



8989 Woodlands Pkwy, The Woodlands TX. 77382 / Phone: 281-296-0911 / 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.*

Church Staff & Officers

David J. Wilcher
Lead Pastor

Kyle Bobos
Children's Ministries

Elders
*Dan Brink
Jon Green
Mark Moore
Andy Yung*

Deacons
*Matt Bradshaw
Mike Bellin
Jeff Cranford
Mark Hill
Scott Johnston
Rob McIntosh
Mike Ryan
Sunny Yung*

Grace Church is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).

Reflections

If you want to judge how well a person understands Christianity, find out how much he makes of the thought of being God's child, and having God as his Father. If this is not the thought that prompts and controls his worship and prayers and his whole outlook on life, it means that he does not understand Christianity very well at all.

– J.I. Packer
Knowing God

Our thinking about who we are as Christians should not begin with what we can discover about ourselves by self-analysis. Rather, it begins what what God says about those who trust in Christ.

– Sinclair Ferguson
The Children of God

...God's gift and call to us are not for ourselves alone, but for the purpose of working through us to bring about the transformation of the world.

– N.T. Wright
Paul for Everyone, Romans: Part One

Labor pains are certainly agonizing and all-consuming at the time. Yet they are quickly forgotten and relegated to the past in the joy of birth and the arrival of new life.

– Jonathan Moo & Robert White
Let Creation Rejoice

In light of heaven, the worst suffering on earth will be seen to be no more serious than one night in an inconvenient hotel.

– Theresa of Avila

Grace Presbyterian Church

The Lord's Day

February 3, 2019

10:30 a.m.

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Preparation for Worship¹

_____ *Praise* _____

Call to Worship

Psalm 136:1-3

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

People: His love endures forever.

Leader: Give thanks to the God of gods.

People: His love endures forever.

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord of lords.

All: His love endures forever.

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

Song of Praise

Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder

Prayer of Adoration

Song of Adoration

Abide With Me

Private Praise and Adoration

_____ *Renewal* _____

Scripture Reading

Galatians 5:1

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

Confession of Sin

*Minister &
People*

Gracious and holy Father, forgive us for failing to recognize and delight in the privilege of our adoption as sons and daughters of God. We often live as though we are slaves and orphans, trying to satisfy our hearts and appetites with things that leave us more empty and discouraged. We use our freedom selfishly and in ways that dishonor You. Some of us are blind to our brokenness and foolishly imagine we are quite well.

Lord, thank you that your mercy is more than a match for all our sins. Grant us the ability, by Your Spirit, to fall down before You in confession and repentance. Soak us in Your Word and gospel, that we might live out of the new identity You give us through adoption into Your family. Show us the glory of our Redeemer and cause us to revel in His love and bask in the warmth and joy of His great pleasure in us.

Private Confession and Reflection

Words of Encouragement

John 1:12,13

Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

Song of Thanksgiving

In Christ Alone

The Peace of God and Announcements

Minister: The peace of the Lord 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

Romans 8:14-25

14 For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. 15 The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." 16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. 17 Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. 19 For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. 20 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. 23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. 24 For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? 25 But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

Sermon

Mr. Kyle Bobos

ADOPTION: GROANING WITH HOPE *THE LETTER TO THE ROMANS*

COMMUNION

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.

The Great Thanksgiving

Minister: 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

How Deep the Father's Love For Us

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. Gluten-free wafers are provided in cups in the center of the cup trays. Please hold the elements until all have received so we can celebrate this meal together.

Song of Commitment

Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken

Benediction² based on Deuteronomy 32:6, 2 Corinthians 13:11, & Philippians 2:2

May the Father who bought you,
The Father who has made you and established you,
Make you complete, like-minded and comforted
By the God of love and peace...

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 Music³

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

Brent Allmon, saxophone
David Fox, keyboard
Damon Henrichs, guitar

Debra Moses, flute
Rae Moses, piano
Jennifer Reddick, flute

² 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.

³ 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

Sermon Notes

Romans 8:14-25

ADOPTION: GROANING WITH HOPE

THE LETTER TO THE ROMANS

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 mothersdayout@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.

