

## CHURCH SESSION

### Class of 2020

Rosemary Gordon  
Brooks Keiser  
Elizabeth Velazquez

### Class of 2021

Rickie Cooke  
Anna Tate  
Janet Vawter

### Class of 2022

Kevin Bopp  
Bob Gammon  
Emily Mayne

Moderator: John Michael Krech  
Clerk: Elizabeth Velazquez  
Treasurer: Jere Lawson

## CHURCH STAFF

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### 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 through lessons and carols at 11:00 a.m.

**December 20, 2020**

**The Fourth Sunday in Advent**

**In the sanctuary and live streamed**

### The Bell Calls Us to Worship

#### Prelude

For Unto Us a Child Is Born G.F. Handel; arr. L. Smith

The congregation stands to sing

#### Hymn 22

Angels, from the Realms of Glory Regent Square

#### 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**.)

God of grace, you chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Savior. Now fill us with your grace, that with her, we may rejoice in your salvation, and in all things embrace your will; 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.

**Lighting the Fourth Candle in the Advent Wreath** The Kehrli Family

At the conclusion of the candle lighting service, all stand to sing:

**O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to thy tribes on Si-nai's height**

**In ancient times didst give the law, In cloud and majes-ty and awe.**

**Rejoice; rejoice. Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**Pastor:** The peace of Christ be always with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Passing of the Peace** (Worshippers greet one another with the peace of Christ.)

**Welcome, Announcements, and a Word to Children**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**First Lesson**

Bob Harrold  
2 Samuel 7:1-11,16

**Second Lesson**

**Psalm 89:1-4**

Unison

**I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever;  
with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.  
I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;  
your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.  
You said, “I have made a covenant with my chosen one;  
I have sworn to my servant David:  
‘I will establish your descendants forever  
and build your throne for all generations.’”**

**Piano Meditation**

Huron Carol

French-Canadian

Worshippers may wish to read the text of Hymn 61, from the Native American tradition.

**Third Lesson**

Isaiah 11:1-10

**Hand Bell Meditation**

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen arr. Linda Lamb

Rosemary Gordon and Becky Stirling, hand bells; Susan Steppe, organ

**Fourth Lesson**

Luke 1:26-38

**Sermon**

Ave Maria

Mike Krech

“And Gabriel came to Mary and said, ‘Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you.’”

Luke 1:28

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 16**

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came Gabriel’s Message

The congregation sits.

**Fifth Lesson**

Luke 2:1-7

**Brass Meditation** Adeste Fideles/Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Arr. David Newell

Clyde Getman, trumpet; Rickie Cooke, baritone horn;

Bob Vawter, trombone; Susan Steppe, piano

**Sixth Lesson**

Luke 2:8-14

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 58**

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks Winchester Old

**Apostles’ Creed**

Unison; Hymnal, page 14, Traditional

**Gloria in Excelsis**

Refrain of Hymn 23

Gloria

The congregation sits.

**Seventh Lesson**

Luke 2:15-20

**Brass Meditation**

arr. Brant Adams

Sing We Now of Christmas/God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

Bob Vawter, trombone; Susan Steppe, piano

**Eighth Lesson**

Matthew 2:1-12

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 44**

O Little Town of Bethlehem

St. Louis

The congregation sits.

**The Bidding Prayer and The O Antiphons**

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

**Ninth Lesson**

Romans 16:25-27

**Offertory Sentence**

**Offertory** I Wonder as I Wander John Jacob Niles, 1933; arr. Tim Doran

The congregation stands to sing the

**Doxology 592**

Old Hundredth

**Benediction**

**Hymn 40**

Joy to the World

Antioch

Worshippers are invited to sit and conclude worship through the postlude.

You are also welcome to sing along with the Hallelujah Chorus

Or you may depart the sanctuary quietly and briskly.

**Postlude**

Hallelujah Chorus

G.F. Handel

Following the postlude, Pastor Mike Krech will be at the front of the church near the chancel steps for conversations with anyone, while masked and physically distanced.

**Welcome to worship at Grace Presbyterian Church.**

Today we follow a worship pattern of lessons and carols, popularized beginning Christmas Eve, 1918, at the chapel of King’s College, Cambridge, England.

## Hymn Texts for Online Worship

### **Angels, from the Realms of Glory**

Angels, from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye, who sang creation's story, Now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ the new-born King.

Shepherds, in the fields abiding, Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing, Yonder shines the infant light:  
Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ the new-born King.

Sages, leave your contemplations, Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great desire of nations; Ye have seen His natal star:  
Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ the new-born King.

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,  
Evermore your voices raising To the eternal Three in One:  
Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ the new-born King.

Text: Stanzas 1-3, James Montgomery, 1816,1825; Stanza 4, *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857  
Tune: REGENT SQUARE, Henry Thomas Smart, 1867

### **The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came**

The angel Gabriel from heaven came, His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;  
"All hail," said he, "O lowly maiden Mary," Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

"For know a blessed mother you shall be, All generations praise continually,  
Your Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold." Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head, "To me be as it pleases God," she said,  
"My soul shall laud and magnify God's holy name." Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,  
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:  
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Text: Para. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)  
Tune: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE; Basque carol; Arr. by Edgar Pettman  
and John Wickham

### **While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks**

While shepherds watched their flocks by night, All seated on the ground,  
The angel of the Lord came down, And glory shone around.

“Fear not,” said he, for mighty dread Had seized their troubled mind;  
“Glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and humankind.

“To you, in David’s town this day, Is born of David’s line  
The Savior, who is Christ the Lord, And this shall be the sign:

“The heavenly Babe you there shall find To human view displayed,  
All humbly wrapped in swathing bands, And in a manger laid.”

Thus spoke the seraph, and forthwith Appeared a shining throng  
Of angels praising God, who thus Addressed their joyful song:

“All glory be to God on high, And to the earth be peace:  
Good will to all from highest heaven Begin and never cease!”

Text: Nahum Tate, 1700; alt, 1987;

Tune: WINCHESTER OLD; Este’s *Psalmes*, 1592

### **O Little Town of Bethlehem**

O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see Thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth!  
And praises sing to God the King, And peace to all on earth.

How silently, how silently, The wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of His heaven,  
No ear may hear His coming, But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him, still The dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in, Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel.

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1868; Tune: ST. LOUIS; Lewis Henry Rudner, 1868

## **Joy to the World!**

Joy to the world! The Lord is come; Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room, And heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns: Let us our songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness, And wonders of His love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

Tune: ANTIOCH; Attr. George Frederick Handel, 1742; Arr. Lowell Mason, 1836