



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.*

Church Staff & Officers

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

"Death is the way to fruitfulness. Unless it dies, the seed remains alone. But if it dies, it multiplies. It was so for the Messiah; it is the same for the Messiah's community, for "whoever serves me must follow me" (John 12:26)"

— John Stott

"Sow in our hearts, gracious Lord, the seed of your own life, and love, that we in turn may give our lives as seed that will bear fruit in your kingdom. Amen."

— N.T. Wright

+ 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 23, 2025

10:30 am

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Preparation for Worship¹

_____ *Praise* _____

Call to Worship

Minister: Come, let us worship our God and King.

People: He is our God and we are his people!

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

Song of Praise

All Glory Laud And Honor

Melchior Teschner, Theodulph Of Orleans, and John Mason Neale

All glory laud and honor
To Thee Redeemer King
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring
Thou art the King of Israel
Thou David's royal Son
Who in the Lord's name comest
The King and Blessed One

The people of the Hebrews
With palms before Thee went
Our praise and prayer and anthems
Before Thee we present
To Thee before Thy passion
They sang their hymns of praise
To Thee now high exalted
Our melody we raise

Thou didst accept their praises
Accept the prayers we bring
Who in all good delightest
Thou good and gracious King
All glory, laud, and honor
To thee, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring!

Prayer of Adoration

Confession of Faith

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic² church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Song of Adoration

Let Us Love And Sing And Wonder

John Newton and Laura Taylor

Let us love and sing and wonder
Let us praise the Savior's name
He has hushed the law's loud thunder
He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame
He has washed us with His blood (3x)
He has brought us nigh to God

Let us love the Lord who bought us
Pitied us when enemies
Called us by His grace and taught us
Gave us ears and gave us eyes
He has washed us with His blood (3x)
He presents our souls to God

Let us sing though fierce temptation
Threatens hard to bear us down
For the Lord our strong salvation
Holds in view the conqu'ror's crown
He who washed us with His blood (3x)
Soon will bring us home to God

² that is, the true Christian church of all times and all places.

Let us wonder grace and justice
Join and point to mercy's store
When through grace in Christ our trust is
Justice smiles and asks no more
He who washed us with His blood (3x)
Has secured our way to God

Renewal

Call to Renewal

2 Cor. 5:15

And he [Jesus] died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

Confession of Sin

Minister

& People:

Generous God, You send us the Spirit of courage, but we have been afraid. You send us the Spirit of truth, but we cling to our illusions. You send us the Spirit of healing, but we cannot let go of our hurts. Holy Spirit of forgiveness, come to us again: shake our hearts, set our souls on fire with Your love: send us out into the world rejoicing in Your power. We hold out to You all our particular burdens of guilt and sin, and we ask for Your help to live the way of Your justice and love. Amen.

Private Confession and Reflection

Words of Encouragement

Romans 8:1

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Song of Thanksgiving

The Church's One Foundation

Samuel John Stone

The church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord
She is his new creation
By water and the word
From heaven he came and sought her
To be his holy bride
With his own blood he bought her
And for her life he died

Elect from every nation
Yet one over all the earth
Her charter of salvation
One Lord, one faith, one birth
One holy Name she blesses
Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses
With every grace endued

The church shall never perish
Her dear Lord to defend
To guide, sustain and cherish
Is with her to the end
Though there be those that hate her
And false sons in her pale
Against a foe or traitor
She ever shall prevail

Mid toil and tribulation
And tumult of her war
She waits the consummation
Of peace for evermore
Till with the vision glorious
Her longing eyes are blessed
At last the church victorious
Shall be the church at rest

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 12:20-36

Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. 21 They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. "Sir," they said, "we would like to see Jesus." 22 Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.

23 Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24 Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. 25 Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. 26 Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

27 "Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. 28 Father, glorify your name!"

Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again." 29 The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.

30 Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not mine. 31 Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. 32 And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." 33 He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

34 The crowd spoke up, "We have heard from the Law that the Messiah will remain forever, so how can you say, 'The Son of Man must be lifted up'? Who is this 'Son of Man'?"

35 Then Jesus told them, "You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. Whoever walks in the dark does not know where they are going. 36 Believe in the light while you have the light, so that you may become children of light." When he had finished speaking, Jesus left and hid himself from them.

Minister: This is the Word of the LORD.

People: Thanks be to God!

The Turning Point
I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE

Communion

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

Christ Our Hope In Life And Death

Jordan Kauflin, Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, and Matthew Merker

What is our hope in life and death
Christ alone Christ alone
What is our only confidence
That our souls to Him belong
Who holds our days within His hand
What comes apart from His command
And what will keep us to the end
The love of Christ in which we stand

Chorus:
O sing hallelujah
Our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

What truth can calm the troubled soul
God is good God is good
Where is His grace and goodness known
In our great Redeemer's blood
Who holds our faith when fears arise
Who stands above the stormy trial
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
Unto the shore the rock of Christ (chorus)

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

Christ Our Hope In Life And Death

Jordan Kauflin, Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, and Matthew Merker

Unto the grave what will we sing
Christ He lives Christ He lives
And what reward will heaven bring
Everlasting life with Him
There we will rise to meet the Lord
Then sin and death will be destroyed
And we will feast in endless joy
When Christ is ours forevermore

Chorus:

O sing hallelujah
Our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death (2x)

Benediction³

Numbers 6:24-26

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.

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.

³ 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
Daniel Campbell, piano
Fang Daniels, cello

Jennifer Reddick, flute
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 2025.

	<u>2025</u>	
January GF Budget	\$100,000	
Actual January GF Receipts	\$101,105	
Variance	\$1,105	*2025 GF Budget \$1,200,00

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 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.