

Grace Presbyterian Church

October 8, 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.**



"Is God among us or not?"

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

We are God's work of art—
each one of us a precious gem,
a marvelous melody,
a potter's delight.

**We are God's handiwork—
woven together in love,
shaped with infinite compassion,
painted with incredible beauty.**

We are the church of Jesus Christ—
diverse in human qualities,
but united in our call to love God
with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength,
and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

**We are the Body of Christ—
living in his truth, sharing his peace,
carrying his hope, embodying his love,
throughout the world he loved so much.**

We are here to be reminded once more who we are,
whose we are and what our lives are about.

**We are here to be uplifted, renewed and empowered
to live out the miracle of who we are,**

**by the power of God working in and among us.
We open ourselves to God, who makes all things new.**

adapted from "God's Work of Art," written by the Rev. David Inglis

***Opening Hymn # 409 God is Here!**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Loving God, make us to know your ways,
teach us your paths, show us your face.**

**Your Spirit compels us
to go into the wilderness,
and we ask for the courage to examine
the desert places in our hearts,
and to be willing to
confront the adversaries in our lives—
the temptations which lure us away
from being who you have created us to be.**

**Turn your love towards us
that we may know your grace in our loneliness and afflictions.
Shape us into your people: loved, forgiven, and called
to do and say what is right. Amen**

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)

Words of Assurance

**Friends, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Hymn # 306 Sts. 1,2 & 5 Blest Be the Tie that Binds

We Reflect

Prayer of Illumination

A time for Children and the Young in heart

Reading from Exodus 17: 1-7

SERMON

*Hymn # 543 O Christ, Surround Me

We Respond

MISSION STATEMENT

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

Offertory Invitation

Musical Meditation

Hymn #582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

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

We Are Sent

*Hymn #762

When the Poor Ones

*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.**

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