

Grace Presbyterian Church

February 1, 2026

9:30 am



“Blessed are the pure in heart”

Welcome /VISION STATEMENT

We are an open and affirming congregation.

**We genuinely welcome people of all ages,
races, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations,
beliefs,
and those who are cognitively
and or physically challenged.**

Our vision is to be a community of love and purpose,
**each one engaged in ministry,
seeking to know Christ, growing in discipleship,
and embodying God’s love for the world.**

Prayer Candles

Before Worship, you may offer a prayer and light a candle at the communion table.

We Gather

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call to Worship

The world finds no proof of God.

But the heavens tell of God's glory.

God's message is foolishness to the world.

But God's folly surpasses human wisdom.

The rebellion of the world brings us death.

But obedience to God's ways brings life.

We gather in the name of Christ, crucified.

The Word made flesh brings life to God's people!

— adapted from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2009, © 2008

*Opening Hymn #634 "To God Be the Glory"

Call to Confession

God's Table is for everyone, no matter how old one is, or young; for those we think of as wise, and those we know are foolish. For God knows that we all try, and no matter how many times we mess up, God will forgive us, Let us join in the prayer for forgiveness.

Prayer of Confession

Long ago on a hillside, the Teacher spoke words for our faith. God of foolish people, we still do not

listen. Full of arrogance, we have no need to listen to others when they cry out. Taught to be strong, we push away your arms of comfort. Seeing how the wealthy and selfish are idolized, we want to inherit their ways. As we pass the hungry in line at the food bank, we rush to make sure we have enough. Noticing how the kindest of people are mocked, we develop hardened hearts.

Have mercy on us when we follow the wrong people, listen to words we shouldn't.

For it is those who make peace, who know your hope. It is those whose hearts are in rhythm with yours who see the most vulnerable. It is those who care more for others than themselves, who have learned the soul behind the words of the Teacher, who would guide us to your living waters. Amen.

Silence is kept for personal confession

Assurance of Pardon

Lost, we can find our way, if we seek God; overwhelmed by loneliness, we are heard when we cry out; stumbling over our foolish choices, we find mercy when we tell all to our God.

We are no different from all we call sinners, for they found life in the mercy and grace of our God. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

(c) Thom M. Shuman

Hymn #425 "Son of God, Whose Heart is Peace"
(vs. 1 only 2 x while remaining in our seats.)

We Reflect

Prayer of Illumination

Blessed are you,
if you humbly seek God,
if you work for peace and justice,
if you act with kindness and compassion,
for you know the mind and heart of God. Amen,

First reading from the prophet Micah 6:1-8

A time for Children and the Young in heart

Reading from the Gospel of Matthew 5:1-12

SERMON

*Hymn #172 "Blest Are They"

We Respond

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission is **to Know, Love, and Serve God**

Offertory Invitation

Musical Meditation

Prayer of Dedication

Wonderful is the God of Christ,
who gathers the poor of the earth.

**Glorious is our God,
who wipes away the tears of sorrow.**

Wonderful is the God of Christ,
who gives inheritance to the meek.

**Glorious is our God,
who satisfies the hunger of the just.**

Wonderful is the God of Christ,
who gives mercy to the merciful.

**Glorious is our God,
who gives vision to the pure in heart.**

Wonderful is the God of Christ,
who adopts the peacemakers.

**Glorious is our God,
who lifts high the persecuted.**

Wonderful is the God of Christ,
who finds the lost.

**Glorious is our God,
who awakens the dead**

In all this the world is blessed

Thanks be to God.

~ written by Bruce Prewer, and posted on Bruce Prewer's Home Page.

(Many thanks to all who contribute to the mission and ministry of our church in offering plates during worship and by electronic giving throughout the year).

Prayers of God's People (sharing of Joys and Concerns)

Lord, in your mercy/with thanksgiving, **Hear our prayer.**

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Sharing of Bread and Cup

Prayer after communion

We Are Sent

*Hymn #764 "May the God of Hope"

*Charge and Benediction

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Peace be with you!

And also with you.

(We invite you to offer a sign of peace to those around you and as you gather for fellowship. We remind you to ask what folks feel comfortable with...a verbal greeting, a handshake or fist bump, etc. Do not assume.)

POSTLUDE

***Indicates, please stand in body or spirit.**

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