

# *Grace* Presbyterian Church

## VISION STATEMENT

We are an open and affirming congregation.

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

Our vision is that each of us is a minister  
seeking to know Christ, grow in discipleship,  
and embody God's love for the world.



**March 19      Installation of the Pastor      3:00pm**

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## We Gather

PRELUDE

*Vince DiMura*

**Welcome and introductions**

Rev. Deborah Paton

Call to Worship (responsively)

Laura Taff

We gather here in anticipation,  
**seeking an encounter with our Holy God,**  
who comes among us when we least expect it,  
**who invites us to wrestle with our questions and doubts,**  
who richly blesses us,  
**and calls us each by name.**  
Let's worship God together!

Opening prayer (in unison)

Laura Taff

**Lord God,**  
**Maker of heaven and earth,**  
**we gather together in Your name.**  
**We come as living sacrifices,**  
**to offer You our worship and thanksgiving,**  
**our praise and our prayers.**  
**Come among us, living Lord.**  
**Through the power of Your Holy Spirit,**  
**transform our hearts and minds**  
**so that we may recognize Your presence,**  
**hear Your voice,**  
**know Your will,**  
**and walk in Your way.**  
**We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,**  
**our Lord and Saviour.**  
**Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn # 409 "God Is Here"

Call to Confession

David Redman

If we say that we have no sin,  
we deceive ourselves,  
and the truth is not in us.  
But if we confess our sins,

God who is faithful and just  
will forgive us our sins  
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.  
In humility and faith  
let us confess our sin to God.

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

David Redman

**Mighty and merciful God,  
you have called us to be your people  
and claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ.  
We confess that we have not lived up to our calling.  
We have been timid and frightened disciples,  
forgetful of your powerful presence  
and the strength of your Spirit among us.**  
*(Silent prayers of confession may be offered.)*  
**O God, forgive our foolish and sinful ways.  
As you have chosen us,  
and claimed us in our baptisms,  
strengthen us anew  
to choose Christ's way in this world.  
Give us your Holy Spirit  
that each one in ministry  
may be provided with all the gifts of grace  
needed to fulfill our common calling;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.**

Words of Assurance (responsively)

David Redman

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.  
I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ,  
you are forgiven.  
**May the God of mercy, who forgives us all our sins,  
strengthen us in all goodness,  
and by the power of the Holy Spirit  
keep us in eternal life.**

Hymn #435 "There is a Wideness in God's mercy"

## We Reflect

Prayer of Illumination (in unison)

Barbara Maurer

**Overwhelm us with your Spirit, O God,  
that the words we hear  
will speak to our hearts as your Word,  
made known to us in Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.**

A Reading from Genesis 32:22-31

Barbara Maurer

A time for Children and the Young in heart (if children are present)

A Reading from the Letter to the Romans 12:1-7

Rev. Jesse Tosten

SERMON

Rev. Wanda Sevey

\*Hymn #303 "God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian"

## We Respond

### Installation

Litany (responsively)

Laura Taff

There are varieties of gifts,  
**but it is the same Spirit who gives them.**

1 Cor. 12:4–7, 27

There are different ways of serving God,  
**but it is the same Lord who is served.**

God works through each person in a unique way,  
**but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.**

To each is given a gift of the Spirit  
**to be used for the common good.**

Together we are the body of Christ,  
**and individually members of it.**

Statement on Ministry of the Church

Rev. Rory Chambers

...The call to this ministry has been extended by the congregation, accepted by the candidate, and approved by the presbytery. Therefore the Presbytery of Coastlands, by means of this commission, now installs The Reverend Deborah Paton as pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church

**We remember with joy  
our common calling to serve Christ,  
and we celebrate God's call to our sister,  
to serve among us as pastor.**

Profession of Faith (in unison)

Peter Godinez

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.  
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,  
sets us free to accept ourselves  
and to love God and neighbor,  
and binds us together with all believers  
in the one body of Christ, the Church.  
The same Spirit  
who inspired the prophets and apostles  
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,  
engages us through the Word proclaimed,  
claims us in the waters of baptism,  
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,  
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.  
In a broken and fearful world  
the Spirit gives us courage  
to pray without ceasing,  
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,  
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,  
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,  
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

(an excerpt from the Brief Statement of Faith)

Presentation of the Pastor-elect

Peter Godinez

In her baptism, Deborah was clothed with Christ. She was nurtured in the Christian faith at Lansdowne Presbyterian Church, educated at Warrens Wilson College, trained for ministry at Princeton Theological Seminary. She was ordained to the ministry of Word and Sacrament by the Presbytery of Philadelphia, and served congregations and specialized ministries in Pennsylvania, Iowa, and Illinois. Once again she is being called through the voice of the Church, to be installed by this commission of the Presbytery of the Coastlands to serve

as the pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church.

Constitutional Questions *To the Pastor-elect:* Rev. Rory Chambers

*Questions To the congregation:* Rev. Rory Chambers

Do we, the members of the Grace Presbyterian Church, accept The Reverend Deborah Paton as our pastor, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to guide us in the way of Jesus Christ? **We do.**

Do we agree to pray for her, encourage her, to respect her decisions, and to follow as she guides us, serving Jesus Christ who alone is Head of the Church? **We do.**

Do we promise to pay her fairly and provide for her welfare as she works among us; to stand by her in trouble and share her joys? Will we listen to the word she preaches, welcome her pastoral care, and honor her authority as she seeks to honor and obey Jesus Christ our Lord? **We do and we will.**

Prayer of Installation and Laying on of Hands Rev. Dr. Glory Thomas  
Rev. Molly Dykstra

Declaration of Installation Rev. Rory Chambers

Charge to the Newly Installed and the Congregation Rev. Wendi L. Werner

Offertory Invitation Peter Godinez

*Musical Meditation* Vince DiMura

Hymn #717 "For the Life that You Have Given"

Prayer of Dedication Peter Godinez

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper Rev. Deborah Paton  
Rev. Wanda Sevey

Invitation

Hymn # 515 We Come with Joy  
Great Prayer and the Lord's Prayer  
Sharing of Bread and Cup  
Prayer after communion (in unison)

**Gracious God,  
you have gathered us at this table  
with all the company of your people  
in heaven and on earth.  
In your mercy we have been nourished  
by the living bread, Jesus Christ,  
and we have been refreshed  
by the power of your Holy Spirit.  
May we, who have shared this holy meal,  
go out as glad disciples of our Lord,  
following in his way,  
proclaiming his truth,  
and living his love for the world. Amen.**

### **We Are Sent**

\*Hymn #450 "Be Thou My Vision"

\*Benediction

Rev Deborah Paton

\*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.***

*All songs not from Glory to God are used by permission of CCLI #1124594*

Participants in order of appearance in worship service

Vince Dimura	Director of Music	Grace Presbyterian Church
Rev. Deborah Paton	Teaching Elder/Pastor-elect	Grace Presbyterian Church
Laura Taff	Ruling Elder	Grace Presbyterian Church
David Redman	Ruling Elder	Dutch Neck Presbyterian Church
Barbara Maurer	Ruling Elder	Trinity Presbyterian Church, Berwyn, PA
Rev. Jesse Tosten	Pastor	Kairos Church
Rev. Wanda Sevey	United Church of Christ, Director of Student Counseling, Princeton Theological Seminary	
Rev. Rory Chambers	Teaching Elder/Associate Pastor	Dutch Neck Presbyterian Church
Peter Godnez	Ruling Elder	Grace Presbyterian Church
Rev. Molly Dykstra	Teaching Elder/Moderator	Lawrence Rd Presbyterian Church
Rev. Dr. Glory Thomas	Teaching Elder/Pastor	Oak Tree Presbyterian Church
Rev. Wendi L Werner	Teaching Elder/Pastor	First Presbyterian Church at Dayton