



**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*

*Andy Yung*

**Deacons**

*Matt Bradshaw*

*Mark Hill*

*Scott Johnston*

*Mike Ryan*

*Joe Tison*

*Sunny Yung*

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

## Reflections

Faith consists in believing when it is beyond the power of reason to believe.

– Voltaire

Now we shall possess a right definition of faith if we call it a firm and certain knowledge of God's benevolence toward us, founded upon the truth of the freely given promise in Christ, both revealed to our minds and sealed upon our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

– John Calvin, 16th century Reformer

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

In the Christian year, Easter is indeed an event - the event of the glorious resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Easter is the source event of all the events of the Christian year. It is like the neck of the hourglass. Every event of the Christian year flows into Easter, even as all the events of the Christian year flow from Easter. The notion that Christ must be resurrected in us is a primary theme for Easter Sunday. Indeed the personal dimension of the entire Christian year flows from this subjective experience of the Easter event. If Christ has truly been raised in us, then we can experience the waiting of Advent and the joy of Christmas. We can become an epiphany. We can truly walk the Lenten road that leads us to the resurrection. Easter is also a season that extends from Easter Sunday to Pentecost, taking us through Jesus' ascension to the beginning of the church.

*Webber, Robert E. – Ancient-Future Time (Ancient-Future): Forming Spirituality through the Christian Year.*

Grace Presbyterian Church

The Lord's Day, April 21, 2024

*Fourth Sunday of Eastertide*

10:30 am

**Prelude**

**Words of Welcome**

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

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

**Call to Worship**

**Psalm 117**

**Minister:** Praise the LORD, all you nations; extol him, all you peoples.

**People:** *For great is his love towards us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.*

**All:** *Praise the LORD.*

---

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

## **Song of Praise**

## *We Come O Christ To Thee*

*Margaret Clarkson*

We come O Christ to You  
True Son of God and man  
By whom all things consist  
In whom all life began  
In You alone we live and move  
And have our being in Your love

You are the way to God  
Your blood our ransom paid  
In You we face our judge  
And maker unafraid  
Before the throne absolved we stand  
Your love has met Your law's demand

You only are true life  
To know You is to live  
The more abundant life  
That earth can never give  
O risen Lord we live in You  
And You in us eternally

## **Prayer of Adoration**

## Song of Adoration

## *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Robert Robinson & John Wyeth

Come Thou fount of every blessing  
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace  
Streams of mercy never ceasing  
Call for songs of loudest praise  
Teach me some melodious sonnet  
Sung by flaming tongues above  
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it  
Mount of Thy redeeming love

Here I raise my Ebenezer  
Here by Thy great help I've come  
And I hope by Thy good pleasure  
Safely to arrive at home  
Jesus sought me when a stranger  
Wandering from the fold of God  
He to rescue me from danger  
Interposed His precious blood

Oh, to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be  
Let Thy goodness like a fetter  
Bind my wandering heart to Thee  
Prone to wander, Lord I feel it  
Prone to leave the God I love  
Here's my heart, oh take and seal it  
Seal it for Thy courts above

## Call to Renewal

I John 4:16

And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.

## Confession of Sin

*Minister  
& People:*

*Heavenly Father, In the gospel, you have given us the rich treasure of forgiveness, life, and immortality. Yet we have been ashamed of that incredible gift and have often devalued and hidden it by our words and actions. At times, we live as though we don't know you and we have denied being associated with you or your church. We have brought dishonor to your name when we have loudly proclaimed our faith and then spoken harshly or behaved rudely, judging and condemning those who don't agree with us. We mock the gospel when we live as though you love us more when we're good than when we struggle and fail. Forgive us.*

*Thank you that the gospel is still true even when we are embarrassed by it, neglect it, and are bored by it. Thank you that our assurance is rooted in Jesus' perfect obedience, life, death, and resurrection. We are undone by your kindness. Help us to treasure the good news of the gospel in our hearts and lives. Help us to believe and experience its cleansing power, to forgive those who sin against us, and to communicate the truth, hope, power, and love of your gospel in our lives and actions so that Christ will be known and treasured by those around us. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

## Private Confession and Reflection

### Words of Encouragement

I John 2:1-2

My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

### Sacrament of Baptism

Nolan Patrick Novak

### Song of Baptism

*The Blessing*  
Michael Card

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you.  
And give you peace, and give you peace,  
And give you peace forever.

