



*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

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*

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

Reflections

We were at a beach one summer, and I had a bathing suit on. My wife looked at me and said: 'Boy, you are skinny, aren't you?' I said: 'Honey, I'd like to remind you that it was minor defects like this that kept me from getting a better wife.'

— Lou Holtz

Whenever I dwell for any length of time on my own shortcomings, they gradually begin to seem mild, harmless, rather engaging little things, not at all like the glaring defects in other people's characters.

— Margaret Halsey

In truth, to know oneself seems to be the hardest of all things. Not only our eye, which observes external objects, does not use the sense of sight upon itself, but even our mind, which contemplates intently another's sin, is slow in the recognition of its own defects.

— Saint Basil

Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

— Step 6
Alan-on

Grace Presbyterian Church

The Lord's Day

August 11, 2019

10:30 a.m.

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Preparation for Worship¹

_____ *Praise* _____

Call to Worship

Psalm 108:3-5

Leader: I will praise you, Lord, among the nations;
I will sing of you among the peoples.

People: *For great is your love, higher than the heavens;
your faithfulness reaches to the skies.*

All: *Be exalted, O God, above the heavens;
let your glory be over all the earth.*

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

Song of Praise

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Prayer of Adoration

Song of Adoration

Doxology

Private Praise and Adoration

Renewal

Scripture Reading

Lamentations 3:40,41

Let us examine our ways and test them,
and let us return to the Lord.
Let us lift up our hearts and our hands
to God in heaven.

Confession of Sin

*Minister &
People:*

O Father, every part of my life—my reason, my body, my emotions, my will—is a snare to me. I can hardly open my eyes without envying those above me or despising those below me. I covet the honor and riches of the mighty, and I am proud and unmerciful to the rags of the needy. If I behold beauty, is a temptation to lust; if I see deformity, it stirs up loathing and disdain. How easily do slander, cruel jokes, and lewd speech creep out from my heart! You know that all these are snares to me because of my corruption, and that my greatest snare is myself. I confess that my apprehensions of you are dull, my thoughts shallow, my affections cold. Keep me mindful of my fallen state apart from Christ, but let me never forget my heavenly title in Christ—that I am forgiven, loved, and accepted—or that his grace can deal with every sin; through Christ our Lord.

Private Confession and Reflection

Words of Encouragement

Lamentations 3:19-24

I remember my affliction and my wandering,
the bitterness and the gall.
I well remember them,
and my soul is downcast within me.
Yet this I call to mind
and therefore I have hope:
Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed,
for his compassions never fail.
They are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion;
therefore I will wait for him."

Song of Thanksgiving

You, My King!

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

Philippians 3:12-14

12 Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. 13 Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Sermon

Mr. David Wilcher

STEP 6: I'M NOT OK
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!

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

Lord for Your Glory

Benediction²

1 Thessalonians 5:23,24

May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

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

Philippians 3:12-14

STEP 6: I'M NOT OK

THE TWELVE STEPS - A PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

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	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.

Promotion Sunday for Student & Children's Christian Ed classes will be on Aug 18th. 1st and 7th graders will receive bibles during the worship service.

Gracelife: Grace Back to School Pool Party will be TONIGHT, 6 to 8 pm Forestgate Pool, 7505 S. Forestgate Drive, The Woodlands, Texas 77382. Hotdogs, Tacos in a Bag, and tasty treats are on the menu. Please join us for food, fun, and fellowship. Please see the sign up sheet in the Narthex.

Adult Christian Education: Join us for our Sunday Morning class next week as we take an honest look at the idols that compete with our desire to better know, love and serve Jesus Christ.

- **The Idol Factory:** Contemporary Idols in our Lives Robin Bittick
John Calvin commented that "the human mind [or heart] is, so to speak, a perpetual forge of idols." Yet, we are commanded throughout scripture to remove such idols from our hearts. This class explores what it means to have idols in our lives in a contemporary setting, as well as the devastating effect such idols have in our relationships both with each other and especially with God. The goal is to both identify and understand idols, and then understand how to replace them with a Christ-centered focus. As such, this is an ongoing struggle Christians have before the return of Christ.

Join us weekly at 9:30 – upstairs in the Education Building

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), Sept 5th 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. Connect with us on facebook (our group is called Grace Woodlands Student Ministries) and Instagram (called GPCyouth) to hear about upcoming youth group events!

- **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!
- **Youth Group** will start up on Sept 11th (That's a Wednesday!) and go from 7-8:30 pm. Youth group will be on Wednesday nights during the school year, and will be a weekly time of youth fellowship, fun and games, and a Gospel focused message. A great place for your kids to invite friends from outside the church!
- **Small groups:** If your student is interested in being part of a small group this fall, contact Caleb. Small groups are designed for a few students to get together at a convenient time of the week for them to study God's Word, and to challenge and support one another.

Men's Fraternal: We are looking for men who would like to support the men's events and planning. Please contact John Weimar, with interest and to learn more on the specific needs.

- **Top Golf** after work happy hour Friday Aug 23rd. Contact John to sign-up.
- **Men's Discipleship Breakfast Bible Study** is on summer break and will resume in Sept.
- **Brew Night:** Our next monthly men's gathering is set for Thursday, Aug 15th 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 Sept.
- **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.

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.

- **Today is the deadline to drop off items for the Tamina School Supply Drive.** Thank you for your generosity in helping 10 children in the Tamina Community receive all their required school supplies! Your donations will be delivered to Tamina tomorrow, so make sure to drop your items in the labeled boxes in the church office today. Contact Mechele Tison if you have any questions.
- **English as a Second Language (ESL)** Fall Semester begins Aug 27th. The Grace ESL ministry offers free English classes to members of the local community on Tuesday nights. It is our hope to extend the love of God in a meaningful way to neighbors who are often unseen in our communities. Language classes allow non-native English speakers to better engage with their communities and workplaces and to better understand American culture and customs. Training for new teachers will be offered Aug 16th-17th. If you are interested in helping on a long term or short term basis by teaching in the classroom, providing hospitality, or registering students, please email esl@gracewoodlands.org or talk to Bailey Patel.
- **August Prayer Partners**
 - Shirley Grimes, Tamina Community Center, Conroe, TX
 - Francis Schaeffer Institute, Covenant Theological Seminary, St. Louis, MO
- **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 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.

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

	<u>July</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Projected Budget	62,666	438,662
Actual General Fund	63,220	452,852
Variance	554	14,190

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.

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.