



**GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;  
to all who mourn and long for comfort;  
to all who struggle and desire victory;  
to all who sin and need a Savior;  
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;  
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;  
and to all who will come,  
this church opens wide her doors  
and offers welcome  
in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

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***Church Staff & Officers***

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**Brad Wright**

*Lead Pastor*

**Kyle Bobos**

*Associate Pastor*

**Jaime Jimenez**

*Assistant Pastor*

**Caleb McDuffee**

*Student Ministries*

**Elders**

*Brent Allmon*

*Dan Brink*

*Jon Green*

*Rob McIntosh*

*Mark Moore*

*Andy Yung*

**Deacons**

*Matt Bradshaw*

*Mark Hill*

*Scott Johnston*

*Mike Ryan*

*Joe Tison*

*Sunny Yung*

## Reflections

Ash Wednesday is a reminder that humanity needs a Savior because we are but dust and ashes. We need a Savior because the only person who could save us from death is the one who gave us life in the first place. Jesus Christ, who is Life itself, was our last and our only hope.

– Theresa Aletheia Noble, FSP  
*Remember Your Death: Memento Mori*

There are two moments that matter. One is when you know that your one and only life is absolutely valuable and alive. The other is when you know your life, as presently lived, is entirely pointless and empty. You need both of them to keep you going in the right direction. Lent is about both. The first such moment gives you energy and joy by connecting you with your ultimate Source and Ground. The second gives you limits and boundaries, and a proper humility, so you keep seeking the Source and Ground and not just your small self.

– Richard Rohr  
*Wondrous Encounters for Lent*

There is no way salvation can be absorbed from a Christian environment. There is no such thing as “growth into grace,” because grace would then come as a result of human effort, and the free-gift character of grace would be destroyed. Discipline, study and moral training cannot do the job, because human beings have a rotten root. So long as we look within ourselves for the source of life, we know nothing of Christ. But if we are grafted into Christ, if we are rooted in Christ, then we can grow in grace. But we will never have the power to grow *into* grace as a work of moral reformation.

– C. John Miller  
*Repentance*

# Grace Presbyterian Church

February 14, 2024

*Ash Wednesday Service*

6:00 p.m.

## Prelude

## Words of Welcome<sup>1</sup>

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*Praise*

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## Call to Worship

*based on John 3:17, Psalm 46:1-3*

Leader: God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

*People: God's love endures forever.*

Leader: God is our refuge and strength,  
an ever-present help in trouble.  
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way  
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,  
though its waters roar and foam  
and the mountains quake with their surging.

*People: God's love endures forever.*

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<sup>1</sup> As a courtesy, please program all communication devices to silent mode. Thank you!

## Song

## *Jesus I My Cross Have Taken*

Henry Lyte

Jesus, I my cross have taken,  
All to leave and follow Thee.  
Destitute, despised, forsaken,  
Thou from hence my all shall be.  
Perish every fond ambition,  
All I've sought or hoped or known.  
Yet how rich is my condition!  
God and heaven are still my own.

Let the world despise and leave me,  
They have left my Savior, too.  
Human hearts and looks deceive me;  
Thou art not, like them, untrue.  
O while Thou dost smile upon me,  
God of wisdom, love, and might,  
Foes may hate and friends disown me,  
Show Thy face and all is bright.

Man may trouble and distress me,  
'Twill but drive me to Thy breast.  
Life with trials hard may press me;  
Heaven will bring me sweeter rest.  
Oh, 'tis not in grief to harm me  
While Thy love is left to me;  
Oh, 'twere not in joy to charm me,  
Were that joy unmixed with Thee.

Soul, then know thy full salvation  
Rise o'er sin and fear and care  
Joy to find in every station,  
Something still to do or bear.  
Think what Spirit dwells within thee,  
Think what Father's smiles are thine,  
Think that Jesus died to win thee,  
Child of heaven, cry out to him.

## Scripture Reading

**Matthew 27:3-5; John 21:1-8**

When Judas, who had betrayed him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he was seized with remorse and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. 4 “I have sinned,” he said, “for I have betrayed innocent blood.”

“What is that to us?” they replied. “That’s your responsibility.”

5 So Judas threw the money into the temple and left. Then he went away and hanged himself.

Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: 2 Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. 3 “I’m going out to fish,” Simon Peter told them, and they said, “We’ll go with you.” So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

4 Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.

5 He called out to them, “Friends, haven’t you any fish?”

“No,” they answered.

6 He said, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.” When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

7 Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, “It is the Lord,” he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. 8 The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards.

**Lenten Meditation**

**Mr. Kyle Bobos**

**Invitation to the Observance of the Lenten Discipline**

## Confession of Sin

(A brief period of silence is observed between each confession)

Minister: Merciful Lord, please forgive our sins and set us free from them.

Minister: We confess to the sin of pride:

*People: We have been sure of our own goodness and importance and have looked down on others. Help us to appreciate the true worth of other people.*

Minister: We confess to the sin of envy:

*People: We have been displeased when others have been more successful or sought after than we have been. Help us to be glad when others prosper.*

Minister: We confess the sin of anger:

*People: We have lost our tempers and nursed grievances. Help us to be patient and understanding with everyone.*

Minister: We confess to the sin of self-indulgence:

*People: We have had enough and to spare, yet we have neglected the needs of others. Help us to deny ourselves so that others may not be in want.*

Minister: We confess to the sin of unchastity:

*People: In one way or another we have used sex wrongly. Help us to create and uphold right relations between men and women, inside marriage and outside it.*

Minister: We confess to the sin of anxiety:

*People: We have worried about many things. Help us to trust you to see us through.*

Minister: We confess to the sin of laziness:

*People: We have been lukewarm in our faith. Make us eager to do your will.*

## Song

## *Jesus, Lover of My Soul*

*Charles Wesley and Greg Thompson*

Jesus, lover of my soul,  
Let me to Thy bosom fly,  
While the nearer waters roll,  
While the tempest still is high.  
Hide me, O my Savior, hide,  
Till the storm is past;  
Safe into the haven guide;  
Receive my soul at last.

Other refuge have I none,  
Hangs my helpless soul on Thee;  
Leave, ah! leave me not alone,  
Still support and comfort me!  
All my trust on Thee is stayed,  
All my help from Thee I bring;  
Cover my defenseless head  
With the shadow of Thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, art all I want,  
more than all in thee I find;  
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,  
Heal the sick, and lead the blind.  
Just and holy is Thy Name,  
I am all unrighteousness;  
False and full of sin I am;  
Thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with Thee is found,  
Grace to cover all my sin;  
Let the healing streams abound;  
Make and keep me pure within.  
Thou of life the fountain art,  
Freely let me take of Thee;  
Spring Thou up within my heart;  
Rise to all eternity.



## Prayer

*Minister  
& People:*

*Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth: Grant that these ashes may be a sign of our mortality and penitence, that we may remember that it is only by your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.*

## Imposition of Ashes

**Genesis 3:19**

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

## Doxology

Thomas Ken & Bob Kauflin

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.

## Concluding Prayer

*Leader:* Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

*People:* *that we may show forth your glory in the world.*

*Leader:* By the cross and passion of our Savior,

*People:* *bring us with all your saints to the joy of Christ's resurrection.*

## **Benediction<sup>2</sup>**

*based on I Thessalonians 5:23*

May the God of peace make you holy in every way and keep your whole being – spirit, soul, and body – free from fault at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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<sup>2</sup>The benediction is much more than a wish or even a prayer. It is a renewed ordination of the people of God to their service to each other, to their community and the world. God declares his own favor toward his people.



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