

## WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Patricia C. Gwinn, Pastor  
Brooke Clay, Director of Music/Accompanist  
AV: Catherine Haynes  
Ushers: Tom Lasitter, Mary Starnes, Bill Starnes, Kristina Sisk-Vasquez

The flowers are given to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for our Property Committee.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

September 15th at 9:15 am - Sunday School  
September 15th at 11:30 am - Congregational Meeting  
September 15th at 2:00 pm - Sisters in Christ in The Greeting Room  
September 16th at 5:30 pm - Session Meeting  
September 17th at 8:00 am - Men's Bible Study in The Cottage  
September 18th at 6:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal  
September 22nd at 11:30 am - Soulos Lunch  
September 22nd at 11:30 am - Vacation Bible School

## Congregational Meeting Notice

The Session has called a **congregational meeting today** following worship for the purpose of electing the 2024-2025 Officer Nominating Committee (ONC). The ONC is charged with securing a slate of nominees to be elected by the congregation for service as ruling elders on the Session. *The slate for your consideration includes: Chair, Linda Cossaboon; Vice-Chair, Karena Feltner; At-Large Members, Brian Norton, Kelly Phillips, and David Tinga.* In accordance with the Book of Order (G-2.0401), full opportunity shall always be given to the congregation for nominations from the floor of the meeting by any active member of the congregation. Nominations from the floor require prior consent of the person being nominated. All active members of the congregation are entitled to vote, so please stay after worship for this important business of the church.

## Interested in Joining?

If you'd like to be here in a more official capacity, we'd love for you to join Grace Covenant as a member. Everyone who is part of our community is treated the same. Joining isn't about special treatment, but rather about a commitment you make to following Jesus alongside others trying to do the same. A new member class is being offered on **Sunday, September 29**. It will be at 11:30 following worship and include a light lunch and child care. Those who wish to join will be received into membership on **Sunday, October 6th**. Please contact the church office (864-288-3951) or Pastor Trish ([pastor@gcpc.net](mailto:pastor@gcpc.net)) if you plan to attend the class.

# Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

### SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

love,  
joy,  
peace,  
patience,  
kindness,  
goodness,  
faithfulness,  
gentleness,  
and self-control

Galatians 5:22-23

## Welcome to Grace Covenant

Grace Covenant is a neighborhood church living to be God's voice of hope in the world. We seek to walk in a manner worthy of our calling, to live with humility and gentleness, and with patience and love for one another. Our greatest aspiration is to make Christ's example of love real for all our neighbors.

# ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

10:30 AM

Prelude                    *O How I Love Jesus*

arr. Limbaugh

## Welcome and Announcements

\*Call to Worship (1 John 4:7; John 15:13; John 13:34)

Beloved, let us love one another.

**We love because God first loved us.**

There is no greater love than this:

**to lay down one's life for one's friends.**

This is the new commandment in Christ:

**as Jesus loves us, so let us love one another.**

\*Hymn No. 693                    *The Gift of Love*

GIFT OF LOVE

## Corporate Prayer of Confession

Holy God, you sent your Spirit to dwell in us; and you set us apart to be witnesses to your great love, but at times we forget that we bear the marks of your grace, and act as though you have no claim on our lives. You are forever faithful to your promises, but we have broken your law of love. We hoard your blessings, rather than seek ways to bless those in need. We sit quietly in fear, rather than speak out for justice and peace. Forgive us, Lord. Transform our hearts, that our lives may bear the fruit of your love, and our joy may be complete.  
... (silent prayers of confession)

## Declaration of Forgiveness

The love and mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

\*Choral Response                    *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*                    TRENTHAM  
Breathe on me, breath of God; fill me with life anew,  
that I may love what thou dost love,  
and do what thou wouldest do.

## Time for Children

Children preschool age through 5th grade are invited to the chancel area at this time. Children four and younger may then go to the nursery; children five and older are to return to their seats and are encouraged to remain with us for worship.

Anthem                    *Let Us Love One Another*                    Sherman/arr. Lau

## Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Lesson: 1 Corinthians 13

Sermon:                    Rooting & Fruiting: Tending the Wild Garden of Love  
Rev. Patricia C. Gwinn

\*Affirmation of Faith                    from *The Confession of 1967*

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals his love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful humanity. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purposes of his love. Amen.

## Offering

Offertory                    *Oh How He Loves You and Me*                    arr. Hayes

\*Choral Response                    *God, We Honor You*                    ABUNDANT BLESSINGS  
God, we honor you. God, we trust in you.  
God, we worship and adore you.  
Take what we bring, offered to you.  
Teach us to show your abundant blessings.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, amen.

## \*Prayer of Dedication

## Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

\*Hymn No. 366                    *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*                    HYFRDOL

## \*Charge and Benediction

\*Postlude                    *My Jesus, I Love Thee*                    arr. Berry

Immediately following worship, there is a Congregational Meeting to elect the Officer Nominating Committee. All active members please remain for this important business of the church.

\*All who are able, please stand.