



GRACE

Presbyterian Church

December 22, 2024

51st Lord's Day of 2024

Sunday Morning Divine Service – 9:30am

Morning Divine Service

Preparation for Worship

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.... The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"
(John 1: 14, 29)

Please take a few moments to prepare your hearts and minds
to worship the Triune God.

— GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP HIM —

Salutation – *from* Psalm 124:8

* Call to Worship – Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Minister: This is the day that the LORD has made;

People: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Let us worship the Triune God!

* Hymn of Approach – #299 Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

* Prayer of Adoration

* Congregation Stands

— GOD RENEWS US IN CHRIST —

Call to Repentance

Confession of Sin: *Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done, and there is no health in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare those, O God, who confess their sins. Restore those who repent, according to Your promises declared to us in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for His sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.*

(Silent Confession)

* Assurance of Pardon – Romans 8:31-39

Minister: Therefore, as Christ's minister and by His authority, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins; in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen!

* Hymn of Thanksgiving – #298 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

* Affirmation of Faith – Nicene Creed Trinity Psalter Hymnal p 852

* Grace of God's Law – James 1:19-27

* Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

Giving of Tithes and Offerings – Leviticus 27:30

* Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Intercession & The Lord's Prayer

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

* Old Testament Reading – Daniel 7:13-14

Elder: *The grass withers and the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.*
(Isaiah 40:8)

People: Amen

* Sermon Text – Matthew 25:31-46

Minister: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon – To Judge the Living and the Dead

Rev. Judson Marvel

— GOD FEEDS US AT HIS BANQUET TABLE —

* Hymn of Preparation - #292 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

The Administration of the Table

Sursum Corda

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

It is right for us to give thanks.

The Lord's Supper

— GOD BLESSES & SENDS US OUT —

* Hymn of Response – #293 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

* Benediction – Numbers 6:24-26

* Congregational Threefold Amen

Notes:

Who may come to the Lord's Table?

1. Have you been baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit?
2. Have you publicly professed your faith in Jesus Christ, and do you embrace the Christian faith as summarized in the Apostles' Creed?
3. Are you presently a member in good standing of a Bible-believing, gospel-preaching church?

If you can affirm these questions sincerely, the elders welcome you to the Lord's Table! But if you have any hesitation at all, then we would encourage you to refrain from taking the Lord's Supper today. Reflect on the preached Word, Pray for God draw you closer to the Lord Jesus Christ, and come talk to the pastor or an elder.

How do I learn more about joining the church?

The Pastor offers membership classes periodically. This class introduces interested visitors to the beliefs of our church and life together in this church family. Please contact Pastor Jud if you are interested in attending a class.

The Nursery & Training Room

We do not have a staffed nursery or separate children's ministry. Instead, we welcome your children to be in worship with us! Their presence is a joy to us. But we know that not all children can sit quietly through service, so we do have both a nursery and a training room. Our nursery is located in the last room on the left at the end of hallway. This separate space has the audio and video being streamed in for you while you change, nurse, or comfort your baby or toddler up to around 3 years old. Additionally, we have a training room located in the back of the auditorium. This space was designed as a refuge in which to train your young children to both sit quietly and participate as appropriate throughout the service.

Missionaries of the Month

DH and Emily Henry, MTW with the Navajo Nation

DH and Emily Henry serve with Mission to the World (MTW), the missions ministry of the PCA usually associated with international missions. However, the Henry's have been called to serve Christ by being missionaries to the Navajo Nation. In ministering to Native Americans, their call is not less cross-cultural than it would be if they had moved to the other side of the globe. The Henry family lives and ministers in Flagstaff, Arizona.

Prayer requests:

1. Please join us in praying for the development of a missionary couple/family or a single man to join us as a campus minister to the growing number of Indigenous college students at Northern Arizona University
2. DH Submitted a proposal to the session of Church of the Resurrection to begin a ministerial internship for Indian Bible College (IBC) students. Pray the God would use this for the development of a future Navajo church planting team.
3. Pray for the Henry children, Phineas, Josiah, Zoe, and Felicity, to receive the assessments, remediation, advocacy, and support they need to get the most out of their education while navigating the challenges of neurodiversity.
4. Pray for the preparations the Henrys need to make for their annual Christmas morning homeless outreach.

