



**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*

*Damon Webster*

*Andy Yung*

**Diaconal Ministry Team**

*Byron Bevers*

*Matt Bradshaw*

*Ann Green*

*Mark Hill*

*Scott Johnston*

*Jennifer McIntosh*

*Bev Moncla*

*Mike Ryan*

*Joe Tison*

*Sunny Yung*

Grace Church is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).

## Reflections

The light of Christ is the sole source of all true enlightenment. Without Him, there is nothing but darkness and confusion.

- John Calvin

We can easily forgive a child who is afraid of the dark; the real tragedy of life is when men are afraid of the light.

- Plato

If you gaze long enough into the abyss, the abyss will gaze back into you. But one must also carry a light strong enough to bear it.

- Friedrich Nietzsche

+ ADVENT + CHRISTMAS + **EPIPHANY** + LENT + EASTER + PENTECOST +

### **EPIPHANY SEASON**

The word epiphany is used three times in the Scriptures. Two of the references speak of the second coming (Titus 2:13 & 2 Thess. 2:8). The third time the word epiphany appears, it refers to the first coming of Christ that brings grace to abolish death and bring both life and immortality through the gospel (2 Tim. 1:9-10). Epiphany ends the season of Christmas and leads us further into the life of Jesus, leading up to his baptism and ministry. We now begin to reflect on Jesus as the manifestation of God's love by sending his one and only son into the world so that we might live through him (I John 4:9). Jesus fulfills the Father's promise to bring his kingdom of peace and hope to our world.

# Grace Presbyterian Church

The Lord's Day, February 2, 2025

10:30 am

## Prelude

## Words of Welcome

## Preparation for Worship<sup>1</sup>

\_\_\_\_\_ *Praise* \_\_\_\_\_

## Call to Worship

**Psalm 46:1-3, 7**

**Minister:** God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

**People:** *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.*

**All:** *The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.*

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

## **Song of Praise**

## *Be Thou My Vision*

Eleanor Henrietta Hull and Mary Elizabeth Byrne

Be Thou my vision  
O Lord of my heart  
Naught be all else to me  
Save that Thou art  
Thou my best thought  
By day or by night  
Waking or sleeping  
Thy presence my light

Be Thou my wisdom  
And Thou my true Word  
I ever with Thee  
And Thou with me Lord  
Thou my great Father  
I Thy true son  
Thou in me dwelling  
And I with Thee one

High King of heaven  
My victory won  
May I reach heaven's joy  
O bright heaven's son  
Heart of my own heart  
Whatever befall  
Still by my vision  
O ruler of all

## **Prayer of Adoration**

## Song of Adoration

## *Oh How Good It Is*

Stuart Townend, Kristyn Getty, Keith Getty, and Ross Holmes

Oh how good it is  
When the family of God  
Dwells together in spirit  
In faith and unity  
Where the bonds of peace  
Of acceptance and love  
Are the fruit of His presence  
Here among us

Chorus:  
So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord  
And with one heart we'll live out His word  
Till the whole earth sees  
The Redeemer has come  
For He dwells in the presence of His people

Oh how good it is  
On this journey we share  
To rejoice with the happy  
And weep with those who mourn  
For the weak find strength  
The afflicted find grace  
When we offer the blessing  
Of belonging (chorus)

Oh how good it is  
To embrace His command  
To prefer one another  
Forgive as He forgives  
When we live as one  
We all share in the love  
Of the Son with the Father  
And the Spirit (chorus)

## Renewal

### Call to Renewal

Matthew 6:33-34

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

### Confession of Sin

Psalm 25:6-8, 11, 16-18

*Minister*

*& People:*

*Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD! Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. For your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great. Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. Relieve the troubles of my heart, and bring me out of my distress. Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins. We ask this in Christ's name, AMEN.*

### Private Confession and Reflection

### Words of Encouragement

Psalm 10:3-8, 10-12

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our transgressions from us.

## Song of Thanksgiving

## Amazing Grace

John P. Rees, Edwin Othello Excell, and John Newton

Amazing grace how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost but now am found  
Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
And grace my fears relieved  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed

The Lord has promised good to me  
His Word my hope secures  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures

Through many dangers toils and snares  
I have already come  
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far  
And grace will lead me home

## The Prayers of the People (concluded with the Lord's prayer)

*Our Father, who 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!*

## The Peace of God and Announcements

Minister:       The peace of Christ be with you.

People:         *And also with you!*

*If parents prefer, children 4 years old – 2nd grade  
are invited to attend Children's Church in the Education Building at this time.*



## Doxology

Thomas Ken & Bob Kauflin

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
In heaven above and earth below  
Praise God the Father and the Son  
Praise God the Spirit, three-in-one. Amen.

## Announcements

\_\_\_\_\_ *Commitment* \_\_\_\_\_

## The Offering

The offering is a way for members and friends of Grace Church to support the church's mission and ministry. If you are our guest today, please feel under no compulsion to give.

