



**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*

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

## Reflections

When we sin and mess up our lives, we find that God doesn't go off and leave us- he enters into our trouble and saves us.

– Eugene Peterson

Grace is a gift that costs everything for the giver and nothing for the recipient.

– Philip Yancey

Nobody who understands the free grace of God takes sin lightly.

– Timothy Keller

+ 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, May 5, 2024

*Sixth Sunday of Eastertide*

10:30 am

**Prelude**

**Words of Welcome**

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

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

**Call to Worship**

based on **Psalm 20:5, Isaiah 12:6**

Minister: Let us shout for joy over your salvation.

**ALL:** *Shout and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.*

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

## **Song of Praise**

*O Worship The King*  
*Johann Michael Haydn and Robert Grant*

O worship the King all glorious above  
And gratefully sing His power and His love  
Our Shield and Defender the Ancient of Days  
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise

O tell of His might O sing of His grace  
Whose robe is the light whose canopy space  
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form  
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm

The earth with its store of wonders untold  
Almighty Thy power hath founded of old  
Established it fast by a changeless decree  
And round it hath cast like a mantle the sea

## **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 catholic<sup>2</sup> church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

## Song of Adoration

## *Graves Into Gardens*

Brandon Lake, Chris Brown, Steven Furtick, and Tiffany Hammer

I searched the world  
But it couldn't fill me  
Man's empty praise  
And treasures that fade  
Are never enough

Then You came along  
And put me back together  
And every desire  
Is now satisfied  
Here in Your love

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<sup>2</sup> *\*that is, the true Christian church of all times and all places*

Chorus 1:

Oh, there's nothing better than You  
There's nothing better than You  
Lord, there's nothing  
Nothing is better than You

I'm not afraid  
To show You my weakness  
My failures and flaws  
Lord, You've seen 'em all  
And You still call me friend

'Cause the God of the mountain  
Is the God of the valley  
There's not a place  
Your mercy and grace  
Won't find me again (chorus 1)

Chorus 2:

You turn mourning to dancing  
You give beauty for ashes  
You turn shame into glory  
You're the only one who can

You turn graves into gardens  
You turn bones into armies  
You turn seas into highways  
You're the only one who can  
You're the only one who can (chorus 1)

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*Renewal*

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## **Call to Renewal**

**John 10:27-30**

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. 30 I and the Father are one.

## **Confession of Sin**

Loving Heavenly Father, We thank you for giving us faith to cry out to you for help. In our distress, you heard our cry and rescued us from ourselves and the punishment we deserve. While we were still sinners, you brought us out of the darkness into the light of your love and pleasure. We admit that our hearts should be overflowing with joy and gratitude to you all the time for this amazing privilege. Yet, our hearts are cold. We still love darkness and choose to live in it. We regularly forget all you have done for us and live lives driven by the many idolatries that grip our hearts and tempt our imaginations. Lord, have mercy on us and forgive us for our great weakness and sin. Help us to walk as children of light. Together, with the help of your Spirit, may we learn to walk in humble dependence on you day by day, trusting that your grace is sufficient for us to come boldly into your presence as cherished and loved children. We come in Jesus' name, Amen.

## **Private Confession and Reflection**

## **Words of Encouragement**

**Psalms 146:6-9**

He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them – he remains faithful forever. He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free, the Lord gives sight to the blind, the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down, the Lord loves the righteous. The Lord watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.



## Song of Thanksgiving

*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.

Haste thee on from grace to glory,  
Armed by faith, and winged by prayer.  
Heaven's eternal days before thee,  
God's own hand shall guide us there.  
Soon shall close thy earthly mission,  
Soon shall pass thy pilgrim days,  
Hope shall change to glad fruition,  
Faith to sight, and prayer to praise.

## 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 3:1-10

Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: 2 “Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you.”

3 Jonah obeyed the word of the LORD and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very large city; it took three days to go through it. 4 Jonah began by going a day’s journey into the city, proclaiming, “Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown.” 5 The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth.

6 When Jonah’s warning reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, took off his royal robes, covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the dust. 7 This is the proclamation he issued in Nineveh:

“By the decree of the king and his nobles:

Do not let people or animals, herds or flocks, taste anything; do not let them eat or drink. 8 But let people and animals be covered with sackcloth. Let everyone call urgently on God. Let them give up their evil ways and their violence. 9 Who knows? God may yet relent and with compassion turn from his fierce anger so that we will not perish.”

10 When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

Minister: This is the Word of the LORD.

*People: Thanks be to God!*

Sermon

Pastor Brad Wright

*NINEVEH'S RESPONSE*  
*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**

*His Mercy Is More*

Matt Boswell and Matt Papa

What love could remember no wrongs we have done  
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum  
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

What patience would wait as we constantly roam  
What Father, so tender, is calling us home  
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

Chorus:  
Praise the Lord His mercy is more  
Stronger than darkness new every morn  
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

## **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

*His Mercy Is More*

Matt Boswell and Matt Papa

What riches of kindness He lavished on us  
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost  
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

Chorus:

Praise the Lord His mercy is more  
Stronger than darkness, new every morn  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

## Benediction<sup>3</sup>

**Galatians 1:3-5**

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

## 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!*

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<sup>3</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.

*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  
Graeme Francis, drums  
Rae Moses, piano  
Jennifer Reddick, flute

Stephanie Taylor, vocalist  
Tim Taylor, guitar and vocalist

## \_\_\_\_\_ 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.