Jeff and Heather, MTW ministry to missionaries working in areas where the church is persecuted

Jeff and Heather have worked in areas of the world where it is not safe to be a Christian. They have been through many circumstances where they and their children have been in danger, and have suffered due to their calling as missionaries. More recently, they have taken on the roll of ministering to other missionaries who are in similar circumstances now.

Prayer Requests:

1. Praise God for steadfastly loving and upholding Jeff and Heather and their family through so much and preserving their faith through it all!
2. Travel safety for both Jeff and Heather as they visit missionaries around the world to provide crisis counseling.
3. Continued healing for their daughter who is still dealing with the debilitating effects of a bacterial infection which left her unable to walk without assistance.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Today

9:30am – Morning Service

Wednesday, 12/25 - Merry Christmas!!

No Prayer Meeting

Tuesday, 12/24

6:30pm – Lessons & Carols Christmas Eve Service followed by cookies, hot chocolate, and fellowship

Wednesday – Friday, 12/25-12/27

Office Closed

Sunday, 12/29

9:30am – Morning Service

Music for Next Lord’s Day, 12/29/2024

Morning

Approach: 311 – Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Thanksgiving: 324 – Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor

Preparation: 268 – Of the Father’s Love Begotten

Response: 314 – God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

Attendance & Giving Updates

<i>As of 12/22/2024</i>	12/15/2024:	2024 Totals:	2024 Budget Surplus <i>As of 11/30/2024</i>
General Offering	\$9,252.29	\$296,543.50	\$3,574.04
Deacons’ Benevolence	\$100.00	\$3,010.47	
Attendance 12/15: AM Worship – 118 Sunday School - 62 PM Worship – 25			

Looking Ahead

January 2025

- 1/1 Wed – Happy New Year! (No prayer meeting)
- 1/4 Sat – Ice Skating @ Veteran's Park 9:30-11:30
- 1/5 Sun – 1st Sunday Fellowship meal w/ Cards of Encouragement (No Sunday School)
- 1/6 Mon – Christmas Undecorating Party 5pm
- 1/8 Wed – Prayer Meeting 6:30pm
- 1/11 Sat – Women's Bible Study Kick-off Luncheon 11am
- 1/12 Sun – Last day to submit nominations for church officers
- 1/15 Wed – Missions Team Meeting 4:30pm, Prayer Meeting 6:30pm
- 1/22 Wed – Prayer Meeting 6:30pm
- 1/24 Fri – Friday Night Bible Study
- 1/29 Wed – Prayer Meeting 6:30pm

February 2025

- 2/2 Sun – Short Presentation by Tina Rowley of CareNet followed by 1st Sunday Fellowship meal w/ Cards of Encouragement (No Sunday School)
- 2/5 Wed – Session meeting 4:30pm, Prayer Meeting 6:30pm
- 2/7 Fri – Friday Night Bible Study
- 2/12 Wed – Prayer Meeting 6:30pm
- 2/16 Sun - Annual Congregational Meeting (No Sunday School)
- 2/19 Wed – Prayer Meeting 6:30pm
- 2/21 Fri – Friday Night Bible Study
- 2/26 Wed – Prayer Meeting 6:30pm

March 2025

- 3/2 Sun – 1st Sunday Fellowship meal w/ Cards of Encouragement (No Sunday School)
- 3/5 Wed – Session meeting 4:30pm, Prayer Meeting 6:30pm
- 3/7 Fri – Friday Night Bible Study
- 3/8 Sat – Women's Bible Study large group meeting
- 3/12 Wed – Prayer Meeting 6:30pm
- 3/19 Wed – Prayer Meeting 6:30pm
- 3/21 Fri – Friday Night Bible Study

Announcements

Christmas Choirs

Children's Christmas choir will start rehearsals today immediately following morning service at the piano.

Adult Christmas choir will rehearse right after the children's choir rehearsal.

Nomination Season

Our Session has opened the season for the congregation to nominate candidates for the offices of Deacon and Elder through January 12, 2025. During this window we will be using the offering box in the entry hall to collect nomination ballots which may be submitted by any communicant member of Grace Presbyterian Church. Ballots will be available on the table under the collection box. An insert explaining the qualifications of each of these offices can be found by the ballots. Please direct any questions to any member of our Session.

