



*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

Kyle Bobos
*Assistant Pastor
Children's Ministries*

Caleb McDuffee
Student Ministries

Elders
*Brent Allmon
Dan Brink
Jon Green
Rob McIntosh
Mark Moore
Andy Yung*

Deacons
*Matt Bradshaw
Mike Bellin
Rhonnie Bellin
Jeff Cranford
Mark Hill
Scott Johnston
Mike Ryan
Joe Tison
Sunny Yung*

Reflections

Membership in a local church means joining your imperfect self to many other imperfect selves to form an imperfect community that, through Jesus, embarks on a journey toward a better future...together.

— Scott Sauls
Jesus Outside the Lines

Ideally...the church itself is not made up of natural “friends.” It is made up of natural enemies. What binds us together is not common education, common race, common income levels, common politics, common nationality, common accents, common jobs, or anything else of that sort. Christians come together...because...they have been loved by Jesus himself...They are a band of natural enemies who love one another for Jesus’ sake.

— D.A. Carson
Love in Hard Places

You’re going to find yourself loving people who are very different from you. That’s why “the church” can be tough at times. The church isn’t an aggregation of people who gather for an event on a Sunday morning and then disperse into the mist of the week; the church is a congregation of the committed, who are very different from one another - racially, economically, politically, generationally, and nationally. That’s what makes the church beautiful! The body of Jesus is made up of all kinds of people, from all kinds of places, who are learning what it means to love one another.

— David P. Cassidy
Indispensable

Grace Presbyterian Church

The Lord's Day

March 1, 2020

10:30 a.m.

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Preparation for Worship¹

Praise

Call to Worship

Psalm 103:1-5

Leader: Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

People: Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits -

Leader: who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,

*All: who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.*

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

Song of Praise

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Prayer of Adoration

Song of Adoration

If Thou Hast Drawn A Thousand Times

Private Praise and Adoration

Renewal

Scripture Reading

John 13:34-35

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

Confession of Sin

*Minister &
People:*

Almighty God, we admit before you that we often find it difficult to live in community with one another as you call us to. We are judgmental toward others, especially when we sense we are strong where others are weak. We frequently struggle with disdain, hypocrisy, envy, deceit and slander. We rehearse the sins and snubs of others, and hold grudges while we try to justify ourselves and feel superior. Forgive us for the many sins we commit each and every day, especially towards those around us. We cast ourselves on your mercy and thank you for the blood of Christ, which cleanses us from all sin, and for the obedience of Jesus, which replaces our record of rebellion with the glory of his perfect holiness. Help us to recognize our sin, to repent quickly and deeply, and to love one another with powerful gratitude for your grace and mercy. Strengthen us in our holiness, our love for you, and in our love for one another.

Private Confession and Reflection

Words of Encouragement

2 Corinthians 5:17-19

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.

Sacrament of Baptism

Noah Ben Portillo

Song of Baptism

The Blessing

Song of Thanksgiving

In Christ Alone

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

1 Peter 2:9-10 and John 17:20-23

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. 10 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.

"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 21 that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— 23 I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

Sermon

Mr. Kyle Bobos

COMMUNITY PATHWAYS

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

Here In This Place

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

On Jordan's Stormy Banks

Benediction²

Hebrews 13:23-25

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another - and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

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

²The 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.

³All 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

1 Peter 2:9-10, John 17:20-23

COMMUNITY

PATHWAYS

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.

Congregational Meeting: We will have a congregational meeting immediately following worship on Sunday, **March 1st**, to vote for the Pastoral Search Committee. Please make every effort to attend.

Daylight Saving Time starts Sunday, **March 8th**, don't forget to "Spring Forward" one hour.

Grace Easter Egg Hunt – Hop on over for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt. Invite your friends and neighbors to join our community tradition.

- **Date:** Saturday, April 11th from 10:00 – 12:00
- **Location:** Cranebrook Park, 11800 Cranebrook Drive, The Woodlands, TX 77382
- **Food and Entertainment:**
 - Get your picture taken with the Easter Bunny (between 10:00 and 11:30)
 - Easter Egg Hunt begins promptly at 10:15
 - Jump for Joy – inflatable Bounce House
 - Food and Fellowship
- **Filled Easter Eggs Needed:** Eggs can be filled with candy or small toys and can be dropped off in the narthex or brought to the church office. Due to allergy and melting issues, *please do not stuff eggs with chocolate or peanut products*. You may drop your eggs off in the baskets located in the Narthex.
- **Easter Egg Brunch:** Brunch food needed for the Easter Egg Hunt. We appreciate muffins, breakfast tacos, donuts, fruit or any other Brunch treat. Please see the sign-up sheet on table in the Narthex.

