

## 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

Pastor	John Michael Krech, jmkrech@yahoo.com
Director of Music	Charlotte Eaheart Hicks, CCM, charlotteschurch@gmail.com
Organist	Susan Steppe, susansteppe@comcast.net
Director of Technical Services	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.

**December 27, 2020**

**The First Sunday after Christmas**

**In the sanctuary and live streamed**

### The Bell Calls Us to Worship

**Prelude** Joyful Worship (Joy to the World/Angels from the Realms of Glory)  
Arr. Paul Curnow

Bob Vawter, trombone; Rickie Cooke, baritone horn; Susan Steppe, piano

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 31** Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Mendelssohn

### 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 God, you wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature. In your mercy let us share the divine life of Jesus Christ, who came to share our humanity and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

**Hymn 34** In Bethlehem a Babe Was Born Discovery

**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

### Hymn and Carol Sing

**Hymn 27** Gentle Mary Laid Her Child Tempus Adest Floridum

**Hymn 47** Still, Still, Still Still, Still, Still

**Prayer for Illumination**

Akwi Aseh

**Old Testament**

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

**Psalm 148**

Unison

**Praise the Lord.**

**Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights.**

**Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host.**

**Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars.**

**Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the heavens.**

**Let them praise the name of the Lord,**

**for he commanded and they were created.**

**He established them forever and ever;**

**he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.**

**Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,**

**fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command.**

**Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and cedars,**

**wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds.**

**Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth,**

**young men and women alike, old and young together.**

**Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted;**

**his glory is above earth and heaven.**

**He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful,**

**for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the Lord.**

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 49**

Once in Royal David's City

Irby

The congregation sits.

**Epistle**

Galatians 4:1-7

**Gospel**

Luke 2:21-40

**Sermon**

Growing Up with Jesus

Mike Krech

“When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.”  
Luke 2:39-40

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 29**

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Go Tell It

**Apostles' Creed**

Unison; Hymnal, page 14, Traditional

**Gloria in Excelsis**

Refrain of Hymn 23

Gloria

The congregation sits.

**Pastoral Prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession, and Dedication**

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

**Offertory Sentence**

**Offertory**

Canticle of Joy

J. S. Bach

arr. Van Denman Thompson

The congregation stands to sing the

**Doxology 592**

Old Hundredth

**Benediction**

**Hymn 40**

Joy to the World

Antioch

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

Or you may depart the sanctuary quietly and briskly.

**Postlude**

Joy to the World

arr. Fred Bock

Following the postlude, weather permitting, the pastor will make his way to the outdoors, where masked and physically distanced conversations can occur for all worshipers.

To increase our safety, the session strongly urges that we sharply limit our talking with others inside the sanctuary.

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

Today we continue the season of Christmas with Luke's account of Jesus being presented in the temple at about 40 days old. There, two dear believers, Simeon and Anna, are blessed with hope through the Christ child. (JMK)

## Hymn Texts for Online Worship

### **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King.  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of the virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; Hail the incarnate Deity,  
Pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings, Risen with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by, Born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise us from the earth, Born to give us second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.

Tune: MENDELSSOHN; Felix Mendelssohn, 1840;

Arr. William Hayman Cummings, 1855

### **In Bethlehem a Babe Was Born**

In Bethlehem a Babe was born With love enough for all.  
While kingdoms slept, the Lord came down To grace a manger stall.  
And with a glorious light Angels appeared that night,  
Singing, "Come, come, Christ is born! Come, come, world forlorn,  
The Child of peace and sacrifice is waiting to be found."

Royalty and shepherds came To worship from afar,  
Guided through the long cold night By one persistent star.  
As each beheld the Son, Strangers became as one,  
Singing, "Come, come, Christ is born! Come, come, world forlorn,  
The Child of peace and sacrifice is waiting to be found."

The mystery of Bethlehem Was long ago, they say,  
But, miracle of miracles, The Baby lives today  
In each new heart that hears Love coming through the years,  
Singing, "Come, come, Christ is born! Come, come, world forlorn,  
The Child of peace and sacrifice is waiting to be found."

Text: Barbara Mays, 1986;

Tune: DISCOVERY; Barbara Mays, 1986; Harm. John Weaver, 1988

### **Gentle Mary Laid Her Child**

Gentle Mary laid her child Lowly in a manger;  
There He lay, the undefiled, To the world a stranger.  
Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Savior?  
Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His favor.

Angels sang about His birth, Wise men sought and found Him;  
Heaven's star shone brightly forth, Glory all around Him.  
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, Heard the angels singing;  
All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ringing.

Gentle Mary laid her child Lowly in a manger;  
He is still the undefiled, But no more a stranger,  
Son of God, of humble birth, Beautiful the story;  
Praise His name in all the earth, Hail the King of glory!

Text: Joseph Simpson Cook, 1919; Tune: TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM; *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; Arr. Ernest C. MacMillan, 1930

### **Still, Still, Still**

Still, still, still, He sleeps this night so chill! The Virgin's tender arms enfolding,  
Warm and safe the Child are holding. Still, still, still, He sleeps this night so chill.  
Sleep, sleep, sleep, He lies in slumber deep While angels hosts from heaven come  
winging, Sweetest songs of joy are singing. Sleep, sleep, sleep, He lies in slumber deep.

Text: Austrian carol; Trans. George K. Evans, 1963;  
Tune: STILL, STILL, STILL; Austrian melody; Arr. Walter Ehret, 1963

### **Once in Royal David's City**

Once in royal David's city Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby In a manger for a bed.  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.  
He came down to earth from heaven Who is God and Lord of all,  
And His shelter was a stable, And His cradle was a stall.  
With the poor, oppressed, and lowly, Lived on earth our Savior holy.

Jesus is our childhood's pattern, Day by day like us He grew;  
He was little, weak, and helpless, Tears and smiles like us He knew;  
And He feels for all our sadness, And He shares in all our gladness.

And our eyes at least shall see Him, Through His own redeeming love,  
For that Child so dear and gentle Is our Lord in heaven above;  
And He leads His children on To the place where He is gone.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848, alt;  
Tune: IRBY, Henry John Gauntlett, 1849; Harm. Arthur Henry Mann, 1919

### **Go, Tell It on the Mountain**

Refrain: Go, tell it on the mountain Over the hills and everywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching O'er silent flocks by night,  
Beholds throughout the heavens There shone a holy light, (Refrain)

The shepherds feared and trembled When lo! above the earth,  
Rang out the angel chorus That hailed our Savior's birth. (Refrain)

Down in a lowly manger The humble Christ was born,  
And God sent us salvation That blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain)

Text: Stanzas, John W. Work II (1872-1925)

Tune: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual; Arr. John W. Work III, 1940;  
Harm. and adapt. Melva Wilson Costen, 1987

### **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