Adult Christian Education: Join us in a Sunday Morning class next week as we seek to better know, love and serve Jesus Christ. Join us weekly at 9:30 - rooms 201 & 209.

• **Foundational Christian Doctrines**

Anthony Bocciardi

We live what we believe, but how well do our most cherished convictions compare with the foundational tenets of Christianity that form our compass, our rudder? Anthony invites us to better live as the fragrant aroma of Christ, and to present a kingdom that is very different from the culture of our times, even as we struggle to live out our faith.

• **Finding Hope**

Joy Zeigler

Have you ever lost hope? In times of loss, crisis, failure or fear, we forget to hope, or worse, we trust in things God never promised, leading to disappointment and despair. What is Biblical hope, and how can something described thousands of years ago apply to us now? This discussion class looks at the realities of true hope through Biblical stories of God's people in their struggles.

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

• **Women's Bible Study:** The Thursdays morning group meets at 9:30 am in room 207, Linda Martinez is leading and childcare is provided. The Thursdays evening group meets at 7 pm in room 207, Jan Johnston is leading.

• **Rain Walks** is a grief support group for women who are dealing with the loss of a loved one, either recently or in the past. Please come to listen (and share if you like) as we discuss our journeys and ways to "walk" through our loss. Rain Walks meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 8:30 am at Black Walnut Cafe in The Woodlands. Contact Sabrina Amell for more information.

• **Girls' Night Out:** Join us at the Black Walnut Café (9000 New Trails), Thursday, February 7th we'll meet at 6:30 pm. Come and go as you like! Questions, contact Courtney Lott.

• **Women For Women** begins Feb 13th. Do others seem to have it together, while you are struggling? Women For Women offers a support group for fellow strugglers to talk openly and give/receive encouragement. A new group begins Feb 13th at 7 pm in the home of Joy Zeigler, and will run through mid-May. At the first meeting, you'll see how the group works so you can decide if it's for you. Please RSVP. Joy can be reached by phone/text.

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 on Sundays and throughout the week. If you are interested in joining a group or need more information, please email the church office at admin@gracewoodlands.org.

Men's Fraternal: John Weimar is leading our Men's Ministry Team..

- **Brew Night:** Our next monthly men's gathering is set for Thursday, February 21st for dinner and fellowship starting at 6:30 pm. Join us at Wings 'N More (16580 I-45 South) for dinner and fellowship starting at 6:30 pm.
- **Men's Discipleship Breakfast Bible Study** Our next meeting will be on February 12th at 6:30 am at the Egg and I. For more information please contact Steve Wilmoth.

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.

- **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. Invite your friends and neighbors! There will be NO SNiCK/56ers tonight due to the Super Bowl. We will resume next week, February 10th.
- **56er Game Night** will be Friday, February 15th, from 6:00-8:00 pm at Grace. Come and bring your friends! We will have CFA for dinner.
- **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 Natalie Webster. Since locations and times can change, please join the PlayGroup in E-Connect for updates.

Student Ministry is designed for students 7th grade through 12th grade.

- **SNF (Sunday Night Fellowship):** On Sundays during the school year we gather to eat, fellowship, and to see the person and work of Jesus more clearly in our lives together. Sr. High meets 3:30-4:30 pm and Jr. High meets from 5-7 pm. **TODAY** we will not be meeting at our regular time, but will head to lunch at Fuddruckers immediately following the service. Both Jr. High and Sr. High are welcome. If you have any questions please contact Courtney Lott.

GraceCares: Caring for the church and the community: If you are interested in helping with GraceCares and the needs of the church and the community, please contact Joe Tison.

- **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. Contact Laurel Stevens or Dan Brink for more information. We welcome anyone and everyone!
- **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.
- **Giving:** If you would like to know the best way to support those who might have 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.

• **February Prayer Partners:**

- Rev. Brooks & Ms. Meredith Harwood, RUF, University of Houston
- Rev. Ryan & Ms. Laura Anderson, RUF, Texas Christian University

- **ESL Ministry Help Needed:** Our ESL ministry is still looking for short term hospitality volunteers for Tuesday nights from 7-9pm. We offer our students a chance to engage and build community with each other during our class breaks. This break allows strangers who share language and culture to meet and build relationships with teachers and each other in a reflection of the relationship we hope to build with Jesus Christ. Please consider helping us serve these students during their English classes and get to know our ministry better. Sign up in the narthex or contact Bailey Patel at esl@gracewoodlands.org for more information.

