

# Welcome to Grace Presbyterian Church

We're glad you came to worship with us today. Please fill out the visitor card located in this bulletin and place in the offering plate. The nursery is available for children: infants (6 weeks) through Kindergarten. A private baby feeding nook is available to parents in the infant nursery. All children are welcome in worship.

## What's going on at Grace?



**The Mission Study Committee** invites all GPC members to participate in a round table discussion as we work to understand our church's priorities for the future. Join us on Dec 8 or Dec 15 in the Fellowship Hall during Sunday School or immediately following the service at 12:15PM. Your input is valuable to us, and the more voices we hear, the stronger our vision will be. Let's come together to shape our church's path forward! Please contact Joshua Essary if you have any questions.

**Handel's Christmas Messiah—A Cantata for Worship** will be performed by our choir **next Sunday, December 8** in our 11AM Worship. Our choir will also be joined by professional soloists from the community and an instrumental ensemble. Bring your family and friends!

**Presbyterian Women** - All women of the Church and their guests are invited to the *Presbyterian Women's Annual Christmas Celebration* on Sunday, Dec 8 at 3PM in the Fellowship Hall • Light refreshments, holiday fellowship, and a very special program entitled *Moments of Gratitude* by Rev. Thom Lamb

**Temple Civic Theatre Night!** Join us for the Premier Performance of "Hometown Holidays" • Thurs, Dec 12 • 6:30PM Appetizers and beverages/ 7:30PM Curtain time • Sign up in the narthex (*one line per person*), then make your reservations by phone or online directly to TCT • Tickets \$25 for adults; special rates for children/students and seniors

**Administration** - If you would like to give Thom a monetary farewell gift, please write "Thom Farewell" on the memo line of your check or on the envelope with cash. Deadline for contributions is **December 8**. Our GPC Personnel Committee thanks you for being so generous.

**PCHAS Angel Tree** – If you drew a name on the tree to provide gifts for children, please return the gifts with the tags **unwrapped by December 8**.

**Poinsettia Time!** We will be decorating the Sanctuary with poinsettias! If you would like to donate a plant in memory/honor of loved ones, please fill out a form located at the end of each pew or in the narthex • Return your form, along with your cash/check donation in the offering plate • Any donations given above will go to CTLC **Deadline to order is Dec 15**

**Pledge Cards/End of year giving** - Thank you to those that have turned in your 2025 pledge cards • If you have not, we are asking that you prayerfully consider your ability to financially support GPC and turn in your pledge card as soon as possible • Pledge cards are available in the narthex • Pre-paid pledges for 2025 need to be noted specifically for 2025 clarification • All giving for 2024 will need to be **RECEIVED** and dated no later than December 31. Thank you for being a cheerful giver!

# Leadership at Grace...

|                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Pastor                         | Rev. Thom Lamb              |
| Minister of Music              | Chelsea Stern               |
| Organist                       | Dr. Jonathan Gary           |
| Pianist                        | Emily Gary                  |
| Projectionist/Sound Technician | Murray McCarley/Josh Essary |
| Liturgist                      | Annie Nickerson             |
| Elder of the Day               | Robby Ozment                |

### GPC ELDERS

| <u>CLASS of 2024</u>   | <u>CLASS of 2025</u>   | <u>CLASS of 2026</u>   |
|--|--|--|
| John Bowling<br>Kevin Cushman<br>Robby Ozment<br>Elizabeth Seeger<br>Marianne Stringfellow | Margaret Buchanan<br>Mike Milbery<br>Josh Essary<br>Bill Stanley | Sarah Nickerson<br>A'Lisa Ozment<br>Tom Stringfellow<br>Richard Tolleson |

### BOARD OF DEACONS

| <u>CLASS of 2024</u>                             | <u>CLASS of 2025</u>                                       | <u>CLASS of 2026</u>   |
|--|--|--|
| Al Lowe<br>Linda Lowe<br>Bob Shull<br>Sara Shull | Dan Gatlin<br>Lynn Grant<br>Bob Ritchie<br>Marilyn Ritchie | Andrine Kagu<br>Kenny Lange<br>Becky Northen<br>Norman Northen |

\*One year term

**Visiting?** We want to hear from you! Please fill out a visitor card and place in the offering plate OR scan the QR Code and fill out the form online • Thank you for visiting GPC Temple!

Wifi password is guestgpc



## Prayer Ministry...

If you have a prayer need, please email Donna Bowling directly at [dc.bowling2003@gmail.com](mailto:dc.bowling2003@gmail.com). Please do **NOT** reply to the emails from the Prayer Tree—those are thru Constant Contact software system and no responses will be forwarded.

