

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church

Asheville, North Carolina

www.gpcusa.org

November 19, 2023



Your whole self is welcomed here. Please feel free to take care of your body during worship in ways that work for you.

Gathering Music Trust in You

Lauren Daigle

Call to Worship *(This call to worship was inspired by the full land acknowledgment. You can find that full land acknowledgment at www.gpcusa.org)*

One: We have a complicated history on this land, this land called “Togiyasdi,” by the Fire People, the Cherokee ancestors.

ALL: The Doctrine of Discovery. Christianity authorizing genocide and the seizing of land from non-Christians. The paths now paved for commerce and commutes, were a thoroughfare of trade and travel for indigenous people. White colonizers named these roads after wealthy landowners and lawmakers dedicated to supporting chattel slavery. Redlining cleared a way for Presbyterians to plant a church in a white enclave.

(Sacred pause)

One: Roads of ancient connections. Roads of broken trust, terror, tension.

ALL: Ancient mountains, morning mist hovering on the horizon, changing leaves dazzling generations as seasons turn. Bears, wild turkeys and elk find ways to thrive even as habitats gentrify. Cherokee ancestors tended land they revered, not owned. Northern Europeans claimed the same land by divine right. Resistance and repair tilled and reclaimed part of this land for growing food.

(Sacred pause)

ALL: Our legacy is also to let go, to lean in, to believe we can change and the world can change, too.

- * **Opening Song** Come All You People
 Come all you people, come and praise your maker (3X)
 Come now and worship the Lord.

 U-ya-i mo-se, ti-na-ma-te Mwa-ri (3X)
 U-ya-i mo-se zvi-no.

Truth Telling Together

- * **Glory to God**
- Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
Amen.**
- World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
Amen.**

- * **Passing of the Peace**

GCPC Connects

Faith Sharing

**I have love to share with the whole wide world And I start by loving myself
When I take good care of my heart and soul I have room for everyone else
I love me, so I can love you God loves me, so I can love you**

Faith Sharing Recessional

(Children 3rd grade and under may leave for worship enrichment or childcare for 0-4 years.)

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Sermon

“Even So, We Wake Up”

Marcia Mount Shoop

*All we are, we have found in song:
You have drawn this song from us
Songs of lives unfolding
Fly overhead, cry overhead:
Longing, rising from the song within
Moving like the rise and fall of wings
Hands that shape our calling voice
On the edge of answers
You've heard our cry, you've known
our cry:
Music's fierce compassion flows from
you
The night is restless with the sounds
we hear*

*Is broken, shaken by the cries of pain:
For this is music's inner voice
Saying, yes, we hear you
All you who cry aloud
And we will fly, answering you:
So our lives sing, sing
Wild we will fly
Wild in spirit we will fly
Like a feather falling from the wing
Fragile as a human voice
Afraid, uncertain
Alive to love, we sing as love
Afraid, uncertain
Yet our flight begins as song*

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer *(adapted)*

**Loving God, in whom is heaven,
may Your name be honored everywhere.
May Your kin-dom come.
May the desire of Your heart for the world be done,
in us, by us and through us.
Give us the bread we need for each day.
Forgive us. Enable us to forgive others.
Keep us from all anxiety and fear.
For You reign in the power that comes
from love which is Your glory forever and ever.
Amen.**

* Hymn 822

When We Are Living *(alternate English and Spanish)*

SOMOS DEL SEÑOR

**When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus, and when we're dying, it is in the Lord.
Both in our living and in our dying, we belong to God; we belong to God.**

**En es-ta vi-da fru-tos hay que dar y bue-nas o-bras he-mos de-o-fren-dar.
Sea ya que de-mos o que re-ci-ba-mos, so-mos del Se-ñor, so-mos del Se-ñor.**

**'Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain, when sensing beauty or in love's embrace,
Whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing, we belong to God; we belong to God.**

**En es-te mun-do por do-quier ha-brá gen-te que llo-ra y sin con-so-lar.
Sea que a-yu-de-mos o que a-li-men-te-mos, so-mos del Se-ñor, so-mos del Se-ñor.**

Charge

Benediction

Postlude

Ordner Seg (It'll Be Alright)

Oystein Baadsvik

Please remain seated during the Postlude.

