

Grace Presbyterian Church

May 14, 2023 6th Sunday of Eastertide 9:30 am

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.



"A Place for You"

Prayer Candles

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

We Gather

PRELUDE

Vince DiMura

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call to Worship

Come, people of God!

Take refuge in the Lord,

who listens when we cry out,

who rescues us when we call,

and who leads and guides us according to his unfailing love.

You are our God; our lives are in your hands.

Let's worship God together!

*Opening Hymn # 214 "You Are My Refuge, Faithful God"

Call to Confession

If we say we are completely put together, the truth is not in us. But if we confess our distractions, our errors, and our anxieties, God will meet us and renew us.

Prayer of Confession

Before God and God's people, I confess that I have been reluctant to speak out clearly, naming the injustice I see and declaring God's vision.

Before God and one another, we confess our reluctance, to receive our calling as God's people,

made by God and chosen as witnesses to God's dream of justice and joy.

Remind me, God, that you have made me for your service and recharge me with your Word.

Renew us, God. Grant us courage to live out your way of peace and grace.

We ask it in Jesus' name; Amen.

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)

Words of Assurance

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God has promised that whenever we repent and seek a new union with God, forgiveness is ours.

That promise comes true now. Sisters and brothers, know that in Christ Jesus, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Hymn #439 "O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer" vs. 1 & 2
(Stay seated)

We Reflect

Prayer of Illumination

We gather to worship in the name of Jesus Christ,
our living cornerstone,
who, though rejected by the world,
was chosen and precious in God's sight.

**And like living stones,
let us be built up into a spiritual house for God,
offering sacrifices of worship and praise that are
pleasing in his sight. Amen.**

Reading from 1st Letter from the Apostle Peter 2:2-10

A time for Children and the Young in heart

Reading from the Gospel of John 14:1-14

SERMON

Rev. Deborah Paton

*Hymn #624 "I Greet Thee, Who MY Sure Redeemer Art"

We Respond

MISSION STATEMENT

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

Offertory Invitation

Musical Meditation

Vince DiMura

Hymn #607 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Prayer of Dedication

(Thank you to all those whose contributions and offerings sustain the church. You can give online by visiting the church website or arranging for recurring donations with your online banking).

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

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

The Lord's Prayer

We Are Sent

*Hymn #307 "God of Grace and God of Glory"

*Charge and Benediction

As you leave this place, remember this:
You are the ones chosen by God,
chosen for the high calling of priestly work,
chosen to be holy people,
God's instruments to do his work
and speak out for God,
to tell others what she has done for you.

So go into the world;
live as God's people,
through the grace of Jesus Christ,
and the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

*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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