The Lord be gracious to you.  
The Lord turn His face towards you.  
And give you peace, and give you peace,  
And give you peace forever.



## Song of Thanksgiving

*In Christ Alone*  
Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

In Christ alone my hope is found  
He is my light my strength my song  
This Cornerstone this solid Ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled when strivings cease  
My Comforter my All in All  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
Till on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day  
Up from the grave He rose again  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

## **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**

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**

**Jonah 1:10-17**

10 This terrified them and they asked, "What have you done?" (They knew he was running away from the LORD, because he had already told them so.)

11 The sea was getting rougher and rougher. So they asked him, "What should we do to you to make the sea calm down for us?"

12 "Pick me up and throw me into the sea," he replied, "and it will become calm. I know that it is my fault that this great storm has come upon you."

13 Instead, the men did their best to row back to land. But they could not, for the sea grew even wilder than before. 14 Then they cried out to the LORD, "Please, LORD, do not let us die for taking this man's life. Do not hold us accountable for killing an innocent man, for you, LORD, have done as you pleased." 15 Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard, and the raging sea grew calm. 16 At this the men greatly feared the LORD, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows to him.

17 Now the LORD provided a huge fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

**Minister:** This is the Word of the LORD.

**People:** *Thanks be to God!*

*EXIT STRATEGY*  
*JONAH*

---

*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

*All Must Be Well*

Mary Bowly Peters and Matthew S. Smith

Through the love of God our Savior all will be well  
Free and changeless is His favor all is well  
Precious is the blood that healed us  
Perfect is the grace that sealed us  
Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us  
All must be well

Though we pass through tribulation all will be well  
Ours is such a full salvation all is well  
Happy still in God confiding  
Fruitful if in Christ abiding  
Steadfast through the Spirit's guiding  
All must be well

## 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**

*All Must Be Well*

Mary Bowly Peters and Matthew S. Smith

We expect a bright tomorrow all will be well  
Faith can sing through days of sorrow all is well  
On our Father's love relying  
Jesus ev'ry need supplying  
Yes in living and in dying  
All must be well

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

**Ephesians 3:20-21**

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

---

<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.

## 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*

## Worship Music

Fang Daniels, cello  
Zee Johnson, percussion  
Joseph Kay, vocalist  
Debra Moses, vocalist  
Rae Moses, piano  
Jennifer Reddick, flute  
Hetti Prior, violin

\_\_\_\_\_ **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.

General Fund Giving for March: \$106,768

\$297,881: Jan. - March 2024 General Fund Budget

\$228,148: Jan. - March 2024 Actual General Fund Income

**(\$69,733): 2024 Variance**

\*2024 GF Budget \$1,191,526

### 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:** Easter Sunday begins a fifty-day season of renewal known as Eastertide. This season is marked by white banners that will hang in the sanctuary until the Day of Pentecost.

The banner on the left is a reproduction of one found in ancient catacombs. The white background represents newness, freshness, and purity; the red of the cross symbolizes the work that Jesus did on our behalf. It is complemented with the first and last letters of the Greek name for Jesus (IC), the first and last letters of the Greek word for Christ (XC), and the Greek word for Conqueror (NIKA). The short bars above the letters indicate that they are abbreviations.

On the right, the circle of the Celtic Cross is a symbol of eternity as well but emphasizing the endlessness of God's love as shown through Christ's sacrifice on the cross.

8989 Woodlands Pkwy, The Woodlands TX, 77382 / Phone: 281-296-0911  
[www.gpcwoodlands.org](http://www.gpcwoodlands.org)