

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church

Asheville, North Carolina

www.gcpcusa.org

January 20, 2019



"I have the audacity to believe that peoples everywhere can have three meals a day for their bodies, education and culture for their minds, and dignity, equality, and freedom for their spirits."

~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

Bell Peal ✚

Prelude ✚

Divinum Mysterium

Wilbur Held

* **Call to Worship** (*adapted from Psalm 36*)

Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.

**Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,
your judgments are like the great deep.**

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

**All people may take refuge
in the shadow of your wings.**

For with you is the fountain of life.

In your light, O God, we see light.

- * **Hymn 667** When Morning Gilds the Skies LAUDES DOMINI

- * **Call to Reconciliation**

- * **Prayer of Confession**

God of Hope,
You ask us for the truth, but the truth is difficult for us to admit. We want to believe we are faithful people. But the truth is, we also want to fit in. And we don't like to be uncomfortable or in conflict. And we tend to see what we expect to see. So, the truth is, we struggle to be faithful when it means we have to live with tension, discomfort, the unexpected, and the unaccepted. We struggle to be vulnerable. We need your help finding the courage to believe in you. Amen.

- * **Assurance of Forgiveness**

- * **Response ✚** Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me Hymn 582

- * **Passing of the Peace**

The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

- Faith Sharing with Children ✚**

- Our Life Together ✚** *(Please sign the pad located in your pew)*

- Prayer for Illumination**

- Hebrew Scripture ✚** Isaiah 62:1-5

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

- Anthem ✚** Set Me As a Seal René Clausen

- Gospel Reading** John 2:1-11

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

- Sermon** “Never Cease to Be Amazed” Marcia Mount Shoop

- Sacrament of Communion** (8:15 only)

- * **Hymn 292 ✚** As the Wind Song WAIRUA TAPU

* **Affirmation of Faith** (adapted from *A Brief Statement of Faith*) ✚

**In life and in death we belong to God.
 Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
 we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
 whom alone we worship and serve.
 We trust in Jesus Christ,
 fully human, fully God.
 Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
 preaching good news to the poor
 and release to the captives,
 teaching by word and deed
 and blessing the children,
 healing the sick
 and binding up the brokenhearted,
 eating with outcasts,
 forgiving sinners,
 and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

Offering (Please place prayer cards in the offering plate for the Prayers of the People)

Offertory ✚

Meditation on LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Charles Callahan

* **Doxology** ✚



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures

Bm A D G D Bm E A D



high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise

D



God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it

G A D Em A Bm



one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

Em D G A Em G A D



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

* Prayer of Dedication

**God of Love,
Fill these offerings with the transforming power of
your Spirit. Empower them to help heal broken
relationships and hasten the in-breaking of your
justice and love. Amen.**

Prayers of the People ✚

*Each section of the prayer will conclude: "God, in your grace"
Please respond: "Hear our prayer"*

The Lord's Prayer ✚

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us
our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the
kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

* Hymn 366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

* Charge & Benediction

* Postlude ✚

St. Denio

Michael Burkhardt

(For some, the Postlude serves as festive music to accompany their going back out into the world. Others prefer to remain seated and listen. Please be mindful of these different needs as you depart. Thank you!)

✚ Indicates 10:45 worship only.

*** Please Stand in Body or Spirit.**

We gather to worship God who is larger than all our imaginations!

We encourage all persons to sing the gender nouns and pronouns they prefer in referring to God.



Our Life Together

Thank You!

8:15 Head Usher: Beth Philipsen

10:45 Head Usher: Bill Wolcott | **Liturgist:** Sheryl Aikman

Deacon of the Week: Marcy Onieal, **email:** marcy.onieal@gmail.com

The flowers that decorate the sanctuary this morning are given in loving memory of the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

GCPC Congregational Breakfast & Annual Meeting | Sunday, January 27 |

8:15 AM | Atrium & Fellowship Hall

Come and celebrate another great year at Grace Covenant! This annual gathering is an opportunity to be together and hear from your staff and other church leaders about all the exciting ministries happening every day at GCPC. There will be no 8:15am worship and no Sunday school that morning. (Ages 2-5 will still have their Sunday school class). The Men @ GCPC will provide our scrumptious breakfast. If you would like to help with that, please contact Dean Presson, michael.presson@bcsemail.org.

PART (Power & Race Team)

The Racial Justice Book Club | Wednesday, Feb. 13 | 7:00 PM | Garden Room
For February, we are reading *An American Marriage* by Tayari Jones.

Earth Team

Plastics Reduction Task Force (first meeting) | Wednesday, January 23 | 6 – 8 PM | New Belgium

Come join the EARTH Team and Asheville Greenworks as we try to address single-use plastic in WNC! Join the discussion about how Asheville can reduce our collective dependence of single use plastics. We will focus on setting up sub-committees to address each of our action areas. Contact Eric Bradford at Asheville GreenWorks with any questions: eric@ashevillegreenworks.org / 828-232-7144.