** Stand in Body or Spirit.*

Please remember to silence your cell phone during worship.

Worship Leaders: Anne Raustol, Kathy Singleton

Musicians: MC Ellis, Blake Bradley, Robin Gaiser (*bowed psaltery*),

Tim Moe (*bass trombone*), Choir

Head Usher: Russell Kominski

Deacon of the Week: Sarah Merrill | **email:** sarahbleckley@gmail.com

Thank you to Jeannette Williams for the flowers that decorate the sanctuary this morning, given to the glory of God and with Happy Birthday wishes to grandson, A.C. Berry.

Large print bulletins are available from an usher.

Childcare is available for children, birth to 4 years of age.

Check-in is by the Welcome Desk in the narthex.



Announcement Info



2024 Pledge Card



To give to GPCPC

Hearing Aid T-Coil Loop -- listen in. The GPCPC sanctuary is equipped with a Hearing Aid Loop. This loop sends a magnetic signal directly to personal hearing aids equipped with T-Coil. Most hearing aids require you to select the Telephone or T-Coil program on your hearing aid to take advantage of the signal.

SESSION

Class of 2023

Keaton Hill
Tim Moe
Bill Neeriemer
Anne Raustol
Laurel Seddon

Class of 2024

Margaret Belk
Susan Curtis
Russell Kominski
Libby Kyles
Denise Lockett
Melissa Shook

Class of 2025

Mary Berg
Ben Kees
Bob Lane
Hans Rosario-Singer
Kate Shem

MODERATOR:

Marcia Mount Shoop

CLERK:

Kelley Griffith

TREASURER:

Joe Brumit –
treasurer@gpcpsa.org

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2023

Pam Baker
Jerry Bleckley
Cathy Byers
Bill McNeff
Ellen Sizemore

Class of 2024

Pat Cheffins
Kimo Hyatt
Justin Kyremes-Parks
Emma Maney
Paul Tierney

Class of 2025

Frank Chapman
Carolyn Haag
Liz Huesemann
John Huie
Robin Mallernee
Sarah Merrill
Larry Stern

WELCOME STATEMENT

Trusting that God's grace embraces and desires covenant with all people, Grace Covenant seeks to be an inclusive and hospitable place of spiritual growth. All persons are welcomed into this fellowship and membership regardless of age, sexual orientation, ethnic, racial, or gender identity, economic position, residency status, or political affiliation.

We trust that God is always at work transforming each life and our life together, helping us to better follow Christ's example of love and courageous welcome.

STAFF

Ministers: All the Members

Pastor/Head of Staff: Marcia Mount Shoop – marcia@gpcpsa.org

Director of Formation for Children, Youth & Families: Amy Kim Kyremes-Parks – amykim@gpcpsa.org

Director of Music Ministries: Ray Landis – ray@gpcpsa.org

Director of Media & Technology: Micah Hayes – micah@gpcpsa.org

Engagement & Communications Coordinator: Anna Louise Murchison – annalouise@gpcpsa.org

Stewardship & Financial Administrator: Brett Pinkston – brett@gpcpsa.org

Administrative Assistant to Pastor/Head of Staff: Katie Claxton – katie@gpcpsa.org

Property Manager: Cliff Schlegelmilch – cliff@gpcpsa.org

Garden Manager: Allison Kiehl – allison@gpcpsa.org



GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

789 Merrimon Ave.

Asheville, NC 28804

828.254.3274

www.gpcpsa.org

https://www.youtube.com/@GPCPCVideo

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS BULLETIN in the bins next to the glass doors.