

# Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church

Asheville, North Carolina

[www.gcpusa.org](http://www.gcpusa.org)

March 24, 2024

*Palm/Passion Sunday*



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

**Drumming**

**Greeting**

**Story Telling**

Mark 11:1-11

**Wondering**

**\* Singing**

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

Congregational Refrain:

**All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!**

**Truth Telling Together**

Hymn 437

You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!

**You are the Lord, giver of mercy!**

**You are the Christ, giver of mercy!**

**You are the Lord, giver of mercy!**

**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**

**Anthem**

"Nothing Can Trouble"

Taize Community

**Nothing can trouble; nothing can frighten.  
Those to seek God shall never go wanting.  
Nothing can trouble; nothing can frighten.  
God alone fills us.**

**Praying Together**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

**Meditation**

"Of Alabaster Jars and Lost Memories" Marcia Mount Shoop

**Preparation for Holy Week & Community Land Acknowledgement**

**Sung Congregational Response (4x)**

*Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.*  
*Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy. Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy.*

*Note: Lower voices may hum.*

*Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.*  
*Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy. Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy.*

One: May this Holy week clarify and strengthen our call to be open to truthful and healing ways of being in the world. May we deepen our understanding of our complicated history on this land called "Togiyasdi," by the Fire People, the Cherokee ancestors.

### **Sung Congregational Response (4X)**

One: May this Holy Week strengthen our capacity to trust Divine Love to transform us. May we have the eyes to see, the minds to understand, and the hearts to accept the truth of the harmful history of Christianity. May we embrace God's call for us to be made new.

One: May this Holy Week teach us again to look up and look around at the beauty and sacred provisions around us. May we see the sacred in these ancient mountains and in the mystery and majesty of all the wildlife and trees and plants that thrive here. May we see the sacred in signs of resilience and resolve in the way this land grows food and community.

### **Sung Congregational Response (4X)**

One: May this Holy Week strengthen our practice of following Spirit on unknown paths, our practices of letting go and leaning in. May this Holy Week strengthen our belief that we can change and that the world can change, too.

MMS: Please leave this space in reverent quiet as we anticipate the days ahead. Allow this space to be a place of sacred silence for now. And hold your conversations for when you have left the sanctuary. Go in grace, mercy, peace, and love. Amen.

### **Depart in silence**

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*\* Stand in Body or Spirit.*

**Please remember to silence your cell phone during worship.**



## ***GCPC Announcements...***

***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.

**Story Telling:** Keaton Hill, Matt Wiedle, MC Ellis (narrator #1), Meggie and Linzi Anderson, Laurel Seddon (disciple), Blake Bradley (disciple), Demontá Blunt (Jesus), Nadia Kominski, Vivian Kominski, Russell Kominski, Kimo Hyatt, Leah and Ryan Madamba (crowd), Ava Madamba (crowd), Trina Jones (woman with the alabaster jar)

**Musicians:** MC Ellis, Amber Cook, Laurel Seddon, Meghan Leahy, Andrew Kominski, Nadia Kominski, Blake Bradley, Mia Shem, Will Madamba, Tim Moe, Matt Wiedle, Jonathan Ross **Head Usher:** Cathy Froehlich **Deacon of the Week:** Carolyn Haag | **email:** cjhaag88@gmail.com

**Thursday, March 28 is Maundy Thursday.** Join us in the Fellowship Hall for a community potluck and Communion meal. We will be nourished by our community gathered to break bread as we remember the narratives of the Last Supper and Jesus' courage and compassion. Our meal will begin at 6:30pm. Please bring a dish to share. (Childcare provided for children 0 - PreK)

**Friday, March 29 is Good Friday.** Our sanctuary will be transformed into a labyrinth space. You can come anytime from noon to 7pm to walk the labyrinth and remember Jesus' public execution. Beginning at 4pm there will be a reading and music every 30 minutes until 7:00pm.

**Saturday, March 30 is Holy Saturday.** You are invited to make space for personal and intentional quiet reflection on the threshold space of this day of sorrow and unknown.

**Sunday, March 31 is Easter Sunday.** We will gather for worship at 10am both in the sanctuary and online for a joyful celebration of God's "Welcome Home!" Children will not have Worship Enrichment Time during the service. After worship there will be snacks, story time and an Easter egg hunt for GCPC kids. Come and celebrate the joy and embrace of God's unending and unbounded love!

**Study on White Christian Nationalism: a GCPC invitation**

During the season of Easter, Grace Covenant will host a series of educational opportunities on the rise of White Christian Nationalism, a cultural/religious identity that combines tribalism, chosenness, whiteness, and constitutional originalism in a toxic brew about which we all have much to learn.

- **Chris Highland lecture on White Christian Nationalism | Sunday, April 14 | 7:00 PM | Sanctuary**
- **Formation Class on the Deep Story of White Christian Nationalism | Sundays | April 14 - May 19 | 11:30 AM | Fellowship Hall**



Announcement Info



2024 Pledge Card



To give to GCPC

**SESSION**

**Class of 2024**

Margaret Belk  
Blake Bradley  
Russell Kominski  
Libby Kyles  
Denise Lockett  
Melissa Shook

**Class of 2025**

Mary Berg  
Ben Kees  
Hans Rosario-Singer  
Kate Shem

**Class of 2026**

Marta Alcalá  
MC Ellis  
Cathy Froehlich  
Malachi Gasaway  
John Legerton  
Mesheala Sundblade

**MODERATOR:**

Marcia Mount Shoop

**ASSOCIATE PASTOR:**

Luke Harkema

**CLERK:**

Kelley Griffith

**TREASURER:**

Tim Hamel –  
treasurer@gpcusa.org

**BOARD OF DEACONS**

**Class of 2024**

Pat Cheffins  
Robin Gaiser  
Kimo Hyatt  
Justin Kyremes-Parks  
Emma Maney  
John Singleton  
Paul Tierney

**Class of 2025**

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

**Class of 2026**

Bob Guduz  
Margie Groves  
Susan Meade  
Kaola Smallwood  
Patty Thompson  
Linda Van Sciver  
Dawna Williams-Landis

**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@gpcusa.org

**Associate Pastor:** Luke Harkema – luke@gpcusa.org

**Director of Formation for Children and Families:** Amy Kim Kyremes-Parks – amykim@gpcusa.org

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

**Media & Technology Coordinator:** Kyle Baumbach – kyle@gpcusa.org

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

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

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

**Administrative Assistant:** Olivia Goldstein – olivia@gpcusa.org

**Property Manager:** Cliff Schlegelmilch – cliff@gpcusa.org

**Garden Manager:** Allison Kiehl – allison@gpcusa.org



**GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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