



8989 Woodlands Pkwy, The Woodlands TX. 77382 / Phone: 281-296-0911 / [www.gracewoodlands.org](http://www.gracewoodlands.org)

*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;  
to all who mourn and long for comfort;  
to all who struggle and desire victory;  
to all who sin and need a Savior;  
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;  
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;  
and to all who will come,  
this church opens wide her doors  
and offers welcome  
in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

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***Church Staff & Officers***

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**David J. Wilcher**  
*Lead Pastor*

**Kyle Bobos**  
*Children's Ministries*

**Grayson Baird**  
*Student Ministry*

**Elders**

*Dan Brink  
Jon Green  
Mike Hume  
Mark Moore  
Andy Yung*

**Deacons**

*Matt Bradshaw  
Mike Bellin  
Justin Chandler  
Jeff Cranford  
Mark Hill  
Scott Johnston  
Steve Kovach  
Rob McIntosh  
Mike Ryan  
Sunny Yung*

## *Reflections*

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If we don't have any fixed reference point outside of ourselves to try to live moral lives, it's like trying to find your way out of wilderness using a compass that always points at you. You're always lost.

— John Stonestreet

I think we have lost the old knowledge that happiness is overrated – that, in a way, life is overrated. We have lost somehow a sense of mystery – about us, our purpose, our meaning, our role. Our ancestors believed in two worlds, and understood this to be the solitary, poor, nasty, brutish and short one. We are the first generation of man that actually expected to find happiness here on earth, and our search for it has caused such unhappiness. The reason: if you do not believe in another, higher world, if you believe only in the flat material world around you, if you believe that this is your only chance at happiness – if that is what you believe, then you are more than disappointed when the world does not give you a good measure of its riches, you are in despair.

— Peggy Noonan

*Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness*

Seen my share of broken halos  
Folded wings that used to fly  
They've all gone wherever they go  
Broken halos that used to shine

Chris Stapleton  
*Broken Halos*

# Grace Presbyterian Church

*The Lord's Day*

June 24, 2018

10:30 a.m.

**Prelude**

**Words of Welcome**

**Preparation for Worship<sup>1</sup>**

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*Praise*

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**Call to Worship**

**Hebrews 4:14,16**

Minister: Since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven,  
Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.

*All: Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence,  
so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.*

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<sup>1</sup> As a courtesy, please program all communication devices to silent mode. Thank you!

## Song of Praise

*When Morning Gilds the Skies*

### Prayer of Adoration *(the following in unison)*

*Minister &  
People:*

*Almighty God,  
you have made us for yourself,  
and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you:  
Pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself,  
and so bring us at last to your heavenly city  
where we shall see you face to face;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

### Private Adoration and Praise

### Songs of Thanksgiving

*Reckless Love  
Tender Mercy*

### The Peace of God and Announcements

Minister: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

*If parents prefer, children 4 years old – 2nd grade  
are invited to attend Children's Church in the Education Building at this time.*

### The Prayers of the People *(concluded with the Lord's prayer)*

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever. Amen!*

## Commitment

### The Offering

The offering is a way for members and friends of Grace Church to support the church's mission and ministry. If you are our guest today, please feel under no compulsion to give.

### Scripture Reading

**Luke 15:1,2,11-32**

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. 2 But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

11 Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. 12 The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

13 "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. 14 After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. 16 He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

17 "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! 18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' 20 So he got up and went to his father.

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

21 "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

25 "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 27 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'

28 "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. 29 But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'

31 "'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. 32 But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

THE LOST BOYS  
THE STORIES OF JESUS

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*Communion*

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*Guidelines for Reception of Communion*

*Communion is a family meal for Christians. We welcome all committed followers of Jesus Christ to partake of this sacrament: those who are baptized members of a congregation which proclaims the gospel, who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer using the prayers that follow as guidelines. We hope that this time is helpful as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ, and with his people, the church.*

**Confession of Sin**

*Minister &  
People:*

*Everlasting God, fountain of all life and the true home of every heart: Our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Yet we confess that our hearts have been enslaved by selfish passion and base desire. We have sought after many things and have neglected the one thing needful. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. Loving Father, who alone can fill our deepest longings and quiet our restless hearts, help us to turn to you and find forgiveness. Lead us home that we may again find in you our life and joy and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**Private Confession and Reflection**

**Words of Encouragement & The Great Thanksgiving**

**Zephaniah 3:16,17**

Minister: Do not fear, Zion; do not let your hands hang limp. The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing. Therefore, lift up your hearts!

*People: We lift them up to the Lord!*

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

*People: It is right to give him thanks and praise!*

## Song of Communion

*There is a Fountain Filled with Blood*

## Prayer of Consecration and the Words of Institution

### Prayer for those not communing:

#### Prayer for Covenant Children (Not Yet Confirmed)

Lord Jesus, thank you for placing me inside your family, the church. Help me more and more to know you, to love you, and to follow you as your faithful disciple. Amen.

#### Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you, as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

#### Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior. Amen.

#### Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my needs, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking only to you, the author and finisher of my faith. Amen.

#### Prayer of Commitment

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

## Distribution of the Bread and the Cup

Grace Presbyterian uses wine in the celebration of Holy Communion. If you prefer non-alcoholic grape juice, please take a cup from the outer circle of the tray. Please hold the elements until all have received so we can celebrate this meal together.



## Song of Commitment

*Satisfied*

### Benediction<sup>2</sup>

– Bishop William Temple

May the love of the Lord Jesus draw us to himself;  
May the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen us in his service;  
May the joy of the Lord Jesus fill our souls; and  
May the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the  
Holy Ghost, be upon us and remain with us always.

### Dismissal

Minister: Now, let us go forth to serve this community and the world as those who love  
our Lord Jesus Christ.

**ALL:** *Thanks be to God!*

The pastoral staff and other church leaders are available following the service  
to pray with you or to answer your questions about the Christian faith or Grace Church.

### Worship Music<sup>3</sup>

Thank you for sharing your gifts and talents with Grace Presbyterian Church.

Brent Allmon, saxophone  
T.J. Darst, bass  
David Fox, keyboard  
Damon Henrichs, guitar

David Kang, violin  
Debra Moses, flute  
Rae Moses, piano  
Jennifer Reddick, flute

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<sup>2</sup> The benediction is much more than a wish or even a prayer. It is a renewed ordination of the people of God to their service to each other, to their community and the world. God declares his own favor toward his people.

<sup>3</sup> All songs except hymns are copied under CCL # 1214497. The hymns are reprinted from *Trinity Hymnal* (© 1990, Great Commission Publications). Used by permission. All Scripture is quoted from, unless otherwise indicated, the *THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION*®, NIV® Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission

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**Sermon Notes**

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**Luke 15:1,2,11-32**

*THE LOST BOYS*

**THE STORIES OF JESUS**

*Grace Presbyterian Bulletin Board*

**Welcome, Guests!** We are excited you're here with us today. We hope that you were warmly welcomed and would love for you to be a part of Grace. Please take a moment to fill out the visitor information on the back of the bulletin, tear it off and drop it in the offering plate or give it on to an usher.

**Parents of Infants - Three-Yr-Olds:** Our nursery and early-childhood classes provide a warm, nurturing, and well-supervised environment. Our workers welcome the opportunity to love your child! When using the nursery, please check in and label all items (bags, cups, etc.) with your child's name. If you need assistance or have any questions about the Nursery, please contact our Nursery Coordinator, Kate Weimar, at [nursery@gracewoodlands.org](mailto:nursery@gracewoodlands.org).

**Cry Room:** A cry room is available for the comfort of our new parents in order to ensure that everyone enjoys our services. It is located in the back of the sanctuary and it is well equipped (comfortable rockers, changing table, etc.) but if you are in need of anything, one of our ushers will be glad to assist.

**Sunday Mornings at Grace**

8:30 am Prayer

9:30 am Christian Education Classes

10:15 am Coffee Break

10:30 am Worship

11:45 am Intercession

**Sunday Morning Prayer Ministry:** To clasp hands in prayer is the beginning of an uprising against the disorder of the world. We would like to invite you to be a part of this uprising at 8:30 each Sunday morning in the Prayer Room (114). Join us as we pray for the expansion of God's Kingdom.

**Community Groups:** To be part of the church is to be part of a community. Community is where we connect, build relationships, study, and serve together. Groups consisting of 8-15 people meet regularly from September to May. Community Groups take a break for the summer but will resume in the fall.

**Grace Online** gives users access to the church directory and event calendar. Users can also join groups, print giving statements and give online. If you need any online instructions contact Dianna in the office at 281-296-0911 or [admin@gracewoodlands.org](mailto:admin@gracewoodlands.org).

- **Website:** Grace Online directory link, [gracewoodlands.org](http://gracewoodlands.org) under the Connect tab.
- **Mobile App (Elexio Community):** can be found by clicking the Apple App Store and Google Play icons on the church website. To log on, replace "Domain" with [gracewoodlands.org](http://gracewoodlands.org) and use your directory username and password for the app.
- **Online Giving:** If you would like to give online, you will need to set up an account, the link is under the Care tab on our website.

**No Sunday Morning Classes next week, July 1st.** Please join us the following week for the last of our Summer Melange of classes.

**Children's Christian Education** classes are offered for Preschoolers (2-3yrs old), Pre-K and Kindergarten, 1st-2nd Grade, 3rd-4th Grade, and 5th-6th Grade. Classes meet in the Education Building at 9:30 am 2nd Grade and under are on the 1st floor, 3rd Grade and above meet on the 2nd floor. No classes on July 1st.

- **Children's Church** is offered for children ages 4 years old through 2nd grade. During passing of the peace, the children line up with their leader in the back of the sanctuary to exit worship. During the song of communion, children will rejoin their families to observe communion with the rest of the church body. We gather in room 108 in the Education Building to sing songs, pray, and hear a children's sermon. We also collect a children's offering during the service. This format is designed to model worship for our children and teach them the importance of meeting together as the body of Christ.

- **SNiCK and 56ers** All children, 8 weeks through 6th Grade, are invited to join us on Sunday nights from 5-7 pm. We eat and laugh and play during our time together. The goal is to have fun at SNiCK through friendship and fellowship. We are on break for the summer and will resume in the fall.
- **PlayGroup** is an active gathering of moms and dads making space for fun, friendship, and adventure for our young children. We meet on the 2nd & 4th Friday of the month. To get involved, contact Deborah Kovach or Natalie Webster. Since locations and times can change, please join the PlayGroup in E-Connect for updates.  
 \*July 27th- Felicity Bodden's House \* August 24th- Jessica Smith's House

#### **Student Ministry:**

- **Christian Education:** On Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:15, we gather to know more deeply about our Lord and Savior and who we are in Christ. Join us on Sunday mornings in Room 206.
- **SNF (Sunday Night Fellowship):** On Sunday evenings during the school year we gather to eat, fellowship, and to see the person and work of Jesus more clearly in our lives together. Jr. High meets from 5-7 pm and Sr. High meets 7-8:30 pm. We are on hiatus until August.
- **Drive-In Movie Night:** Join us Wednesday, June 27th, to go see The Incredibles 2 at Show Boat Drive-in in Hockley. Bring your favorite snack and friend, a blanket or a chair. Cost is \$8 per person. Meet at Grace at 6:30 pm. Please let Grayson or Spencer know if you're planning on coming, so we can have plenty of car space!

**Women's Ministry Events and More!** Please join the Women's Ministry on E-Connect to get involved.

- **Girls' Night Out:** Join us at the Black Walnut Cafe (9000 New Trails), Thursday, July 5th we'll meet at 6:30 pm. Come and go as you like! Questions, contact Courtney Lott.

#### **Men's Fraternal:**

- **Brew Night:** Our next monthly men's gathering is set for Tuesday, July 17th. Join us at Wings 'N More (16580 I-45 South) for dinner and fellowship starting at 6:30 pm.
- **Men's Discipleship Breakfast:** Our twice monthly men's breakfast takes a break during the summer months. We will resume in September.

#### **GraceCares:**

- **Autumn Grove:** Just a few minutes drive from Grace, Autumn Grove Cottage, a sixteen resident assisted living home, provides care to men and women with Alzheimer's. A small group from Grace visits roughly once a month for about 30 minutes or so to sing, pray and visit with the residents. We would love to have you join us. Contact Laurel Stevens or Dan Brink for more information.
- **Meals Ministry:** There are events in life when we all need the help and encouragement of our community. The Meals Ministry seeks to enter into these times by providing meals. If you are in need of meals, or would like to help provide meals for others, please contact our Meals Coordinator, Rhonnie Bellin.
- **Serve and Care for Grace Church members and congregation.** If you would like to know the best way to support and help those who might have financial or physical needs in our church and community, we would encourage you to consider giving to the Deacon's Fund. It is through the deacons and their ministry that Grace church provides for, supports and comes alongside those who are in need. If you have questions, please contact Matt Bradshaw.
- **Prayer Ministry:** Our desire at Grace is that we take seriously the privilege of prayer and there are several ways you can participate. If you become aware of a prayer need, please communicate this to us in one of the following ways:
  - In writing: Fill out the back page of the bulletin and place it in the offering plate.
  - By phone: 281-296-0911 (Church Office)

Your requests will be communicated to our Church Staff, Officers, and our Prayer Team. If you would like to be on our Prayer Team, please let us know.

**Missions Service Opportunities & Events:** Contact John Zeigler for more information or to be added to our GraceMissions email list or to connect with a missions team advocate.

