



**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

God says through Jeremiah, “Let him that glories glory in this, that he understands and knows me” – for knowing God is a relationship calculated to thrill a person’s heart.

– J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*

Our only desire and our one choice should be this: I want and I choose what better leads to God's deepening life in me.

– St. Ignatius Loyola

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

– Jeremiah 29:11

+ 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, August 18, 2024

10:30 am

## Prelude

## Words of Welcome

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

*Praise*

---

## Call to Worship

**Minister:** All who thirst, come to the water and drink deeply of these living streams. Come, all who are weary; Come, all who yearn for forgiveness.

**People:** *Our gracious God beckons and blesses us. Let us give praise for new life in Christ.*

---

<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.

---

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

## Song of Adoration

*Cornerstone*

Edward Mote, Eric Liljero, Jonas Myrin, William Batchelder.

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame  
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name (repeat x2)

Chorus:  
Christ alone cornerstone  
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love  
Through the storm He is Lord  
Lord of all

When darkness seems to hide His face  
I rest on His unchanging grace  
In every high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil  
My anchor holds within the veil (chorus)

When He shall come with trumpet sound  
Oh may I then in Him be found  
Dressed in His righteousness alone  
Faultless to stand before the throne (chorus)

---

## *Renewal*

---

### 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

*Minister*

*& People:*

*Almighty God, We admit before you that we often find it difficult to live in community with one another, as you call us to. We are judgmental towards others, thinking we are strong and those around us are weak. We frequently struggle with apathy, hypocrisy, envy, deceit, gossip, and slander. Though at times we may control our tongues, in our minds we rehearse the sins, weaknesses, and failures of others, as we try to justify ourselves and feel superior. We hurt those around us with our callous words, failures to serve, and refusal to love. Father, forgive us the many sins we commit each and every day. We throw ourselves on your mercy and thank you for Jesus' sacrifice for us, which cleanses us from all our sin. We thank you for the obedience of Christ, which replaces our record of rebellion and sin with the glory of his perfect holiness. Help us to be the fastest and deepest repenters, to quickly forgive one another, and to love one another with grace and humility that we might reflect the love we have received to one another and a watching world. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.*

## Private Confession and Reflection

## Assurance of Pardon



## Song of Thanksgiving

*Christ Is Risen*  
Matt Maher and Mia Fieldes

Let no one caught in sin remain  
Inside the lie of inward shame  
But fix our eyes upon the cross  
And run to Him who showed great love  
And bled for us  
Freely You've bled for us

Chorus:  
Christ is risen from the dead  
Trampling over death by death  
Come awake come awake  
Come and rise up from the grave  
Christ is risen from the dead  
We are one with Him again  
Come awake come awake  
Come and rise up from the grave

Beneath the weight of all our sin  
You bowed to none but heaven's will  
No scheme of hell no scoffer's crown  
No burden great can hold You down  
In strength You reign  
Forever let Your church proclaim (chorus)

Bridge:  
O death where is your sting  
O hell where is your victory  
O church come stand in the light  
The glory of God has defeated the night  
Singing O death where is your sting  
O hell where is your victory  
O church come stand in the light  
Our God is not dead He's alive He's alive (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.

## Scripture Reading

## Philippians 1:3-11

“I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God’s grace with me. God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.”

Minister: This is the Word of the LORD.

*People: Thanks be to God!*

## Sermon

Pastor Brad Wright

*Created to Know*  
**CREATED FOR A PURPOSE**

---

## *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

### *Behold The Lamb*

*Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, and Stuart Townend*

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away  
Slain for us and we remember  
The promise made that all who come in faith  
Find forgiveness at the cross  
So we share in this Bread of Life  
And we drink of His sacrifice  
As a sign of our bonds of peace  
Around the table of the King

The body of our Saviour Jesus Christ  
Torn for you eat and remember  
The wounds that heal the death that brings us life  
Paid the price to make us one  
So we share in this Bread of Life  
And we drink of His sacrifice  
As a sign of our bonds of love  
Around the table of the King

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin  
Shed for you drink and remember  
He drained death's cup that all may enter in  
To receive the life of God  
So we share in this Bread of Life  
And we drink of His sacrifice  
As a sign of our bonds of grace  
Around the table of the King

## 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

## *Behold The Lamb*

*Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, and Stuart Townend*

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise  
To respond and to remember  
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ  
As His body here on earth  
As we share in His suffering  
We proclaim Christ will come again  
And we'll join in the feast of heaven  
Around the table of the King

## Benediction<sup>3</sup>

## Zephaniah 3:17

Minister:     The LORD your God is in your midst,  
                  a mighty one who will save;  
                  he will rejoice over you with gladness;  
                  he will quiet you by his love;  
                  he will exult over you with loud singing.

People:        Thanks be to God!

## 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*

---

<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.

## Worship Music

Fang Daniels, cello  
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 July: \$54,214**

\$695,057: Jan. - July 2024 General Fund Budget

\$508,277: Jan. - July 2024 Actual General Fund Income

**(\$186,780): 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:** 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.