



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

Deacons

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

I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.

– John 16:33

Don't dig up in doubt what you planted in faith.

– Elizabeth Elliot

Trust is not a passive state of mind. It is a vigorous act of the soul by which we choose to lay hold on the promises of God and cling to them despite the adversity that at times seeks to overwhelm us.

– Jerry Bridges

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

Pentecost

Ten days after the ascension of Christ and fifty days after his resurrection, the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples on the day of Pentecost. Pentecost was an established Jewish festival also known as the Feast of Weeks, which drew people from many nations back to Jerusalem (Lev. 23:15-21; Deut. 16:16). Pentecost symbolizes a new beginning. It celebrates the unleashing of the Holy Spirit on the world and the empowering of the church to reach the world with the gospel. In celebrating Pentecost, the church expresses its gratitude for the faithfulness of Christ in fulfilling his promise to send “another counselor” (John 14:16); celebrates the work of the Spirit in renewing all of creation; professes its confidence and security in knowing the Spirit’s power is available for its mission; and grows in awareness of the immensity of its calling to reach the world with the gospel. The traditional color for Pentecost is red, after the flames described in Acts 2:3.

Grace Presbyterian Church

The Lord's Day, July 21, 2024

10:30 am

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Preparation for Worship¹

Praise

Call to Worship

-based on I Chron 16:25-30

Minister: Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods.

People: The gods of the nations are idols, but the LORD made the heavens.

Minister: Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name!

People: Worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness, tremble before him, all the earth!

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

Song of Praise

Holy Holy Holy
John Bacchus Dykes and Reginald Heber

Holy, holy, holy!
Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning
Our song shall rise to thee
Holy, holy, holy!
Merciful and mighty!
God in three persons,
Blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy!
All the saints adore thee
Casting down their golden crowns
Around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim
Falling down before thee,
Which were, and art,
And evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy!
Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name
In earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy,
Merciful and mighty!
God in three persons,
Blessed Trinity!

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

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

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

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

Renewal

Call to Confession

Confession of Sin

*Minister
& People:*

Lord Jesus, our Savior and our King, you did not disdain the company of sinners but welcomed them with love. Look upon us in mercy, we pray. Our sins are more than we can bear; our pasts enslave us; our misdeeds are beyond correcting. Forgive the wrongs we cannot undo; free us from a past we cannot change; heal what we can no longer fix. Grace our lives with your love and turn the tears of our past into the joys of new life with you. In Christ's name we ask these things, Amen.

Private Confession and Reflection

Words of Encouragement

1 John 1:8-10

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

Song of Thanksgiving

Here in this Place
Marty Haugen

Lay your burden down, every care you carry;
And come to the table of grace, for there is mercy.
We come just as we are, though we're all unworthy
To enter your presence, O Lord, for You are holy.

Chorus:

We lift our hearts, we lift our hands,
We fall on our knees and pray to the King of kings,
For the love You bring is here in this place.
We raise our voices, Raise our song, we offer You our praise.
You're the King of kings and the joy You bring is here
You are here in this place.

Fill our lives with grace, show us Your forgiveness;
And give us the faith to believe that You've redeemed us.
You are Lord of all, and we give You glory,
All honor and power and praise, for You are worthy. (Chorus)

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.

1 The LORD is my light and my salvation—
whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life—
of whom shall I be afraid?

2 When the wicked advance against me
to devour me,

it is my enemies and my foes
who will stumble and fall.

3 Though an army besiege me,
my heart will not fear;

though war break out against me,
even then I will be confident.

4 One thing I ask from the LORD,
this only do I seek:

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,

to gaze on the beauty of the LORD
and to seek him in his temple.

5 For in the day of trouble

he will keep me safe in his dwelling;
he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent
and set me high upon a rock.

6 Then my head will be exalted

above the enemies who surround me;
at his sacred tent I will sacrifice with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make music to the LORD.

7 Hear my voice when I call, LORD;
be merciful to me and answer me.

8 My heart says of you, "Seek his face!"
Your face, LORD, I will seek.

9 Do not hide your face from me,
do not turn your servant away in anger;
you have been my helper.

Do not reject me or forsake me,

God my Savior.
10 Though my father and mother forsake me,
the LORD will receive me.
11 Teach me your way, LORD;
lead me in a straight path
because of my oppressors.
12 Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes,
for false witnesses rise up against me,
spouting malicious accusations.

13 I remain confident of this:
I will see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living.

14 Wait for the LORD;
be strong and take heart
and wait for the LORD.

Minister: This is the Word of the LORD.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Pastor Brad Wright

THEMES IN LIFE
SUMMER PSALMS

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

Before the Throne
Charitie Lees Bancroft

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea.
A great High Priest whose name is Love
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands,
My name is written on his heart.
I know that while in heaven He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart,
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the wrong within,
Upward I look and see him there
Who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free.
For God the just is satisfied
To look on him and pardon me,
To look on him and pardon me.

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

Before the Throne

Charitie Lees Bancroft

Behold Him there the risen Lamb,
My perfect spotless righteousness,
The great unchangeable I Am,
The King of glory and of grace,
One with Himself I cannot die.
My soul is purchased by His blood,
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ my Savior and my God,
With Christ my Savior and my God.

Benediction³

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.

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

Brent Allmon, sax
Kate Allmon, sax

Debra Moses, vocalist
Rae Moses, piano
Jennifer Reddick, flute

_____ 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 June: \$90,464

\$595,763: Jan. - June 2024 General Fund Budget

\$453,762: Jan. - June 2024 Actual General Fund Income

(\$142,001): 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 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: One of the three great festivals of the Christian year (along with Easter Day & Christmas Day), the Day of Pentecost, symbolized by the color red, celebrates the event of the Risen and Ascended Christ's pouring out his Holy Spirit upon his gathered followers, empowering them for the mission of proclaiming the gospel of Jesus to all the nations. The banner on the right is the traditional representation of the Holy Spirit as a dove.

The banner on the left represents the recreation of our fragmented world through the power of the cross. Pentecost is a day to celebrate hope, a hope evoked by the knowledge that God through His Holy Spirit is at work among His people. It is a celebration of newness, of recreation, of renewal of purpose, mission, and calling as God's people. It is a celebration of God's ongoing work in the world.