

Grace Presbyterian Church

August 11, 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.**

A Fragrant Offering



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

You are the One for whom we search, O God,
and we worship you because you have found us.
You are the hope for which we yearn, O Christ,
and so we follow you to serve at your side.
You are the peace which can calm us, Holy Spirit,
and so we open our brokenness so you might fill us.

*Hymn #15 "All Creatures of our God and King"

Call to Confession

We say we know you, and what you hope for us, but our words and actions, our silences and failures to care, show that we have so much to discover about our God. Let us gather up our foolish lives and offer them in prayer to the One who longs to forgive us and save us from ourselves.

Prayer of Confession

If we are to speak truth in these moments, Giver of the Bread of life, we must admit that we are not very gracious folk, with our words or with our

actions. It seems enough to hold grudges, not to speak grace to those who hurt us. It seems enough to get into arguments with others, rather than find paths of peace. It seems enough to pour out bitterness to those around us to drink, rather than cool cups of love.

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)

Forgive us, Merciful God, so we might live in love, as your children. May the grace which was in Jesus fill us with grace. May the hope which was in Jesus fill us with hope. May the life which was in Jesus fill us with life. As Jesus was your heart to us, may we be your heart to those around us. This we pray, even as we offer our lives to you in silence.

Words of Assurance

When we love others, we imitate God. When we help others, we imitate God. When we offer mercy to others, we imitate God.

May others continue to see God in us, even as we are loved, helped, and forgiven by our God.

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Hymn #425 "Son of God, Whose Heart is Peace"

(please remain seated)

We Reflect

Prayer of Illumination

First reading from the Gospel John 6:35-51

A time for Children and the Young in heart

Reading from The Letter to the Ephesians 4:25-5:2

SERMON

*Hymn # 707 "Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord"

We Respond

MISSION STATEMENT

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

Offertory Invitation

Musical Meditation

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 #729 "Lord, I Want to be a Christian"

*Charge and Benediction

May God the creator reshape our hearts;

May Christ Jesus, the bread of life, sustain us always;

and may the Holy Spirit unite us in the bond of peace.

*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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