- **May Prayer Partners:** Please join the Missions Leadership Team in praying for these two mission partners throughout the month of June.
  - Rev. William & Mrs. Katherine Bondurant, RUF @ Texas A&M
  - Rev. Robbie & Mrs. Kelly Mills, New City Fellowship Dallas
- **Local Mission Partners**
  - Tamina Community Center | Conroe, TX
  - Montgomery County Women's Center | Montgomery County, TX
  - Cornerstone Recovery | The Woodlands, TX
  - Interfaith Family Services | The Woodlands, TX
  - Pregnancy Assistance Center North | The Woodlands, TX
  - Redeemed Ministries | The Woodlands, TX
  - Pastors Thong Lun & Mang Tiak | Greater Houston Burmese Christian Fellowship | Houston, TX
  - Pastor Bhadra Rai | Canaan Bhutanese Church of Houston | Houston, TX
  - Pastor "Andre" Onokoko Shang | International Ministries for the Propagation of the Gospel | Houston
  - Brooks & Meredith Harwood | RUF | University of Houston
  - Juan Carlos & Samara Martínez | RUF | Rice University
  - William & Katherin Bondurant | RUF | Texas A&M University
  - Leo & Ellen Schuster | City Church | Houston, TX
  - Bill Thomas | PCA Southwest Church Planting Network | Dallas, TX
  - Oaklawn Presbyterian Church | Houston, TX
  - Grace Presbyterian Diaconate
- **National Mission Partners**
  - Way & Amy Rutherford | RUF | Baylor University
  - John & Chrissy Trapp | RUF | University of Texas
  - Ryan & Laura Anderson | RUF | Texas Christian University
  - Wil & Mary Nettleton | RUF | Trinity University
  - Nathan & Falon Moretto | New City Presbyterian Church | Royal Oak, MI
  - David & Kelly Richter | Christ the King Presbyterian Church | Somerville, MA
  - Francis A. Schaeffer Institute | Covenant Theological Seminary | Saint Louis, MO
  - Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) | Atlanta, GA
  - Curtis & Marian Castleberry | RUF | University of Texas at San Antonio
  - Robbie & Kelly Mills | New City Fellowship Dallas | Dallas, TX
- **International Mission Partners**
  - Jason & Sarah Pickard | RUF International | Texas A&M University
  - Terry & Mary Rose Dykstra | RUF International | University of Texas
  - Joe & Felicity Congdon | MTW | Yokkaichi, Tokyo, Japan
  - Charlie & Bonita Davidson | MTW | Monterrey, Mexico
  - Andy & Missy Shadburne | MTW | Fremantle, Perth, Australia
  - David & Eowyn Stoddard | MTW | Berlin, Germany
  - Arab Baptist Theological Seminary | Beirut, Lebanon
  - Kay Burklin | MTW | Refugee Liaison, Europe
  - Mission to The World (MTW) | Atlanta, GA

**Banners Explained:** The banner on the right is inscribed with the Latin phrase "Ego sum vitis vera" meaning "I am the true vine", an expression Jesus used to describe himself in John 15:1. The grapevines that make up the cross symbolize abundance and fruitfulness; Jesus is the only way to a truly fruitful life. The "IHS" in the center of the cross is an ancient monogram for Jesus.

The banner on the left is inscribed with the Latin phrase "In cruce salus" meaning "In the cross is salvation". Passion flowers symbolize the suffering and death of Christ, and forming a circle in the center is a crown of thorns which Jesus wore on the cross. In the center are the Greek letters alpha and omega, the first and last letters of the alphabet. In Revelation 21:6, Jesus describes himself as the Alpha and the Omega - the Beginning and the End.

**Stewardship Update:** Grace thanks you so much for your generous gifts and offerings to our Savior for May 2018.

	<u>May</u>	<u>YTD</u>	
Projected Budget	70,858	354,290	
Actual General Fund	67,847	318,144	
Variance	(3,011)	(36,146)	*Based on a 2018 budget of \$850.300

**Missed a Recent Sunday Worship?** MP3s of Sunday morning messages are available on the website at [www.gracewoodlands.org](http://www.gracewoodlands.org) under Media. You can listen online, download them or subscribe to the Podcast. If you need help or are having trouble, please contact the church office<sup>4</sup>.

We are glad to have you as our guest today. Please use this page to let us know of your visit and to make us aware of any ideas, suggestions or concerns you may have. You may deposit this page in the offering plate as it comes by, or give it to an usher or greeter. Have confidence that no one will call or drop by your home; this is for us to have a record of your visit or your prayer requests.

Name & Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spouse & Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Children & Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Please let us know if you are:

- Visitor                       Regular Attendee       One time visit from out of town

I am interested in learning about:

- Community Groups     Music                       Usher, Greeter             Sunday Volunteer  
 Children's Ministry    Women's Ministry       Student Ministry         Men's Ministry

Prayer Request:

- I would like the prayer team to pray for the following needs or concerns:

I would like to speak with someone about this prayer request or other spiritual concern; please have someone contact me at: \_\_\_\_\_.

*Prayer of Belief...*

*Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more  
 sinful that I ever before believed, but through you, I am  
 more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope.*

*I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, bearing my  
 punishment and offering forgiveness.*

*Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn  
 from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.*

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<sup>4</sup> Office Hours 8:30 am-3pm M - F      Phone: 281.296.0911  
 Email: [admin@gracewoodlands.org](mailto:admin@gracewoodlands.org)      Website: [www.gracewoodlands.org](http://www.gracewoodlands.org)