Office hours in December

Week of 12/23: M & T – 10am-4pm, W - F Closed

Week of 12/30: M - W Closed, 1/2 - 1/3/25 Th & F – 10am-4pm

Christmas Eve Lessons & Carol Service

Our Annual Christmas Eve service will happen on Tuesday, December 24th at 6:30pm. After service we will have a time of fellowship with cookies and hot chocolate (and coffee/tea). There are small flyers on the foyer table for you to use to invite co-workers, friends, and family.

Ice Skating in Veteran's Park on Saturday, January 4th

You are all cordially invited to come ice skating with the church at Veterans Memorial Park on **January 4th from 9:30am-11:30am!** It is free of charge, as the church has already paid for this reservation during those hours, and ice skates of every size are provided. *Even if you can't or don't want to ice skate, please come on out and enjoy the fun and fellowship.* We'll also have hot chocolate and snacks! Contact Ryan Ellison with any questions.

1st Sunday Fellowship Meal

Sunday January 5th will be our first 1st Sunday Fellowship Meal of 2025! We ask each family to consider bringing a main dish. Additionally if your last name begins with A through J, we ask that you also bring a dessert; if K through Z, we ask you to also bring a side dish or salad of your choice. Please contact Deacon Ryan Ellison or Deacon Paul Northcutt if you have any questions.

Cards of Encouragement

The Woman's Ministry team presents "**Cards of Encouragement**" which will be available at the First Sunday Potluck each month. The congregation is invited to stop by, sign and write a short note to those who are celebrating birthdays, anniversaries or to build up our missionaries! Let's be a family who joins in celebrations with one another!

If you would like to receive a card from your church family to celebrate your birthday and/or anniversary, please be sure to add your name (as well as those in your household) to the calendar on the foyer table.

Women's Bible Study

The Women's Ministry team at Grace would like to invite you to join us as we study the Gospel of John. The year-long study will involve both small group accountability and large group teaching/fellowship. You will find below a list of dates for the large group events for the whole year. Sign-up by going to <https://forms.gle/KndVVmAVE1sjK5fq5> or use the link in the weekly church email. Contact Jodi Marvel with any questions.

We will have our **kick-off luncheon on Saturday, January 11, 2025 at 11:00 am**. Our time together will include an update on women's ministry and an introduction to the Gospel of John bible study. Please bring your Bible and a notebook!

Gospel of John Large Group dates for 2025 (Saturdays at the church):

January 11

June 21

March 8

September 13

May 10

November 8

Please join us
on Tuesday, December 24th at 6:30pm
for our Christmas Eve
Lesson & Carols service!

Fellowship with treats and hot drinks immediately afterwards.



GRACE

Presbyterian Church

WELCOME

Welcome to Grace Presbyterian Church! We are honored that you chose to worship with us today. We would like to get to know you better, so please fill out the Connection Card (found in the pockets on the back of each pew) and place in the box on the wall in the foyer.

Grace Presbyterian Church is a member congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA). The PCA was founded in 1973 in order to uphold the truth of God's Word. Our denominational motto is "Faithful to the Scriptures, True to the Reformed faith, Obedient to the Great Commission of Jesus Christ." This is the driving heartbeat of our congregation.

We call our worship services "Divine Service" because we believe that our Triune God meets with us and satisfies our deepest needs when we come to give him the reverent worship which he is due. Whether this is your first time visiting or if you have been here many times before, we pray that the Lord would minister to you richly in Word, in Prayer, and in Sacrament, and that the Lord Jesus Christ would be increasingly exalted in your heart as we worship him together this Lord's Day.

Pastors

Judson Marvel, *Pastor*
pastorjmarvel@gpcsv.org | 518.657.6311

Ken Roth, *Pastor Emeritus*
Ps34_ate@hotmail.com

Ruling Elders

Max Ellis
Larry Walker, *Clerk of the Session*
Richard Wolfe, *Emeritus*

Deacons

James Bukle, *Chairman*
Phillip McCluskey, *Secretary*
Paul Northcutt, *Treasurer*
Ryan Ellison
Doug Kremer, *Emeritus*

Office

Susi Childress, *Church Secretary*
office@gpcsv.org | 520.458.0034
Hours: 12/23-24: 10am-4pm; 12/25-27: *closed*

Women's Ministry Team

Contact: Jodi Marvel

Communion and Fellowship Snack Prep

Contact: Bonnie Northcutt

Children's Sunday School Superintendent

Contact: RE Walker