## Scripture Reading

**John 9:35-41**

35 Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

36 "Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him."

37 Jesus said, "You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you."

38 Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him.

39 Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind."

40 Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, "What? Are we blind too?"

41 Jesus said, "If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains."

Minister: This is the Word of the LORD.

*People: Thanks be to God!*

## Sermon

Pastor Brad Wright

### *What Do You See?* **I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE**

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## **Communion**

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### *Guidelines for Reception of Communion*

*Communion is the family meal for Christians. We welcome all committed followers of Jesus Christ to partake of this sacrament: those who are baptized members of a congregation which proclaims the gospel, who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer using the prayers that follow as guidelines. We hope that this time is helpful as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ, and with his people, the church.*

## The Great Thanksgiving

Minister: Therefore, lift up your hearts.

*People: We lift them up to the Lord!*

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

*People: It is right to give him thanks and praise!*

Minister: Together we proclaim the mystery of faith.

*All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!*

## Song of Communion

## *How Deep The Father's Love For Us*

Stuart Townend

How deep the Father's love for us  
How vast beyond all measure  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure  
How great the pain of searing loss  
The Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory

Behold the Man upon a cross  
My sin upon His shoulders  
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers  
It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished  
His dying breath has brought me life  
I know that it is finished

## Prayer of Consecration and the Words of Institution

### Prayer for those not communing:

#### Prayer for Covenant Children (Not Yet Confirmed)

Lord Jesus, thank you for placing me inside your family, the church. Help me more and more to know you, to love you, and to follow you as your faithful disciple. Amen.

#### Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

#### Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior. Amen.

#### Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my needs, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking only to you, the author and finisher of my faith. Amen.

#### Prayer of Commitment

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

## Distribution of the Bread and the Cup

Once the stations are ready, please come forward, row by row, to receive the elements. Once everyone has returned to their seat, we will stand together and sing the final verse from our Song of Commitment.

## Song of Commitment

*How Deep The Father's Love For Us*

Stuart Townend

I will not boast in anything  
No gifts no pow'r no wisdom  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ  
His death and resurrection  
Why should I gain from His reward  
I cannot give an answer  
But this I know with all my heart  
His wounds have paid my ransom

## Benediction<sup>2</sup>

**2 Thessalonians 3:16**

Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way.  
The Lord be with all of you.

## Dismissal

Minister: Now, let us go forth to serve this community and the world as those  
who love our Lord Jesus Christ.

*All: Thanks be to God!*

*The pastoral staff and other church leaders are available following the service to pray with you or to answer your questions about the Christian faith or Grace Church.*

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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.

Worship Music

Joe Beam, percussion  
Lorie Jones, piano  
Fang Daniels, cello  
Stephanie Taylor, vocals  
Tim Taylor, guitar and vocals

\_\_\_\_\_ Welcome, Guests! \_\_\_\_\_

**Welcome to Grace Presbyterian Church!** If you would like us to keep you in the loop with what's going on at GPC, *please take a moment to fill out the visitor information form by using the QR code.* We would be happy to meet you!



**Ways to Connect at Grace** where you can explore, engage, and get involved throughout the week.

- **Church Center App** (GPC Woodlands), use this QR code for a quick link to the app.
- **Our church website**, <https://www.gracewoodlands.org/>



\_\_\_\_\_ Announcements \_\_\_\_\_

**Our Grace Guest** wifi password is *GraceGuest*.

**Stewardship Update:** Grace thanks you so much for your generous gifts and offerings to our Savior for 2024.

	<u>2024</u>
2024 General Fund Budget	\$1,191,526
Actual General Fund Receipts	\$1,277,595
Variance	\$86,069

**Children's Ministries:**

- **Parents of Infants-Three-Yr Olds:** Our nursery classes (ages 8 weeks thru 3 years) provide a warm, nurturing, and well-supervised environment. Our Staff welcomes

the opportunity to love your child! When using the nursery, please check-in and label all items (bags, cups, etc.) with your child's name. Contact our Families Pastor, Kyle Bobos, at [kyle@gpcwoodlands.org](mailto:kyle@gpcwoodlands.org) if you have any questions about the nursery.

- **Children's Church is for children ages 4 through 2nd grade.** During the passing of the peace, the children line up with their leader in the back of the sanctuary to exit worship. During the song of communion, children will rejoin their families to observe communion with the rest of the church body. We will gather in room 108 in the Education Building to sing songs, pray, and hear a children's sermon.

**Banners Explained:** The banners hanging today are textile renderings of watercolor originals by Kirsten Malcolm Berry. The banner on the left is her interpretation of Matthew 28:19 ("Go therefore and make disciples of all nations"). The one on the right depicts 2 Corinthians 5:18 ("All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation"). Each piece includes the Greek text. The works are mounted on a background of blue, a color of hope and promise. The designs were reproduced with the artist's permission. You can view more of Ms. Berry's work at [www.kirstenmalcolmberry.com](http://www.kirstenmalcolmberry.com).

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