Christian Education Classes: Join us next week for more of Damon's and Anthony's classes.

- **In the Beginning...** Damon Webster

Where did we come from? What is our purpose? Why is there so much pain and suffering in the world? What is our hope in the midst of this brokenness? Scripture discusses these questions for us, beginning in its opening pages. Please join Damon for a six-week discussion of the book of Genesis.
- **Foundational Christian Doctrine**, part 2 Anthony Bocciardi

If you missed the first six weeks of this foundational class, no problem! Join Anthony in digging into the Westminster Confession of Faith. 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 grow in being the fragrant aroma of Christ, so that we and our neighbors can envision a different, better kingdom even as we struggle to live out our faith in the present-day culture.

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

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. Signup sheets are on the tables in the Narthex. If you are needing more information about community groups or missed the signup sheets, email Nick Jones.

Children's Ministries:

- **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. Tonight is our Princess/Superhero night! Come dressed up in your favorite costume or shirt and bring a friend!

Student Ministries is designed for students 7th grade through 12th grade. If you would like to be put on the mailing list for Student Ministries, or would like more information about an upcoming youth event, or have any questions at all, contact Caleb McDuffee at caleb@gracewoodlands.org. Have your student connect with us on Instagram (called GPCyouth) or ask to be put in our Youth group GroupMe, our primary medium for communication to hear about upcoming youth group events!

- **Christian Education:** On Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:15 am, 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. This semester we will be studying Romans
- **Youth Group** is every Wednesday night from 7-8:30 pm during the school year. This will be a weekly time of youth fellowship, food, games, and a Gospel focused message. Invite friends from outside the church to join us! Come early at 6:30 to hangout and have snacks! This is one of our students favorite things that we provide at Grace, and possibly the most impactful thing for their relationship with their Savior and attitude towards His church.
- **Meals:** If you are interested in helping to provide meals at our youth group on Wednesday night, please get in contact with Caleb. This would involve providing a meal for about 20 people every now and then.
- **Ranchopalooza** crew arrives back at grace today at approximately 1pm give or take 20 minutes!
- **Save the Dates** for summer youth trips.
 - Jr. High- June 1-5 (RYM, Texas) - yes this is VBS week as well
 - Sr. High- July 6-10 (Rush Conference, Atlanta, GA)

Women's Ministry Events and More!

- **Thursday Morning Bible Study:** Join us from 9:30-11am, in the fellowship hall. We are studying the book of Psalms. Childcare is provided for children under the age of 5.
- **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 at 832-525-5630 or amellhouse7@gmail.com.

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

- **Brew Night:** Our next monthly men's gathering is set for Thursday, March 19th 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.

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 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 from 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, please contact 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.

- **March Prayer Partners**
 - Brooks & Meredith Harwood, RUF, University of Houston
 - Krystal Watson, Pioneers, Eastern Europe
- **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
 - 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
- Krystal Watson | Pioneers | Eastern Europe

Banners Explained: The change of colors for Lent and the following Sundays helps communicate the movement of sacred time as well as our journeys. The color purple is a visual reminder of our need for repentance and self-examination.

On the banner to the right is an acanthus. It is the leaf that you see all over classic Greek and Roman architecture. It is a thorny plant, and a few have speculated that it may have been the source of the crown of thorns. Within Christianity, the thorns are a symbol of pain, and of sin and its punishment. It was regarded in ancient times by pagans as a symbol of death and rebirth.

On the other is a thistle. The thistle is a symbol of temporal sorrow and the curse of sin from the story of the Fall. Because the thistle is a thorny bush, it also is often portrayed as the source of Christ's crown of thorns. Because thistles flourish to crowd out useful crops, they have also been used to represent the "tares" or weeds written of in Matthew 13.

Stewardship Update: Grace thanks you so much for your generous gifts and offerings to our Savior for January 2020.

	<u>January</u>
2020 General Fund Budget	70,999
Actual General Fund Receipts	44,368
Variance	(26,631)

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: