



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

...submission to the lordship of Jesus Christ should be in response to the love and mercy of God. *In view of God's mercy*, Paul urged the Roman believers to offer their bodies as living sacrifices. We must respond with a similar motivation to His lordship in our lives today.

- Jerry Bridges
Transforming Grace

Mercy is to govern our social calendar. Mercy is not limited to an occasional charitable act in which we give a little money to the needy to salve our consciences; instead, we must take action and give ourselves to behavior that impacts and challenges our own comfortable lifestyles and home arrangements.

- Jerram Barrs
Learning Evangelism from Jesus

Mercy and forgiveness must be free and unmerited to the wrongdoer. If the wrongdoer has to do something to merit it, then it isn't mercy, but forgiveness *always* comes at a cost to the one granting the forgiveness.

- Timothy Keller
The Prodigal God

The truth doesn't have to do with cruelty, the truth has to do with mercy.

- Ken Kesey

Grace Presbyterian Church

The Lord's Day

February 10, 2019

10:30 a.m.

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Preparation for Worship¹

_____ *Praise* _____

Call to Worship

1 Peter 1:3,4

Leader: Come, let us bless the God and Father of our LORD Jesus Christ! Who, according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, to an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade, kept in heaven for us.

Song of Praise

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

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

Prayer of Adoration

Song of Adoration

At the Name of Jesus

Private Praise and Adoration

Renewal

Scripture Reading

Matthew 7:12

So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

Confession of Sin

*Minister &
People*

Gracious Father, We are left uncomfortably exposed by Jesus' words. In the light of your law of love, we stand woefully condemned. If we were treated as we treat others, we would be devastated. We would be despised for our appearance, rejected for our sinful behavior, and ridiculed in secret gossip. We would be overlooked, cursed, and mocked. We would be misused, abused, and abandoned. This is precisely what we have done to others. Forgive us.

Help us to live in the assurance and intimacy that are ours in our adoption as your children. Fulfill your righteous law of love in us so we might genuinely love, serve, and show mercy to those around us. Transform us by your grace and gospel.

Private Confession and Reflection

Words of Encouragement

1 Peter 2:9,10

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Song of Thanksgiving

Tender Mercy

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

Acts 16:25-34

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. 26 Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone’s chains came loose. 27 The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. 28 But Paul shouted, “Don’t harm yourself! We are all here!”

29 The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. 30 He then brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

31 They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.” 32 Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. 33 At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. 34 The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household.

Mercy, Mercy

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

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed?

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

Take My Life, and Let It Be (VS. 1-3)

Benediction²

based on 1 John 5:20 & *O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing*

May He who breaks the power of canceled sin and sets the prisoner free,
Whose blood can make the foulest clean;

May He increase your understanding so that you may know Him who is true, and that you are in His Son, Jesus Christ.

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

Debra Moses, flute

David Fox, keyboard

Rae Moses, piano

Damon Henrichs, guitar

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

Acts 16:25-34
Mercy, Mercy

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 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 832-525-5630 or amellhouse7@gmail.com.
- **Girls' Night Out:** Join us at the Black Walnut Café (9000 New Trails), Thursday, March 7th we'll meet at 6:30 pm. Come and go as you like! Questions, contact Courtney Lott at 832-465-2437.
- **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 (281-703-2841) or email (joy.zeigler@gmail.com).

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 at stevenwilmoth@sbcglobal.net.

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!
- **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 (904-651-2166). 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. If you have any questions, contact Courtney Lott at 832-465-2437.

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 at 281-450-8741.

- **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 at rhonniebellin@aol.com.
- **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 at 713-542-7669.
- **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)

- **By email:** abfarm@consolidated.net (Al & Barbara Adams)

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 at 936-494-8631.

• **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 Missions Partners

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

National Missions Partners

- Robbie & Kelly Mills | New City Fellowship Dallas | Dallas, TX
- David & Kelly Richter | Somerville Project | Boston, MA
- Way & Amy Rutherford | RUF | Baylor University
- William & Katherine Bondurant | RUF | Texas A & M University
- Ryan & Laura Anderson | RUF | Texas Christian University
- Wil & Mary Nettleton | RUF | Trinity University
- John & Chrissy Trapp | RUF | University of Texas
- Curtis & Marian Castleberry | RUF | University of Texas at San Antonio
- Francis A. Schaeffer Institute, Covenant Theological Seminary | St. Louis, MO
- Southwest Church Planting Network | Dallas, TX

International Missions Partners

- Arab Baptist Theological Seminary / Lebanese Society for Educational and Social Development | Beirut, Lebanon
- 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
- Mission to The World | Atlanta, GA

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 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 January 2019.

	<u>January</u>
Projected Budget	62,667
Actual General Fund	48,189
Variance	(14,478)

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.