

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church
Asheville, North Carolina
www.gpcusa.org

February 17, 2019



"Never be afraid to raise your voice for honesty and truth and compassion against injustice and lying and greed. If people all over the world...would do this, it would change the earth."

~ William Faulkner

Bell Peal ✚

Prelude ✚

For the Beauty of the Earth

John Ferguson

* **Call to Worship** (*adapted from Psalm 105*)

O give thanks to the Lord, call on God's name.

Make known God's deeds among the people.

Shout to the Lord, sing praises to God.

Tell of all God's wonderful works.

Seek the Lord, trust in God's strength.

Let those who seek God rejoice!

* **Hymn 14**

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

*** Call to Reconciliation**

*** Prayer of Confession**

God of loving-kindness,
We close our ears, we shut our eyes. You teach us to show compassion and we focus on ourselves. You embolden us to take risks and we yearn for more security. You call us to be your hands on earth and we clench our fists. You call us to speak truth and we stay silent. In your infinite grace, have mercy on us. Awaken our hearts and minds to your presence. Embolden us to live by Christ's example and serve you with great joy. Amen.

*** Assurance of Forgiveness**

*** Response ✚**

Sure-ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust and not be a -
fraid. For the Lord is my strong-hold and my sure de -
fense, and God will be my Sav - ior.

Chords: C_{All}, G, Am, F, Dm7, Gsus, G7, Em7, Am, C7, F, G7, Em7, Am, Dm, Gsus, C, F, C (F) Fine

*** 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 ✚

Jeremiah 17:5-10

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

Anthem ✚ Music Down in My Soul Moses Hogan

Gospel Lesson Luke 6:17-26

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

Sermon "Real Talk" Samantha Gonzalez-Block

Sacrament of Communion (8:15 only)

* **Hymn 172** ✚ Blest Are They BLEST ARE THEY

* **Affirmation of Faith** (from *The Iona Community*) ✚

We believe in God:
who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus,
who works in us and in others by the Spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

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

Offertory Anthem ✚ Like A Tree Margaret P. Douroux

* **Doxology** ✚

G C Am7 Dsus D G

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise Christ, all

D Am7 Dsus D Am7 D G Am7

peo - ple here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er -

G C Am7 G Am7 D G

more; praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore.

* **Prayer of Dedication**

Gracious God, accept these gifts offered to you in gratitude. May all that we give be used for your purpose: to bring equity, healing, and hope to the world. 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 684**

Faith Begins by Letting Go

LUX PRIMA

* **Charge & Benediction**

* **Postlude ✚**

Trumpet Tune

David German

(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 10:30 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: Connie Jones

10:45 Head Usher: Bill Wolcott | **Liturgist:** Ken Fisher

Deacon of the Week: John Mount Shoop, **email:** jmountshoop@gmail.com

Thank you to Jeannette Williams for the flowers that decorate the sanctuary this morning, given to the glory of God and with happy birthday wishes for Jeannette's brother, Donald.

The 2019 Flower Chart is on the bulletin board next to the elevator. *There are just a few dates left!!* Consider signing up to give flowers one Sunday. The cost is \$45, payable to GCPC. Please send your dedication to almurchison@gcpcusa.org.

Attention: Looking for Pictures of GCPC's Oak Trees

An effort is underway to gather pictures of the two large oak trees (later removed due to disease) on the Gracelyn Road side of GCPC. If you have personal photos of these trees, or of church events which took place under the trees please contact Anne Callison Stokely at annecallison.stokely@gmail.com.

PART (Power & Race Team)

"Two Rivers" Documentary Screening | Sunday, March 3 | 5:00 PM | GCPC Fellowship Hall

PART movie night! All are invited. Come to the viewing and discussion about this powerful movie. Two Rivers documents the true story of a Native American Reconciliation group that began in a couple's home in Northern Washington State.

The Racial Justice Book Club | Thursday, March 14 | 12:15 PM | Jerusalem Rm For March, we are reading *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism* by Robin DiAngelo. "The New York Times best-selling book exploring the counterproductive reactions white people have when their assumptions about race are challenged, and how these reactions maintain racial inequality." (Amazon)

Education

Winter Women's Memoir Series | Monday, February 25 | 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.**
• **Feb. 25** - *Becoming* by Michelle Obama; Facilitator: Caroline Wyrosdick-Webb

GCPC Community

Support Group for Cognitive Impairment | Wed., Feb. 20 | 12 PM | Garden Rm

This support group introduces techniques for daily living with such issues, led by Paul Rogers, a retired physician in our congregation. We meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of every month. **New participants welcome at any time.* Contact Richard, rcoble@gcpcusa.org, with questions.

Men @ GCPC | Thursday, Feb. 28 | 8 AM | HomeGrown (371 Merrimon Ave.)

Join us for fellowship and discussion. Please read the New York Times editorial "The Boys Are Not Alright" by comedian Michael Ian Black to prompt our thinking about issues of men, masculinity, and violence. If you have other topics, stories, or editorials that you would like our regular breakfast gathering to take up, please email Richard (rcoble@gcpcusa.org) or bring them to our discussion this month.

Fathers with Young Children Meet-up | Thursday, Feb. 28 | 4 PM | Green Sage

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, come and have a coffee with us! Contact Richard, rcoble@gcpcusa.org, with any questions.

GCPC 20s/30s Gathering: Breakout Asheville Escape Room! | Monday, March 4 | 7:00 (sharp) - 8:30 PM | 60 Patton Ave.

Join us for an evening of code cracking, clue finding, and mystery solving at Breakout Asheville. Two teams will race to solve a series of problems as they move through rooms, working together to breakout! GCPC will be covering the cost. RSVP ASAP by emailing Samantha at sgblock@gcpcusa.org! **Contact Heather at hferguson@gcpcusa.org by Monday, February 25th if you need childcare.*

Youth News

Youth Group: "Fellowship & Fun with St. Mark's Lutheran Youth" | Tonight, Sunday, February 17 | 4:30 – 7:00 PM | GCPC

Get ready for an extra special youth group! We will join forces with the St. Mark's Lutheran youth and engage in fun-filled activities, challenges and our very own "dinner church!" We will also practice a bit for Youth Sunday, so please arrive on time. See you there!

***Middle School Massanetta Youth Conference (July 11-14):**

Cost is \$235 if you sign up by February 28th. Contact Samantha to register.

***Senior High Montreat Youth Conference (July 28-Aug. 3):**

Cost is \$425 if you sign up by February 28th. Contact Samantha to register.

Next Sunday's Education for All Ages | 9:15 AM

Adult Education Winter Term | January 6 – March 3

Pressure Points | *Painting the Stars: Science, Religion, & an Evolving Faith* | JR
Celebrating the connection of science and faith, *Painting the Stars* explores the promise of Christian spirituality. The program features leading evolutionary theologians and progressive thinkers. 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." **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.

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.

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.**

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); Hettie Lou Garland; Dot Holladay; Betty Smith; Margaret Rada; Bob Higgins; Olga Malinoski; Nancy Gettys; Joyce Summerlin; James Harwell; Joe Brumit; Marty Johnson & Gabe Boehm

CALENDAR

Sunday	17	<i>Pritchard Park</i>
		8:15 AM Worship
		9:15 AM Education Hour
		10:45 AM Worship
		11:45 AM Planting of Oak sapling
		11:45 AM Deacons
		3:30 PM PW Coordinating Team
		5:00 PM Youth Group
		5:00 PM Children's Choirs
Monday	18	6:30 PM Handbells
Tuesday	19	9:00 AM Prayer Group
		6:00 PM Finance Mtg.
		6:00 PM Serve Mtg.
Wednesday	20	10:00 AM Knitters & