

Grace Presbyterian Church

August 18, 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.**



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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

In the name of the Lord Jesus
the bread breaker
the light gatherer
cross carrier
welcome

May the peace of the Lord Jesus
the peace maker
and the temple disturber
friend of the sinner
and companion on the road
be with us all

Let us draw close to the Lord Jesus
the saviour
the healer
the teacher
and worship him

and ask ourselves
who do we say he is?

*Opening Hymn #466. O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Call to Confession

It is easy for us to say that we will follow Jesus; and then turn our backs and act as though our commitment to Jesus does not mean anything to us. Jesus challenges us to take up our crosses, and when we don't understand what that means, we just shrug and turn away. Let us pray for forgiveness for our lack of commitment and faith

Prayer of Confession

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)

God of compassion, the way of the cross is as much a mystery to us as it was to the immediate followers of Jesus. But we have heard how your grace is exercised in the journey of suffering and rejection experienced by Jesus. Help us to hear with ears inspired, to see with eyes opened to your ways, and to respond with lives committed to your service.

God of both joy and sorrow, we watch and walk with Jesus.

We repent O God. We cannot name our own cross even though we try. You must show us the cross you give us. Help us see. Give us the faith to respond and follow Jesus. We have heard that

it is in losing our life for the sake of Gospel of Jesus that we find our life.

God of both joy and sorrow, we watch and walk with Jesus.

Words of Assurance

Friends, receive the healing love of Jesus. Give your lives to his service by serving and caring for others. Be at peace with God and all humankind. Amen.

Hymn # 437 You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy! (2x Stay Seated)

We Reflect

Prayer of Illumination

Lord Jesus,
You are a Lord who walks beside your people.
So we pray for people who walk for justice.
You are a Lord who raises up those who are bent low.
So we pray for those held down by the grindings of life
and the indifference of the world.
You are a Lord who feeds the hungry
So we pray for all who long for bread
And the means to provide it.

You are a Lord who celebrates the small and the insignificant.
So we pray for the children
And for those who are never noticed.

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 # 726. Will You Come and Follow Me

*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