



*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

Two thousand years ago Jesus is crucified, three days later he walks out of a cave and they celebrate with chocolate bunnies and marshmallow Peeps and beautifully decorated eggs. I guess these were things Jesus loved as a child.

— Billy Crystal

Death was exploded from the inside by the resurrection of Jesus Christ. At the cross, sin was conquered by absorption. At the resurrection, death was destroyed by explosion.

— Graham Kings
Signs and Seasons

Easter is never deserved.

— Jan Karon
Home to Holly Springs

Remarked about Jesus, "I do not know much about this man, but I do know that his whole life conveys this message: 'Anyone at anytime can start a new future!'"

— Roger Garaudy
Communist philosopher

Grace Presbyterian Church

The Lord's Day, April 21, 2019

Easter Sunday

9:00 & 10:30 am

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Preparation for Worship¹

_____ *Praise* _____

Call to Worship

Minister: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

People: The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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

Song of Praise

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Scripture Reading

Mark 15:42-16:8

It was Preparation Day (that is, the day before the Sabbath). So as evening approached, Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent member of the Council, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body. Pilate was surprised to hear that he was already dead. Summoning the centurion, he asked him if Jesus had already died. When he learned from the centurion that it was so, he gave the body to Joseph. So Joseph bought some linen cloth, took down the body, wrapped it in the linen, and placed it in a tomb cut out of rock. Then he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph saw where he was laid.

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"

But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.

"Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.'"

Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

Prayer of Adoration

Doxology

I Know That My Redeemer Lives

Private Adoration and Praise

Scripture Reading

John 20:10-29

Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

"They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

Jesus said to her, "Mary."

She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher").

Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Confession of Sin

*Minister
& People:*

Lord, bring new life where we are worn and tired; new love where we have turned hard-hearted; forgiveness where we feel hurt and where we have wounded others; and the joy and freedom of your Holy Spirit where we are prisoners ourselves.

Private Confession and Reflection

Words of Encouragement

1 Peter 1:18-21

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

Songs of Thanksgiving

*Alleluia! Alleluia!
In Christ Alone*

The Peace of God and Announcements

Minister: Joyful is the sound we make this morning!

People: For this day liberates us from doubt and fear.

Minister: Thankful is the song we sing!

People: For this day moves us past darkness and despair.

Minister: Hopeful is the prayer upon our lips!

People: For this day awakens in us long-awaited new life.

Minister: Jesus said, "Where two or more are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

People: Christ lives here and now. He is among us at this and every moment.

Minister: May his peace and presence 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.

Sermon

Believing in Easter

Mr. David Wilcher

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

The Heidelberg Catechism²

Minister: How does Christ's resurrection benefit you?

*People: First, by his resurrection he has overcome death,
So that he might make us share in the righteousness he won for us by his death.
Second, by his power we too are already now resurrected to a new life.
Third, Christ's resurrection is a guarantee of our glorious resurrection.*

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!

Minister: Let us proclaim the mystery of the faith:

*People: Christ has died!
Christ has risen!
Christ will come again!*

² This catechism originates from Germany in 1563. It is the most widely used and ecumenical of all the Reformed catechisms and confessions.

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.

Benediction³ and Dismissal

Minister: Why do you look for the living among the dead?
 He is not here; He has risen!

People: Alleluia! Our Redeemer lives! (Boldly)

Minister: Now, let us go forth to serve this world in the power of Christ's resurrection!

People: 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 Music⁴

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

Mike Ross - Cello
Debra Moses - Flute
Sarah Yarbrough - Horn
Rae Moses - Piano
Joey Mason - Trombone
Kevin Shannon - Trumpet
Rebecca Yarbrough- Trumpet

³ 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.

⁴ 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

Easter Lilies

The Easter Lily is the floral symbol of Easter because its shape resembles a trumpet that heralds the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The following people have purchased Easter Lilies to place in the sanctuary. Thanks so much for adding to this glorious day! *Be sure and take your lilies home with you after the 2nd service.

In Memory Of:

Arthur Bessenbach/ Angela Kinsey
Jerry Morris/ Delores Morris
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Schroder/ Cheryl & Buster Schroder
Mr. & Mrs. Claude Conde/ Cheryl & Buster Schroder
Steven P. Stahl / Gayle Stahl
Tom & Mary Agnes Forrest/ Carl & Adel Yung
Herman, Edna & Don Yung/ Carl & Adel Yung
Our Parents/ Tom & Mary Liggett
David Allison/ Shannon Allmon
Our Parents/ Al & Barbara Adams
Dan & Helen Johnston/ Scott & Jan Johnston
Mary & Bob Stageberg & Suzie/ Scott & Jan Johnston
David Lummus/ Courtney Tatum
James & Eloise Bennett, Ludean Adams/ James Bennett
WW & Betty Lu Moore/ James Bennett
Katie Clawson/ Bobos Family
Maddie Opperman & Janet Mathis/ Bobos Family
Our Parents & Greg Adams/ Rae, Debra & Emily Moses
Mr. & Mrs. William McIntosh/ Rob & Jennifer McIntosh
Joan Shimeall/ Fred & Lisa Whitla

In Honor of:

Dorothy & Eddie Salge / Debra, Rae & Emily Moses
Mr. & Mrs. Jack R. Johnson/ Rob & Jennifer McIntosh
Dick Shimeall/ Fred & Lisa Whitla
Mabel & James Whitla/ Fred & Lisa Whitla
Carolyn Mason/ Craig & Carole Mason
Lauren, Matt, Jack & Jett Varnado; Ashley, Josh, Kylie & Reid Varnado/ David & Vicki Wilcher
Hannah, Vismal & Jonathan/ David & Vicki Wilcher
The Officers of Grace Presbyterian/ David Wilcher

Sermon Notes

Believing in Easter
John 20:10-29

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:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Groups | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Usher, Greeter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday Volunteer | <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Ministry | <input type="checkbox"/> Women's Ministry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student Ministry | <input type="checkbox"/> Men's Ministry | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership |

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 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.*