

# Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church

Asheville, North Carolina

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

April 28, 2024

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

*Youth Sunday*



*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

### \* Opening Song

Imago Dei

Jill Kirsten Warner

**Imago Dei, Imago Dei, born in the image of God are we.  
Imago Dei, Imago Dei, called to compassion; born to be free.**

## Truth Telling Together

### Assurance of God's Love

### \* Passing of the Peace

### \* Glory to God *(note: "has pardoned" changed to "embraces")*

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace embraces 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.**

## GCPC Connects

Community Land Acknowledgement

**ALL: We acknowledge our complicated history on this land called "Togiyasdi," by the Fire People, the Cherokee ancestors. And we are working to deepen our understanding of the harmful history of Christianity, and the ways Christians have stolen land from non-Christians all over the world. We acknowledge the sacredness of these ancient mountains and in the mystery and majesty of all the wildlife and trees and plants that thrive here. We are thankful for signs of resilience and resolve in the way this land now grows food and community.**

**Together we practice following Spirit on unknown paths, letting go and leaning in. We believe that we can change and that the world can change, too.**

## 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 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and under may leave for worship enrichment or childcare for 0-4 years.)*

## Prayer for Illumination

### Gospel Reading

1 John 4:7-21

### Group Reflection "Thoughts on Love"

Blake Bradley, Will Madamba, Andrew Kominski, Laurel Seddon

### Anthem "Love Greater than Fear"

The Many

## Prayers of the People

### The Lord's Prayer *(Friendship Presbyterian Church, Chicago, IL)*

**Our Mothering, Guiding Moral Force,  
Gracious and Loving, Creator,  
Who is our strength and shield and promises  
never to leave or forsake us,  
Who enfolds us and is all around us,  
in heaven and earth.  
Blessed and cherished, divine and wondrous,  
and powerful are you.  
May your purpose and everlasting presence,  
your dream and vision of a world of peace, come to be.  
And may your hope for us be realized on earth  
as it is in heaven.  
Give each one of us enough to sustain all of us.  
In our imperfections, we ask for forgiveness  
For ourselves, from the bondage of selfishness,  
From the distraction of prideful pursuits.  
Help us to find the best of our human selves and to love  
that which others reject.  
For all that you have created, the beauty and grace  
and the glory is yours forever.  
Amen. So be it!**

### \* Hymn 765

May the God of Hope Go with Us Everyday

ARGENTINA

### \* Charge & Benediction

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*\* Stand in Body or Spirit.*

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

**Worship Leader:** Meghan Leahy

**Musicians:** Meghan Leahy, Nadia Kominski, Blake Bradley, Andrew Kominski, Laurel Seddon, Will Madamba | **Head Ushers:** Russell Kominski & Will Shem

**Deacon of the Week:** Margie Groves | **email:** margie.groves@gmail.com

**Bulletin cover art:** Nadia Kominski

The flowers that decorate the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God and in celebration of our wonderful GCPC Youth!

***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 GCPC

**Hearing Aid T-Coil Loop -- listen in.** The GCPC 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 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@gcpcusa.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 Giduz  
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@gcpcusa.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



**GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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<https://www.youtube.com/@GCPCVideo>

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