is Love Unknown Love Unknown

Evangelist: Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace; and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him:

CONGREGATION: **Hail, King of the Jews!**

Evangelist: They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha, which means the place of a skull. **(ALL STAND)** And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take. It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

**CONGREGATION: Aha! You who would destroy the temple
and build it in three days,
save yourself, and come down from the cross.**

-5-

Evangelist: In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying,

CONGREGATION: **He saved others; he cannot save himself.**

Let the Messiah, the King of Israel,

come down from the cross now,

so that we may see and believe.

Evangelist: Those who were crucified with him also taunted him. When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice,

Jesus: Eloi, eloi, lema, sabachthani. My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Evangelist: When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

CONGREGATION: **Listen, he is calling for Elijah.**

Evangelist: And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying,

CONGREGATION: **Wait,**
 let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.

Evangelist: Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said,

Centurion: Truly, this man was the Son of God.

Hymn 76, stanza 5 “My Song Is Love Unknown” Love Unknown