Serve

Room In The Inn (RITI) | January 27 – February 3 | GCPC

RITI returns to Grace Covenant at the end of January. There is only 1 Sunday to sign-up before their arrival! The sooner we fill the slots, the better prepared we are to host the women. We still need overnight hosts and drivers. Please sign up in the narthex on Sunday mornings or online at <http://bit.ly/RITIJAN>.

Education

Winter Women's Memoir Series | Monday, January 28 | 6 PM | Jerusalem Rm

Join us for a series of book talks focusing on memoirs written by people of faith. Open to all women of the church. One copy of each book can be found in the church library. Please pre-read the book to ensure lively discussion. ***Childcare provided.**

- **January 28 - *Pure: Inside the Evangelical Movement that Shamed a Generation of Young Women and How I Broke Free* by Linda Kay Klein;**
Facilitator: Amber White

Bible Study | Wednesdays | 11:00 AM | Garden Room

Join the pastoral staff to read and study our sermon texts for Sunday. No preparation needed; just come ready to open scripture and discuss!

GCPC Community

Men @ GCPC | Thursday, Jan. 24 | 8:00 AM | Green Sage (633 Merrimon Ave.)

Join us for a breakfast meeting! Come for good conversation and fellowship. To prepare, please watch the "We Believe: The Best Men Can Be | Gillette (short film)" commercial found on Youtube or at: <http://bit.ly/WeBelieveGillette> and think about the formative messages you received growing up.

Fathers with Young Children Meet-up | Thursday, Jan. 24 | 4 PM | High Five Coffee (190 Broadway St.)

Fathers with babies and young children will be meeting for informal conversation, exploration, and support. If you find yourself in this particular stage of life, please come and have a coffee with us! Contact Richard, rcoble@gcpcusa.org, with any questions.

GCPC 20s/30s Gathering: "Bowling Night & Pizza Dinner" | Thursday, Jan. 31 | 6:30-8:30 PM | AMF Star Lanes (491 Kenilworth Rd)

If you are age 19-39, you are invited to a fun night of bowling, pizza & beverages and fellowship. GCPC will cover the cost, RSVP soon to Samantha sgblock@gcpcusa.org. *Contact Heather hferguson@gcpcusa.org for childcare by Jan 27th.

Sisters at the Sea | February 21-24, 2019 | Folly Beach, SC | \$190

Are you a woman age 25ish-50ish who would like a weekend of connecting and rejuvenating? Heather Ferguson will lead this year's retreat with the theme "Fire, Earth, Wind and Water: Praying with the Elements of Creation." **Registration ends on February 3rd.** Scholarships available. Forms available near Info Desk or online.

Care for GCPC Children and Youth

****All GCPC folks who volunteer with our children and/or youth as nursery volunteers, teachers, youth advisors or any other role, must attend one Child and Youth Protection Policy (CYPP) Training session.***

Training Session Option:

Sunday, February 3, 2019 – 12:00-1:00 pm. Contact Heather with questions.

Youth News

Please keep our 42 youth and adults in your prayers as they travel to Richmond for our Youth Winter Mission Education Trip from Jan. 18-21st.

**Please note: there will be no youth group tonight.*

Mark Your Summer Calendars (registration coming soon):

Montreat Senior High Youth Conference Week 6: July 28 - August 3 **note this is a date change*

Massanetta Middle School Youth Conference Week 3: July 11-14

Prayer List

[Concerns will stay on this list for a month unless we hear otherwise. Please keep us updated.]

Iglesia Jerusalem congregation; Sherry Harcke (Les Stradley's friend); Pat Cocke (Les Stradley's friend); Glen Russell (Robin Gaiser's brother); Nancy and Richard Schaadt (Donna Robertson's sister and brother-in-law); Louise Seitz (Janet Schifflin's friend); Ana Garcia, (our Padrino Partner), her husband, Francisco, and their sons, Jose and Adrian Garcia; Sondra Dorn (Jonathan Tetzlaff's partner); Jeffrey Ferris (Mary Lou Nash's son); Erik Jacobs (Kathy Jacob's son); June Collins (Carolyn Tingle's mother); Family of Vera Shealy (Nancy Gaskin's aunt); Linda Parker (Anna Jarvis' sister-in-law); Family of Lloyd "Hatman" Haag (Carolyn Haag's father); Hettie Lou Garland; Dot Holladay; Betty Smith; Margaret Rada; Bob Higgins; Olga Malinoski; Nancy Gettys

Next Sunday, January 27, 2018

GCPC Congregational Breakfast & Annual Meeting

Breakfast @ 8:15 am

Meeting @ 9:00 am

Worship Service at 10:45 AM

(NO Education Hour)

Sermon: "Body Work" by Marcia Mount Shoop

Scriptures: Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a; Luke 4:14-21

**No Education Hour next Sunday, January 27th.*

(Ages 2-5 will still have their Sunday morning classes.)

Education Hour will resume on February 3 | 9:15 AM

Adult Education Winter Term | January 6 – March 3

Pressure Points | *Painting the Stars: Science, Religion, & an Evolving Faith* | Jerusalem Room

Celebrating the connection of science and faith, *Painting the Stars* explores the promise of Christian spirituality. Featuring leading evolutionary theologians and progressive thinkers, the program includes weekly dvd segments and lively discussion questions. Bruce Sanquin, one of the speakers says, “the goal of this curriculum is to create some space for us to inhabit mystery more deeply, and explore the relationship between science, particularly evolution, and religion. Perhaps most importantly, the hope is that each participant will feel from the inside what it is like to be the presence of all this creativity showing up after 13.7 billion years as him or her. Without this felt sense of being one with the creative process that is ceaselessly animating life, the conversation will remain objective and academic.” **Facilitators:** Denise Snodgrass and Tim Hamel

The Improv | *Religious Wounds and Healing* | Fellowship Hall

The class will discuss how religion or communities of faith can do harm and the ways we find healing and resilience after such experiences. We will be engaging panels of people from the Grace Covenant community willing to share their experiences, as well as a few outside voices who have found healing elsewhere. Please come, bring your questions and your experiences, as we think about how we as Christians are called to be agents of healing and care in a wounded world.

Facilitators: Richard Coble and guests

Digging In | *Singing Faith: Exploring the Bible through Hymns* | Choir Room

The class will examine our biblical heritage of song as a way of understanding the historic development of hymns and the music of the church. We will seek to understand biblical foundations for singing while giving consideration to the theological, musical, literary, and cultural components of the faith we sing. Bring your questions and your voice. (Bibles/Hymnals provided.) **Facilitator:** Jeff Jones

CHILDREN & YOUTH EDUCATION @ 9:15AM [Contact Heather or Samantha]

Toddlers (ages 2-3) | “God Loves Me” | Toddler Room (downstairs)

Preschool/Kindergarten (ages 4-5) | Godly Play | Preschool Room (downstairs)

Elementary (grades 1-3) | Godly Play | Temple Room (upstairs)

Elementary (grades 4-5) | “CONNECT” | Indie Room (upstairs)

Middle School (grades 6-8) | “Collaborate” | Middle School Classroom (upstairs)

Senior Highs (grades 9-12) | “Wired Word” | A-Frame (upstairs)

Confirmation Class | Senior High Classroom (upstairs)

***Nursery care is available throughout Sunday morning beginning at 8:10 am.**

CALENDAR

Sunday	20		<i>Youth Winter Mission Trip</i>
		8:15 AM	Worship
		9:15 AM	Education Hour
		10:45 AM	Worship
		3:30 PM	PW Coordinating Team
		5:00 PM	Children's Choirs
Monday	21		OFFICE CLOSED – MLK Day
Tuesday	22	9:00 AM	Prayer Group
		6:00 PM	Finance Mtg.
Wednesday	23	10:00 AM	Knitters & Knatters
		11:00 AM	Bible Study
		7:00 PM	Chancel Choir
Thursday	24	8:00 AM	Men @ GCPC Gathering
		2:00 PM	J.O.Y. Steering Comm. Mtg.
		4:00 PM	Fathers of Young Children Conversation
Saturday	26	9:30 AM	Session & Deacon Retreat
Sunday	27		<i>Room In The Inn (RITI) begins</i>
		8:15 AM	Congregational Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Annual Meeting
		10:45 AM	Worship
		5:00 PM	Youth Group
		5:00 PM	Children's Choirs
		6:00 PM	Sung Evening Prayer

SESSION

CLASS OF 2018

Joe Brumit
George deWalder
Al Root
Kate Shem
Denise Snodgrass
Hannah Shealy

CLASS OF 2019

Omar Bolivar
Jay Hill
Bonnie Parker
Peggy Rada
Amy Wiesner

CLASS OF 2020

John Clark
Taylor Foss
Paul Rogers
Carley Stein
Debbly Vance

Moderator:

Marcia Mount Shoop

Associate Pastors:

Samantha Gonzalez-Block
Richard Coble

Clerk: Kern Parker

Scan this code for fast, secure online giving. Thank you!



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CLASS OF 2018

Sally Booher
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Bill Neeriemer

CLASS OF 2019

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Walt Justice
John Mount Shoop
Ed Parker
Anne Sayers
Matt Stradley

Caroline Wyrosdick-Webb

CLASS OF 2020

Ann Brown
Gordon Gaiser
Nancy Kramer
Lynn Milner
Marcy Onieal
Betsy Rhodes
Peter Rosal

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.



GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

789 Merrimon Avenue
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www.gcpcusa.org
828.254.3274

STAFF

Ministers: All the Members
Pastor/Head of Staff: Marcia Mount Shoop—mmshoop@gcpcusa.org
Associate Pastor: Samantha Gonzalez-Block—sgblock@gcpcusa.org
Associate Pastor: Richard Coble—rcoble@gcpcusa.org
Music Ministries: Jeff Jones—jjones@gcpcusa.org
Children's & Family Ministries: Heather Ferguson—hferguson@gcpcusa.org
Operations Administrator: Sherrie Meehan—smeehan@gcpcusa.org
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