

Grace Presbyterian Church

October 18, 2026

9:30 am

WELCOME AND VISION STATEMENT

We are an open and affirming congregation.

**We genuinely welcome people of all ages,
races, 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.**



"Be still and know God is"

We Gather

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call to worship (read responsively)

Today we sabbath, we take rest in the Lord our God.

We put aside productivity to wonder and worship.

Today we sabbath, to do a different kind of work.

We have gathered to do liturgy, the work of the people.

Today we sabbath, for the world does not revolve around us.

For in life and death we belong to God, dependent upon God's goodness and grace.

by Stephen M. Fearing, Beaumont Presbyterian Church, Lexington, KY

Hymn #393 O Day of Rest and Gladness

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (unison prayer)

Merciful God, we confess that we are addicted to our own busyness. We have allowed the relentless demands of the world to dictate our worth, turning a blind eye to the rest you so generously modeled and commanded. We confess the anxiety that drives us to work when we should rest, and the pride that whispers that the world cannot run without us. Forgive our lack of trust. Teach us how to put down our labor, quiet our restless hearts, and truly rest in the finished work of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Hear the word of our Savior: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." In Jesus Christ, our work is done, our debt is paid, and our souls are free to exhale. Believe the good news and be at peace. **Thanks be to God.**

Sung response #449 "Show Us, O Lord, Your Steadfast Love" (stay seated and sing verse 1)

We Reflect

Prayer for Understanding

A Reading from Genesis 2:1-3, Deuteronomy 5:12-15

Time with Young Disciples

A Reading from Matthew 12:1-14

Sermon "Be still and know God is"

*Hymn #824 This is a Place of Quiet Rest

We Respond

MISSION STATEMENT

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

Invitation to Share (offering)

Special Music "Jesus Loves Me"

Barbara Ewick and Christine Walters,
accompanied by Anthony Godlefski

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

People's response: **Hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

Installation of Deacons (liturgy below)

We Are Sent

Hymn #313 Lord Make Me More Holy

*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.)

***Indicates, please stand in body or spirit.**

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

Installation of Deacons

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

There are varieties of gifts,
but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

There are different ways of serving God,
but it is the same Lord who is served.

God works through each person in a unique way,
but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

To each is given a gift of the Spirit
to be used for the common good.

Together we are the body of Christ,
and individually members of it.

We are all called into the church of Jesus Christ by baptism, and marked as Christ's own by the Holy Spirit. This is our common calling, to be disciples and servants of our servant Lord.

Within the community of the church, some are called to particular service as Deacons, as Ruling Elders and as Ministers of Word and Sacrament.

Called by God and elected by this congregation to serve this church and community in leadership and service, we install to active service those previously ordained as Deacons: **Cheryl Kotch and Sandy Chmielewski**

QUESTIONS for those to be installed.

In baptism, you were claimed by the love of God, clothed in the grace of Jesus Christ, and anointed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit to share Christ's mission in the world.

Now you are called by God through the voice of the church for new service and ministry in Jesus' name.

In accordance with the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A), show your commitment to this calling by responding to these questions:

Do you trust in the Lord Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? **I do.**

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit,
the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you? **I do.**

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God? **I do and I will.**

Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions? **I will.**

Will you be governed by our church's policy, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit? **I will.**

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world? **I will.**

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church? **I do.**

Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love? **I will.**

Will you be a faithful servant proclaiming the good news in Word and Sacrament, teaching faith and caring for people? Will you be active in government and discipline, serving in the councils of the church; and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ? **I will.**

Will you be a faithful **deacon**, teaching charity, urging concern and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ? **I will.**

QUESTIONS for the Congregation

Clerk: Do we, the members of the church accept these Deacons chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ? **We do**

Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decision and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church? **We do.**

PRAYER for Newly Installed (*laying on of hands*)

Gracious and eternal God with joy we give you thanks and praise. Throughout the ages and in every time and place you have chosen servants from among your people to point the way to salvation by your grace.

We are grateful for ancestors in the faith who followed without fear, placing their trust in you alone — for judges and monarchs who ruled in righteousness and peace; for prophets and apostles who spoke your bold words of mercy and truth; for leaders and teachers in every age who have nurtured your people in faith and faithfulness.

Above all, we praise you for Jesus Christ, who came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life to set others free.

Anointed by your Holy Spirit, he proclaimed your rule on earth, revealing your saving love in all he said and did.

Gracious God, pour out your spirit upon your servants

Cheryl and Sandy whom you called by baptism to be your own.

Grant each one of them the same mind that was in Christ Jesus.

Gracious God we also give you thanks for your all servants who have responded to your call to serve in these special ministries of the church

Give all our elders and deacons a spirit of integrity and genuineness that they may show the compassion of Christ in the actions of daily living and rightly care for your people.

Gracious God, pour out your Spirit of power and truth upon the whole church, that we may be for you a holy people baptized to serve you in the world. Sustain your church in ministry. Ground us in the gospel, secure our hope in Christ, strengthen our service to the outcast and increase our love for one another. Show us the transforming power for your grace in our life together, that we may be effective servants of the gospel, offering a compelling witness in the world to the good news of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

You are now installed as deacons once again to serve in the ministries of service in the church of Jesus Christ and for this congregation. Be faithful and true in your ministry so that your whole life will bear witness to the crucified and risen Christ. Amen.

CHARGE TO ELDERS AND DEACONS

Like shepherds, tend the flock of God among you. Watch over it. Don't shepherd because you must, but do it voluntarily for God. Don't shepherd greedily, but do it eagerly. Don't shepherd by ruling over those entrusted to your care, but become examples to the flock. And when the good shepherd appears, you will receive an unfading crown of glory. I Peter 5:1-4