



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

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 must picture hell as a state where everyone is perpetually concerned about his own dignity and advancement and where everyone has a grievance.

– C.S. Lewis

When you deal intimately with human beings...you wonder at times if forgiveness is not as rare as hen's teeth. People bury hatchets but carefully tuck away the map which tells where their hidden weapon lies. We put our resentments in cold storage and then pull the switch to let them thaw out again. Our grudges are taken out to the lake to drown them—even the lake of prayer—and we end up giving them a swimming lesson. How often have we torn up the canceled note but hung on to the wastebasket that holds the pieces. This is not to say that human forgiveness does not occur; only that it is rare and that much that passes for forgiveness is often not so at all.

– Lofton Hudson

Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.

–Step 8
Alanon

Make direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

–Step 9
Alanon

Grace Presbyterian Church

The Lord's Day

August 25, 2019

10:30 a.m.

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Preparation for Worship¹

_____ *Praise* _____

Call to Worship

Hebrews 12:28,29

Leader: Since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken -

People: Let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe,

All: for our "God is a consuming fire."

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

Song of Praise

Come, Thou Almighty King

Prayer of Adoration

Song of Adoration

Beautiful Savior

Private Praise and Adoration

Renewal

Scripture Reading

Matthew 15:18-20

But the things that come out of a person's mouth come from the heart, and these defile them. For out of the heart come evil thoughts—murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander. These are what defile a person; but eating with unwashed hands does not defile them.

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 control of our lives to you. 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

Acts 10:43

All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

Song of Thanksgiving

Lord, With Glowing Heart I'd Praise Thee

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

Hosea 1:1-11

1 The word of the Lord that came to Hosea son of Beeri during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and during the reign of Jeroboam son of Jehoash king of Israel:

2 When the Lord began to speak through Hosea, the Lord said to him, "Go, marry a promiscuous woman and have children with her, for like an adulterous wife this land is guilty of unfaithfulness to the Lord." 3 So he married Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

4 Then the Lord said to Hosea, "Call him Jezreel, because I will soon punish the house of Jehu for the massacre at Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of Israel. 5 In that day I will break Israel's bow in the Valley of Jezreel."

6 Gomer conceived again and gave birth to a daughter. Then the Lord said to Hosea, "Call her Lo-Ruhamah (which means "not loved"), for I will no longer show love to Israel, that I should at all forgive them. 7 Yet I will show love to Judah; and I will save them—not by bow, sword or battle, or by horses and horsemen, but I, the Lord their God, will save them."

8 After she had weaned Lo-Ruhamah, Gomer had another son. 9 Then the Lord said, "Call him Lo-Ammi (which means "not my people"), for you are not my people, and I am not your God.

10 "Yet the Israelites will be like the sand on the seashore, which cannot be measured or counted. In the place where it was said to them, 'You are not my people,' they will be called 'children of the living God.' 11 The people of Judah and the people of Israel will come together; they will appoint one leader and will come up out of the land, for great will be the day of Jezreel.

Sermon

Mr. David Wilcher

STEP 8 & 9: OWNING WHAT IS YOURS 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

Come Ye Sinners

Prayer of Consecration and the Words of Institution

*Minister &
People:*

Father in heaven, as we come to your table, we come weary from our battles. We are weary because we have fought them with our own strength.

We confess trust in our moral willpower. We think we are strong enough to fight our hearts. We confess our pride. We are proud because we claim credit for our progress. We confess our self-loathing. We hate ourselves because we rely upon our strength and fail. We confess our boredom. We are bored because we have stopped fighting.

So fill us at your table. Fill us with the victory won by your Son on our behalf. Fill us with joy, tenacity, direction and courage. Amen.

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

We Are the Body of Christ

Benediction²

Philippians 4:7

And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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.

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.

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

Sermon Notes

Hosea 1:1-11

STEP 8 & 9: OWNING WHAT IS YOURS

THE TWELVE STEPS - A PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

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

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.

Adult Christian Education:

- **Sept. 1st-** No Sunday Morning Classes due to Labor Day holiday.
- **Sept. 8th-** Join us for New Sunday Morning Classes at 9:30 am in rooms 201 and 209.

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 beginning in September. If you are interested in joining a group or need more information, please email the church office at admin@gracewoodlands.org. Sign up sheets are on the tables in the Narthex. Groups begin meeting the week of September 8th.

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

- **Girls' Night Out:** NO GNO in Sept, please join us for the Women's Ministry Fall Kickoff at Grace.
- **Sept 5th: Women's Ministry Fall Kickoff** at Grace, 6:30 pm. Join us in the Fellowship Hall for light refreshments. There will be a short devotional led by Linda Martinez that will serve as a small taste of the Ephesians study we are doing this fall in Bible Study. There will also be lots of opportunities to fellowship with the other women of Grace.
- **Sept 11th: Women For Women** is a confidential support group that encourages participants to explore the story God is writing with their lives. We meet weekly, review a book chapter and then share our burdens and joys. We practice active listening skills to help each other see Christ in our struggles and to make choices that serve ourselves, our families and our God. This Fall we will be reading the book *To Be Told* by Dan Allender. If this resonates with you, please join us for an orientation at 7 pm on Wednesday, September 11th, in the home of Joy Zeigler. The orientation is to help you decide if this group is for you. You may RSVP for the orientation by emailing Joy. The group includes up to eight women.
- **Sept 12th-Nov 21st: Women's Thursday Morning Bible Study** at 9:30 am. Register Sunday, Aug 25th & Sept 1st. We will be working through Ephesians. Childcare will be available.
- **Sept 18th: 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.

- **Oct 3rd-Nov. 7th: Women's Thursday Evening Bible Study** at 7 pm. Register Sunday, Aug 25th & Sept 1st. We will be working through Ephesians, childcare made available upon request.
- **Oct 25th: Women's Hymn Sing and Dessert at GPC-** more details to come.

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.

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

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. **September 8th is our 5th Annual Fall Kick-Off Color Party!** Please have the children dress in a light colored shirt (preferably white) that you do not mind getting color powder on and bring a towel for the kids to sit on for their ride home. Invite your friends and neighbors!
- **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.

Student Ministries 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.

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.

- **Volunteers needed to help with ESL Student Registration on August 27th.** Our English as a Second Language (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. Student registration will be Tuesday, Aug 27th, from 7-9 pm, and we need extra volunteers to help the evening run smoothly. There are also a variety of short term and long term opportunities for service throughout the semester. If you are interested in helping, 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.