

Grace Presbyterian Church

January 28, 2024

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.**



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

(from Psalm 111)

Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart.

Great are your works, O Lord, pondered by all who delight in them.

Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.

You cause your wonders to be remembered; you are gracious and full of compassion.

*Opening Hymn #755 "Alleluia! Laud and Blessing"

Call to Confession

Jesus calls us to enter the joy of discipleship, the joy of following in his way. But sin clings closely, and we struggle to respond fully to Christ's invitation. Let us seek God's forgiveness so that we may know more deeply the joy God intends.

Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, in Jesus, we have seen your glory.
Yet our sinfulness often blocks out the light of**

Christ. We are quick to accuse and slow to confess. We find faults easily in others while ignoring our own shortcomings. We have squandered your gifts. We have turned from your ways. We have ignored your Word. Have mercy on us, compassionate God. Pour out your Holy Spirit on our sinful lives. Wash us with your love and cleanse us with your grace that day by day we might move closer to the people you would us be. Amen.

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)

Words of Assurance

Relentlessly God seeks us out with abundant grace and boundless mercy. This is good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Hymn #155 "Raise a Song of Gladness"

We Reflect

Prayer of Illumination

Gracious God, illuminate these words by your Spirit that we might hear what you would have us hear and be who you would us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

First reading from Deuteronomy 18:15-20

A time for Children and the Young in heart

Reading from Mark 1:21-28

SERMON

*Hymn # 662 "Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"

We Respond

MISSION STATEMENT

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

Offertory Invitation

Musical Meditation

Prayer of Dedication

O God, with faith and hope, we offer these gifts. Use them, even as you use us, to accomplish your purposes in Jesus Christ, the Head of the church and the Lord of our lives. Amen.

(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 #722 "Lord, Speak to Me that I May Speak"

*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.***

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Liturgy written by John Wurster © Presbyterian Outlook, 2024