## HOLIDAY UPCOMINGS...

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| December 8        | Advent II—GPC Choir/Chamber orchestra present "Messiah: A Christmas Cantata" in 11AM worship |
| December 15       | Handbell Ensemble in 11AM worship  |
| December 24       | Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion Worship 6PM ( <i>childcare available</i> )             |
| December 23-Jan 1 | Church offices closed  |
| December 29       | Christmas Lessons & Carols Service at 11AM ( <i>no childcare, Sunday School or choir</i> )   |



## Lectionary for next Sunday

Malachi 3:1-4 • Luke 1:68-79  
Philippians 1:3-11 • Luke 3:1-6

# Worship for the Lord's Day



FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT  
GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
DECEMBER 1, 2024 • 11 AM

## We Gather in the Lord's Name

Welcome/Announcements

Prelude *Light of Hope, Light of Peace* ARR MARK PATTERSON  
*LOGOS Children's Choir*

Hymn #85 *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (v.1)* TIF IN VELDELE

Lighting the Advent Candles  
'The Lord your God is in your midst, A mighty Savior:  
He will rejoice over you with gladness,  
And renew you in His love;  
He will sing joyfully because of you,  
As one sings at the festivals!  
-Zephaniah 3:17

Invocation (Unison)  
**Loving God, in thanksgiving we lift our hearts before you. In this season of anticipation and hope, we look to you for the love made complete in Jesus Christ. Continue, O God, to show us glimpses of your presence so that we may be filled with awe and wonder. Give us patience as we await the coming of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*Hymn #137 *He Came Down* HE CAME DOWN

\*Prayer of Confession  
**Holy God of Advent, you have drawn near to us, and yet we continue to distance ourselves from you. We have crowded our lives with so many distractions that your presence seems fleeting. You have extended to us mercy to kindle our hope, and yet we are slow to forgive and often hold grudges. Draw near to us once again. Help us to listen in the silence for your voice so that we may be free from our sin and guilt. Give us the patience we need to endure the present so that we may find our peace in you. For the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord, hear this prayer and hear us now as we offer our confession in the silence...**

\*Silent Confession and Assurance of Pardon  
\*The Passing of the Peace

\*Gloria Patri #581

**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**

### *We Listen for God's Word*

Prayer for Illumination

Psalm for the Day                      Psalm 25:1-10                      PEW BIBLE P. 436  
One: This is the Word of the Lord!  
**Many: Thanks be to God!**

A Moment for Children                      Rev. Thom Lamb

Anthem                      *And the Glory of the Lord*                      G.F. HANDEL  
From Messiah

The Gospel Lesson                      Luke 21:25-36                      PEW BIBLE P. 857  
One: This is the Word of the Lord!  
**Many: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon                      Pay Attention                      Rev. Thom Lamb

### *We Respond to God's Word*

Offering                      Offertory                      *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*                      ARR JOHN PURIFOY

#### **The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

The Invitation to the Table  
The Prayer of Thanksgiving – The Lord's Prayer  
Leader: The Lord be with you  
**People: And also with you.**  
Leader: Lift up your hearts.  
**People: We Lift them up to the Lord.**  
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**People: It is right to give God Our thanks and Praise.**

The Words of Institution  
Sharing Bread and Wine (*This morning we celebrate the Lord's supper by intinction. You are invited to come forward and receive the bread and dipping it in the cup as we partake in Holy Communion. If you need assistance, raise your hand and an elder will come and serve you.*)

Communion Hymns - Songs from the Taizé Community  
#90                      Wait for the Lord                      WAIT FOR THE LORD  
#527                      Eat This Bread                      BERTHIER

\*Communion Prayer

**Gracious and loving God. You have fed us on the bread of life and the cup of salvation. We offer our thanks for not giving up on us, even when we stray from your presence. Help us to live each moment of each day for your purposes. For you, O God are the potter and we are the clay. Continue to mold us and shape us so that we may faithfully await your return; through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.**

### *Go Into the World to Serve*

\*Hymn #82                      *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*                      HYFRYDOL

\*Benediction                      \*Benediction Response                      THOMAS ALLEN

*By the grace of God in Christ Jesus, The Spirit is upon us,  
To magnify the name of the Lord, to make him disciples,  
To meet the needs of the least of these,  
So go in peace, go in joy, go in the Spirit of the Lord.*

\*Postlude                      *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come*                      FRIEDRICH WILHELM ZACHAU

*Words in bold type are to be read together.  
\*Indicates worshipers are invited to rise in body and spirit*



### *Staff at Grace*

Rev. Thom Lamb  
Pastor  
thom@gpctemple.org

Chelsea Stern  
Minister of Music  
chelsea@gpctemple.org

Dr. Jonathan Gary  
Organist

Emily Gary  
Pianist/Accompanist

Josh Essary  
Handbell Choir Director  
joshuaessary@gmail.com

Sharon Kristoferson  
Office Administrator  
office@gpctemple.org

Katherine Krska  
Financial Administrator  
katkrska@yahoo.com

Jane Nance  
Child Care Coordinator  
janenance65@gmail.com

Adele Parker  
Sexton

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Temple, TX 76504  
Phone: 254.773.2134  
Email: office@gpctemple.org  
Web: www.gpctemple.org

Office hours:  
Mon—Thurs 8AM—4PM  
Friday—closed



### *Visitor Card*

We are glad you are here! Please fill this out and place in the offering plate.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Text? (Yes/No) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Text? (Yes/No) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Children/Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Service I attended

11 AM

Age Range

Student (grade \_\_\_\_)

Adult

I would like more information about

Becoming a Christian

Joining this Church

Serving

Comments/Prayer request \_\_\_\_\_

Fill out this same form online  
by scanning below...

