

Grace Presbyterian Church

August 30, 2026

9:30 am



"As her soul was departing," Genesis 35:18

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.**

We Gather

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call to worship (based on Psalm 73)

What is my treasure but Your Love?

**There is nothing upon earth that I desire
besides You.**

My body and my mind fail,

**but You are the strength of my heart
and my joy forever.**

Those who are far from You will live in fear;

You do not compel them to open their hearts.

As for me, I delight in walking with the Beloved;

I invited You, my Friend, into my heart

that I might live with Love.

Song #824 "There is a Place of Quiet Rest"

1 There is a place of quiet rest,
near to the heart of God,
a place where sin cannot molest,
near to the heart of God.

Refrain:

O Jesus, blest Redeemer,
sent from the heart of God,
hold us, who wait before thee,
near to the heart of God.

2 There is a place of comfort sweet,
near to the heart of God,
a place where we our Savior meet,
near to the heart of God. (Refrain)

3 There is a place of full release,
near to the heart of God,
a place where all is joy and peace,
near to the heart of God. (Refrain)

Call to Confession

We struggle daily with that human tendency to always do wrong, say hurtful things, turn our back to others. But God will never hold our sins against us or our foolish nature. Let us confess to our God, who frees us forever from judgment, as we pray,

Prayer of Confession

(Silence is kept for us to reflect and confess)

Words of Assurance

Our God is a God of compassion and mercy,
slow to get angry,
and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness.
So be at peace: our sins are forgiven.

**We praise You, God,
and glorify Your name.**

For great is Your love toward us.

We Reflect

Bible Study the Flawed Families of God

Scripture: Genesis 23:1-20, 35:16-20

Questions for discussion around the tables

What questions/feelings arise as you read these stories in scripture?

What are similarities and differences between the death of Sarah and Rachel? Does it impact how their death was experienced?

How does a death impact a family? A community?

How have you been impacted/influenced by a death?

What can we learn from scripture about death?

Gathering our thoughts and questions.

We Respond

MISSION STATEMENT

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

Offertory Invitation *Place gifts in the basket on table.*

Prayer of Dedication

O God,

Jesus taught that where our treasure is,
there will be our hearts also.

In this hour, we come bringing our treasures—
all that we have and all that we are.

We come seeking your treasure—
treasure that does not fade, decay, or disappoint.
Share with us the treasure of heaven,
that we may boldly share it with others. Amen.

~ written by Rev. Dr. Barb Hedges-Goettl, PC(USA) pastor

(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

Song#825 "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"

Refrain:

Swing low, sweet chariot,

coming for to carry me home.

Swing low, sweet chariot,
coming for to carry me home.

1 I looked over Jordan, and what did I see
coming for to carry me home?

A band of angels coming after me,
coming for to carry me home. O, (Refrain)

2 If you get there before I do,
coming for to carry me home,
tell all my friends I'm coming too,
coming for to carry me home. O, (Refrain)

3 The brightest day that ever I saw,
coming for to carry me home,
when Jesus washed my sins away,
coming for to carry me home. O, (Refrain)

4 I'm sometimes up and sometimes down,
coming for to carry me home,
but still my soul feels heavenly bound,
coming for to carry me home. O, (Refrain)

*Charge and Benediction

As you leave this place, remember that you may be the only grace someone will meet this week.

We go to share God's graciousness with all.

Remember you may be the only love someone will encounter this week.

We go to be the love of Jesus for all.

Remember you may be the only peace someone will find this week.

We go to share the Spirit of hope and reconciliation with all.

(c) 2014 Thom M. Shuman

*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