• **Local Mission Partners**

Tamina Community Center | Conroe, TX
 Pregnancy Assistance Center North | The Woodlands, TX
 Cornerstone of Houston Team Counseling | The Woodlands, TX
 Redeemed Ministries | The Woodlands, TX
 Interfaith Family Services | The Woodlands, TX
 Montgomery County Women's Center | Montgomery County, TX
 Juan Carlos & Samara Martínez | RUF | Rice University
 Brooks & Meredith Harwood | RUF | University of Houston
 William & Katherine Bondurant | RUF | Texas A&M University
 Oaklawn Presbyterian Church, Houston, TX
 Leo & Ellen Schuster | City Church | Houston, 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 | TX
 Grace Presbyterian ESL Ministry
 Grace Presbyterian Diaconate

• **National Mission Partners**

Wil & Mary Nettleton | RUF | Trinity University
 Way & Amy Rutherford | RUF | Baylor University
 Ryan & Laura Anderson | RUF | Texas Christian University
 John & Chrissy Trapp | RUF | University of Texas
 Curtis & Marian Castleberry | RUF | University of Texas at San Antonio
 Robbie & Kelly Mills | New City Fellowship | Dallas, TX
 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
 PCA Southwest Church Planting Network | Dallas, TX

• **International Mission Partners**

Titus & Crystal Bagby | RUF International | Texas A&M University
 Terry & Mary Rose Dykstra | RUF International | University of Texas
 Charles & Bonita Davidson | MTW | Monterrey, Mexico
 Joe & Felicity Congdon | MTW | Yokkaichi, Japan
 Andy & Missy Shadburne | MTW | Fremantle, Perth, Australia
 David & Eowyn Stoddard | MTW | Berlin, Germany
 Kay Burklin | MTW | Refugee Liaison, Europe
 Arab Baptist Theological Seminary | Beirut, Lebanon

Banners Explained: In Christian tradition, green came to symbolize the life of the church following Pentecost, as well as symbolizing the hope of new life in the resurrection. This color indicates ordinary time, which is the time between the major Christian Seasons.

The Banner on right symbolizes the Trinity, the belief that God is three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and yet, one God. No part of the Trinity is ever out of alignment (moving independently) from the other parts of the Trinity. The circle represents eternity. The circle is frequently seen with the Trinitarian symbol, representing the eternal qualities of each part of the Godhead.

On the left, the circle of the Celtic Cross is a symbol of eternity as well but emphasizing the endlessness of God's love as shown through Christ's sacrifice on the cross. The IHS in the center is the abbreviated name of Jesus in the greek and is a very old symbol, dating back to the first century. Each panels focuses on a central aspect of His work. The cross is framed with grapes, a symbol of our Lord's blood shed on the cross for us.

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.

- **Website:** Grace Online directory link, 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](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.

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

	<u>2018</u>
2018 General Fund Budget	850,300
Actual General Fund Receipts	935,648
Variance	85,348

Also, due to your extreme generosity and faithfulness, the flooring loan was also paid off.

Steps to access your complete Giving statement. **Step 1-** Log on to our church website at <http://www.gracewoodlands.org/>. **Step 2-** On the home page click on the connect tab/member login. A new window will open. **Step 3-** Click on login **Step 4-** Fill in your username **Step 5-** If you don't know your password click on forgot the password and the computer will send you a temporary password. Once you are on your page, you can reset the password to one that you will remember. Please email Dianna if you have any problems or questions at 281-296-0911/admin@gracewoodlands.org.

Missed a Recent Sunday Worship? MP3s of Sunday morning messages are available on the website at 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 office⁴.

⁴ Office Hours 8:30 am-3 pm M - F Phone: 281.296.0911
Email: admin@gracewoodlands.org Website: www.gracewoodlands.org

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 & Cell Number: _____

Spouse, Email & Cell Number: _____

Home Address: _____

Children, Age & 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 Membership

Prayer Request

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

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

Prayer of Belief...

Lord Jesus Christ, 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 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.