

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
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

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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 7:30 p.m.

March 28, 2024

Maundy Thursday

The Bell Calls Us to Worship

Prelude Prelude and Fugue In E Minor J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Scripture Sentences

Commemoration of Maundy Thursday

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 100 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross Rockingham

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.**)

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment, to love one another as he loved them. Write this commandment in our hearts and give us the will to serve others as he was servant of all, who gave his life and died for us, yet is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The congregation sits.

Prayer of Confession Unison

Eternal God, your covenant with us is never broken.

We confess that we fail to fulfill your will.

Though you have bound yourself to us, we will not bind ourselves to you.

In Jesus Christ, you serve us freely,

but we refuse your love and withhold ourselves from others.

We do not love you fully, nor love one another as you command.

In your mercy, forgive and cleanse us.

Lead us once again to your table and unite us with Christ,

who is the bread of life and the vine from which we grow in grace ...

Silent Prayers of Confession

Declaration of Pardon

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,
then sit for the announcements)

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament

Exodus 12:1-14

Psalms 116:1-2, 12-13, 17a, 18-19

Unison

I love the Lord, who heard my voice and my supplication.

Because God inclined his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live.

What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

I will offer to you a sacrifice of thanksgiving.

I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people,

in the courts of the house of the Lord; in your midst, O Jerusalem.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Gospel

Mark 14:22-26

Sermon

Singing The Faith

Mike Krech

“When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.” Mark 14:26

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 94 An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare O Waly Waly

Nicene Creed Unison; Hymnal, page 15, Ecumenical

The congregation sits.

Prayers of the People – The Solemn Intercessions

Anthem Come and Mourn With Me Awhile Anna Laura Page, 1991

Come and mourn with me awhile, come to the Savior's side; come together, let us mourn, our Lord is crucified. Have we no tears to shed for Him while soldiers scoff and foes deride; ah look how patiently He hangs, our Lord is crucified. O love of God, O sin of man! In this dread act your strength is tried and victory remains with love, our Lord is crucified. (-- Frederick W. Faber, 1849)

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

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 pastor 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 the Sacrament.

Organ During Communion Come, Sweet Death J.S. Bach
arr. Edwin Arthur Craft

Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion Unison

God of grace, your Son Jesus Christ left us this holy meal of bread and wine,
in which we share his body and blood.

May we who have celebrated this sign of his great love
show forth in our lives the fruits of his redemption. Amen.

The Solemn Reproaches of the Cross

In this historic prayer of the church, the leader speaks as the voice of God, the Creator and Giver of Life and Shepherd of Israel, and as the voice of the Lord Jesus Christ from the cross. Each portion of the prayer ends with the exchange:

Pastor: ... you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Unison: Holy God, Holy and mighty,
Holy, immortal One, Have mercy upon us.**

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 97, st.1,2,3 Go to Dark Gethsemane Redhead 76

The congregation sits.

The Stripping of the Church

In keeping with the solemn events of Maundy Thursday night and Good Friday, the Church developed the custom of removing many of the symbols and appointments of worship from the worship space. This speaks to the solitude of Christ in his suffering on our behalf and leaves the church fittingly unadorned for Good Friday. After the appointed persons have removed the flags, worshippers may meet the pastor at the chancel steps where he will give you an item to remove from the church. Take your item, walk down the center aisle of the church, turn left at the hallway, and place the item on one of the tables in the fellowship hall (Room 102A). You may then quietly leave the church building or silently return to the sanctuary for prayer.

Hymn Texts for Online Worship

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of glory died.
My richest gain I count but loss And pour contempt on all pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, Save in the death of Christ my God.
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet, Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1707;

Tune: ROCKINGHAM;

Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature, 1783; Harm. Edward Miller, 1790

An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare

An upper room did our Lord prepare For those He loved until the end:
And His disciples still gather there To celebrate their risen Friend.

A lasting gift Jesus gave His own: To share His bread, His loving cup.
Whatever burdens may bow us down, He by His cross shall lift us up.

And after supper He washed their feet, For service, too, is sacrament.
In Christ our joy shall be made complete: Sent out to serve, as He was sent.

No end there is! We depart in peace, He loves beyond the uttermost:
In every room in our Father's house Christ will be there, as Lord and Host.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1973;

Tune: O WALY WALY; English folk melody; Harm. John Weaver, 1988

Go to Dark Gethsemane

Go to dark Gethsemane, All who feel the tempter's power;
Your Redeemer's conflict see, Watch with Him one bitter hour;
Turn not from His griefs away, Learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

Follow to the judgment hall; View the Lord of life arraigned;
O the wormwood and the gall! O the pangs His soul sustained!
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss; Learn from Christ to bear the cross.

Calvary's mournful mountain climb, Where they laid his breathless clay:
Mark the miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete;
"It is finished!" hear Him cry; Learn from Jesus Christ to die.

Text: James Montgomery, 1820, 1825; alt.

Tune: REDHEAD 76; Richard Redhead, 1853