

# *Grace* Presbyterian Church

November 17, 2024

9:30 am

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## Welcome 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.**



"Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."

## **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 (based on Psalm 16)

You are our security, O Lord, we find refuge in You.

**Everything that is good comes from You Lord!**

You give us guidance and make our hearts glad,

**You lead us on the path of life.**

In Your presence there is fullness of joy,

**In Your kingdom there is fulfillment forever! Amen!**

~ posted on the archives page of the Lectionary Sermons website.

\*Hymn #331 "God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand"

Stewardship: Our Mission Statement in Action

Call to confession

God promises forgiveness through Jesus Christ. In humility and faith, let us approach God in honest confession. Let us pray...

Prayer of Confession

**Eternal God,**

**too often we settle for the way things are.**

**We embrace what is comfortable and disengage**

**from the work of necessary change.  
We fail to hope for a new day and a new world  
because our present reality feels good enough.  
Forgive us. Have mercy upon us.  
Fill us with the passion to live and work towards a  
world made just and equitable and new. Amen.**

*(Silence is kept for personal confession.)*

#### Declaration of Forgiveness

Hear the Good News; created in God's image, we are holy and good and loved. And when we have lost our way, God calls us back, to restore what is broken and distorted.

**The Holy One is steadfast in love and mercy,  
showing us how to love and forgive. Let us go now  
in peace to serve Christ by serving one another.  
Amen.**

Hymn #449 Show Us, O Lord, Your Steadfast Love"  
(please remain seated and sing vs. 1

### **We Reflect**

#### Prayer for Understanding

**Open us, Holy One, to your Word and your Way.  
Clear our minds of daily distractions.  
Fill our hearts with the humility we need to hear  
and receive the message you intend for us today.  
Amen.**

Reading from the Story of Ruth 3:1-13

Time for Children and the Young in heart

Reading from The Gospel of Mark 13:1-8

SERMON

\*Hymn #357 "The Days Are Surely Coming"

## **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.**

## **We Are Sent**

\*Hymn #774 "There is Now a New Creation"

\*Charge and Benediction

May God give you justice and freedom;

May Christ Jesus set you free for love;  
and may the Holy Spirit go where you go  
and protect you on your way.

**We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,  
in the name of Christ. Amen.**

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\*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*