

Grace Presbyterian Church

November 19, 2023

9:30 am

VISION STATEMENT

We are an open and affirming congregation.

**We genuinely welcome people of all ages,
race, 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.**



“Enter into the joy of your master”

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

Lift your eyes to God:

**in the highest heavens,
we see your glory, Great Creator.**

Reach out your hands to Jesus:

**in the compassion of others,
we know your love, O Christ.**

Feel the breath of the Spirit:

**in our sinews and in our souls,
the Spirit whispers hope.**

Let us worship the God who reigns,
by entering the depths of our humanity

**and setting the humble soaring
on the wings of the Spirit
for the sake of eternity.**

— written by Anita Monro and posted on the MAD-e-Lena blog

*Opening Hymn #612 “We Praise You, O God”

Call to Confession

Reflecting our lives we must honestly and humbly confess we have fallen short of your desire for us. We turn to

you for forgiveness and help, as we pray together...

Prayer of Confession

**Lord of Creation,
we confess that we have squandered your gifts
and used them as if they had been given for us
alone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be your church.

We have not done your will,

we have broken your law,

we have rebelled against your love,

we have not loved our neighbors,

and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray.

Free us for joyful service,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)

Words of Assurance

Hear the Good News:

We have not been faithful in all things.

But our God is faithful,

listening to us with patience and kindness.

Therefore, as people of God's promise,

let us receive forgiveness, embrace hope, and faithfully

respond, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Glory to God!

We are forgiven.

We have hope.

We will respond. Amen.

~ posted on the Pacific Pilgrim website.

Hymn # 425 "Son of God, Whose Heart is Peace"

(please stay seated.)

We Reflect

Prayer of Illumination

Lord, Open our hearts and minds,
By the power of your Holy Spirit,
That as the scriptures are read
And your word proclaimed,
We may hear with joy,
what you say to us today. Amen.

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans 12:1-8

A time for Children and the Young in heart

A reading from the Gospel of Matthew 25:14-30

SERMON

*Hymn # 716 "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

We Respond

MISSION STATEMENT

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

Offertory Invitation

Musical Meditation

Prayer of Dedication

(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 month).

Prayers of God's People (sharing of Joys and Concerns)
Lord, in your mercy/with thanksgiving, **Hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer (First Nation Translation)

**O Great Spirit, our Father from above,
we honor your name as sacred and holy.**

**Bring your good road to us,
where the beauty of your ways in the
spirit-world above
is reflected in the earth below.**

**Provide for us day by day--
the elk, the buffalo, and the salmon.
The corn, the squash, and the wild rice.
All the things we need for each day.**

**Release us from the things we have done
wrong, in the same way we release others for
the things done wrong to us.**

**Guide us away from the things that tempt us to
stray from your good road,
and set us free from the evil one and his
worthless ways.**

Aho! May it be so!

We Are Sent

Dedication of our Stewardship Practices for 2024

Receive these gifts, O God.

**We offer to you, O God, these gifts
in humble thanks
for the creating love you.**

Receive these pledges, O God.

**We offer to you, O God, these pledges
in unassuming thanks
for the redeeming love.**

Receive these commitments, O God.

**We offer to you, O God, these practices
in grateful thanks
for the sustaining love.**

Let us be surprised this year.

**May our eyes, our minds and our hearts be opened
to know you and see you this year**

**May we be surprised in our lives, in our church and
in our ministry together.**

Thanks be to God!

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Sarah E. Weaver (C) 2013

*Hymn #700 "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

(Bring your stewardship card forward and place in the
basket and return to your seat while we sing)

*Charge and Benediction

Go in peace;

Love and care for one another in Christ's name.

May God bless you with every gift needed for this work.

May the Spirit grant you the willingness to risk yourself
completely for the sake of the gospel.

May the love and the compassion, the hope and the faith
of Jesus dwell richly within you till the time of his coming,
both now and forevermore. Amen

— copyright © Rev. Richard J. Fairchild,

*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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