



*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*

**Caleb McDuffee**  
*Student 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*

## Reflections

[denial] is an attempt to bring order to our lives.

— Mark Galli  
*Chaos and Grace: Discovering the Liberating Work of the Holy Spirit*

Be not angry that you cannot make others as you wish them to be, since you cannot make yourself as you wish to be.

— Thomas à Kempis  
*The Imitation of Christ*

It's all about control. Control is illusory. No matter what university you go to, no matter what degree you hold, if your goal is to become master of your own destiny, you have more to learn. Parkinson's is a perfect metaphor for lack of control. Every unwanted movement in my hand or arm, every twitch that I cannot anticipate or arrest, is a reminder that even in the domain of my own being, I am not calling the shots. I tried to exert control by drinking myself to a place of indifference, which just exacerbated the sense of miserable hopelessness.

— Michael J. Fox  
*A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Future...: Twists and Turns and Lessons Learned*

We admitted we were powerless over alcohol—that our lives had become unmanageable.

*Step One, Alcoholics Anonymous*

# Grace Presbyterian Church

*The Lord's Day*

June 30, 2019

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

**Isaiah 42:10**

Sing to the Lord a new song,  
his praise from the ends of the earth,  
you who go down to the sea, and all that is in it,  
you islands, and all who live in them.

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

**Song of Praise**

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

**Prayer of Adoration**

**Song of Adoration**

*Give to the Wind*

**Private Praise and Adoration**

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*Renewal*

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**Scripture Reading**

**Psalm 73:1-5**

Surely God is good to Israel,  
to those who are pure in heart.  
But as for me, my feet had almost slipped;  
I had nearly lost my foothold.  
For I envied the arrogant  
when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.  
They have no struggles;  
their bodies are healthy and strong.  
They are free from common human burdens;  
they are not plagued by human ills.

**Confession of Sin**

*Minister &  
People:*

*Father, we cry out to you as people who are sitting in the depths. On the surface, we profess to who have it all together. Some of us claim to have mastered our lives through our competence. Others of us distance ourselves from pain and disappointment through our deep cynicism. Most of us do both in a desperate attempt to maintain control.*

*But you know every nook and cranny of our hearts. You know the games we play. You know our insecurity. You know our fear. You know that we would rather die than give up control. Our fear, anxiety and misery flow from our distrust of you.*

*So Father, the only reason we come to you now is because you have promised to embrace us. Your love for us is even stronger than our distrust. We believe that since you drove your own Son away from your embrace, you will now run to us. Forgive us and heal us we pray, for Jesus' sake.*

## Private Confession and Reflection

### Words of Encouragement

Psalm 62:1,2

Truly my soul finds rest in God;  
my salvation comes from him.

Truly he is my rock and my salvation;  
he is my fortress, I will never be shaken. Song of Thanksgiving

Isaiah 43

### 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

## Psalm 38:1-15

- 1 Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger  
or discipline me in your wrath.
- 2 Your arrows have pierced me,  
and your hand has come down on me.
- 3 Because of your wrath there is no health in my body;  
there is no soundness in my bones because of my sin.
- 4 My guilt has overwhelmed me  
like a burden too heavy to bear.
- 5 My wounds fester and are loathsome  
because of my sinful folly.
- 6 I am bowed down and brought very low;  
all day long I go about mourning.
- 7 My back is filled with searing pain;  
there is no health in my body.
- 8 I am feeble and utterly crushed;  
I groan in anguish of heart.
- 9 All my longings lie open before you, Lord;  
my sighing is not hidden from you.
- 10 My heart pounds, my strength fails me;  
even the light has gone from my eyes.
- 11 My friends and companions avoid me because of my wounds;  
my neighbors stay far away.
- 12 Those who want to kill me set their traps,  
those who would harm me talk of my ruin;  
all day long they scheme and lie.
- 13 I am like the deaf, who cannot hear,  
like the mute, who cannot speak;
- 14 I have become like one who does not hear,  
whose mouth can offer no reply.
- 15 Lord, I wait for you;  
you will answer, Lord my God.

## Sermon

Mr. David Wilcher

### *The Unmanageable Life* THE TWELVE STEPS - A PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

## 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**

*I Need Thee Every Hour*

### **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**

*His Love Can Never Fail*

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

**Psalm 20:1-5**

May the Lord answer you when you are in distress;  
may the name of the God of Jacob protect you.  
May he send you help from the sanctuary  
and grant you support from Zion.  
May he remember all your sacrifices  
and accept your burnt offerings.  
May he give you the desire of your heart  
and make all your plans succeed.  
May we shout for joy over your victory  
and lift up our banners in the name of our God.

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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.

## 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  
David Fox, keyboard  
Damon Henrichs, guitar

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

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<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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**Psalm 38:1-15**

***The Unmanageable Life***

THE TWELVE STEPS - A PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

**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](mailto: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	10:30 am Worship
9:30 am Christian Education Classes	11:45 am Intercession
10:15 am Coffee Break	

**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** are on summer break and will resume in the fall.

**Adult Christian Education:** There will be no Sunday Morning Classes next week. Please join us the following week as a new six-week class begins.

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

- **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, July 11th we'll meet at 6:30 pm. Come and go as you like! Questions, contact Courtney Lott.
- **Women's Bible Study** has wrapped up for the Spring; new classes will begin in September.

**Student Ministry** is designed for students 7th grade through 12th grade. If you would like more information about upcoming youth events, or have any questions, contact Caleb McDuffee at [caleb@gracewoodlands.org](mailto:caleb@gracewoodlands.org).

- **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. We are currently working through the book of Daniel!
- **SNF (Sunday Night Fellowship)** is on summer break and will resume in the fall. During the school year we gather once each week to eat, fellowship, and to see the person and work of Jesus more clearly in our lives together.
- **Sr. High RYM** will be July 8th-13th at Laguna Beach Retreat Center in Florida. This is for all High School students (incoming 9th graders - graduating Seniors). Cost for the trip is \$600. Sign up soon so that we can reserve more spots if needed! Please contact Caleb about signing up for RYM this summer. Deadline for Sr. High sign-up is July 1st.
- **Youth Pool Party** will be hosted by the Brink's house **TODAY** from 5-8pm. We will grill out, swim, and have fun in community with one another! Contact Caleb for more details!

- **Connect** with us on facebook ( our group is called Grace Woodlands Student Ministries) and Instagram (called GPCyouth) to hear about upcoming youth group events!

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

- **Men's Discipleship Breakfast Bible Study** is on summer break and will resume in September.
- **Brew Night:** Our next monthly men's gathering is set for Thursday, July 18th 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.

**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** are on summer break and will resume in the fall. 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 summer break and will resume in September.
- **56ers Pool Side Bible Study** began last Thursday. We will meet every Thursday at the Allmon's Home from 10:00-11:30 am to hang out, swim, and dive into the Bible together. This is for all 56ers (incoming 5th graders through outgoing 6th graders). Come join us and bring your friends, a swimsuit, a towel, and your bible.

**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.
- **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.

- **June Prayer Partners:**
  - Elizabeth Milligan, Cornerstone of Houston Team Counseling, The Woodlands, TX
  - Bill Thomas, Southwest Church Planting Network, Dallas, TX
- **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

**Stewardship Update:** Grace thanks you so much for your generous gifts and offerings to our Savior for May 2019.

	<u>May</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Projected Budget	62,666	313,330
Actual General Fund	60,712	310,109
Variance	(1,954)	(3,221)

**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.

**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 the right 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.

The banner on the left 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.

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.*