

September 5, 2021

Grace Presbyterian Church, Midland, Texas

432-684-6542

Cheryl Homsher, Pastor

Laura Holleman, Director of Music

Lynda Clark, Assisting Elder

CCLI #1174331



PRELUDE Flourish on "Lobe den Herren" - Wagner

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalm 146:1-2*)

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord, O my soul!

I will praise the Lord as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

\*HYMN "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

#610

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Eternity cannot contain the Living God, nor can our little words catch the magnificence of God's kindness. Yet in the space of our small hearts, and in silence, God comes close to repair and make us whole. Let us confess our sins together.

God of all creation, we live each day because of your grace. Hear our confession as we recognize the many ways we fall short of your intentions. Forgive us for choosing to love only those who are dressed like us, speak like us, share our experiences and way of living. We speak of our commitment to you but act in ways that deny you.

Forgive us, O Lord, and do good to us when we have trouble doing good for others. Surround us with your love; surround us with your grace; surround us with your peace; surround us with the Spirit of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

*Silent Prayer*

Be strong, do not fear!

God comes, to fill our parched souls with living water, to open our eyes to the grace which is ours.

God comes, for no other reason than to save us.

This is indeed good news! Thanks be to God. Amen.

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE      James 2:1-17      Mark 7:24-37

SERMON      "Be Opened"

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: APOSTLES' CREED (*Ecumenical*)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

\*HYMN "Come to the Table of Grace"

#507

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

*(All who humbly put their trust in Jesus Christ are welcome and invited to participate in the sacrament regardless of church affiliation.)*

## INVITATION

### GREAT THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you....

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise...

*(the prayer continues... Our Father...)*

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*We share the bread and cup.*

COMMUNION MUSIC

Ave Verum

– Mozart, arr. Leatherman

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

\*HYMN “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

#306

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

\*RESPONSE

“We Will Walk with God”

#742

We will walk with God, my brothers; we will walk with God.

We will walk with God, my sisters; we will walk with God.

We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.

We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.

\*POSTLUDE

*\*please rise in body or spirit*

*The flowers today are given by Chris & Jeff Laufer to the glory of God and in celebration of the grandchildren*

### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The people of Grace Presbyterian Church gather to seek and to worship God, and disperse, sharing and celebrating through love and service, the grace of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

### WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to you as you worship with us today! You honor us by your presence and we give thanks for you. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to make your church home with us. For more information about uniting with this church, please contact Pastor Cheryl Homsher through the church office (684-6542) or Assisting Elder, Lynda Clark.

### ST. ANDREWS MISSION FUNDS

We are putting together THREE research/ information-gathering teams to consider possible uses of the St. Andrews Funds (\$172,000 ear-marked for mission and children’s ministry).

**TEAM #1** will explore affordable child care, etc; and will meet after worship on Sunday, September 12.

**TEAM #2** will explore the possibility of a community garden on our grounds; and will meet after worship on Sunday, September 19.

**TEAM #3** will explore other ways to address food insecurity in our community, and will meet after worship on Sunday, September 26.

It is not too late to sign-up to be part of one of these teams; the sign-up sheets are on the table in the narthex.

### FAREWELL RECEPTION FOR JOYCE SHERROD

*WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2021*

*6PM – 7PM*

*HALLWAY ADJACENT TO THE CHOIR ROOM AT GRACE PRESBYTERIAN*

### STAFF OPENING: DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

We are looking to hire a Director of Children's Ministry. The main focus of the position is leading our Wednesday night Kids Club through the school year. If you know of someone who might be interested in this position, please let Jeff Laufer, Violet Singh or Pastor Cheryl know. If you would like to see the position description, contact the church office.

### SEPTEMBER MISSION 'MINDERS

First Sunday: Bring non-perishables for the **Blessing Box**

### UPDATED COVID PROTOCOLS

~Everyone is asked to practice social distancing and wear a mask - regardless of vaccination status - during all indoor church events.

~Please leave your offerings in one of the offering plates by the sanctuary doors.

### CALENDAR

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>DATE/TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>Adult Sunday School</u>	<u>9/5 9:30 am</u>	<u>Adult Sunday School Room/ZOOM</u>
<u>Children's Sunday School</u>	<u>9/5 10:15 am</u>	<u>Kid's Sunday School Room</u>
<u>Worship</u>	<u>9/5 11:00 am</u>	<u>Sanctuary/ZOOM/Facebook Live</u>
<u>Zoomers</u>	<u>9/6 3:00 pm</u>	<u>ZOOM</u>
<u>Celebration! Handbell Choir Rehearsal</u>	<u>9/7 7:00 pm</u>	<u>Bell Choir Room</u>
<u>Soul Sisters</u>	<u>9/8 2:00 pm</u>	<u>Manor Park/ Ann W's</u>
<u>Farewell Reception – Joyce Sherrod</u>	<u>9/8 6:00pm</u>	<u>Hallway adjacent to Choir Room</u>
<u>Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal</u>	<u>9/8 7:00 pm</u>	<u>Choir Room</u>
<u>Bulletin Information Due</u>	<u>9/8</u>	
<u>Adult Sunday School</u>	<u>9/12 9:30 am</u>	<u>Adult Sunday School Room/ZOOM</u>
<u>Children's Sunday School</u>	<u>9/12 10:15 am</u>	<u>Kid's Sunday School Room</u>
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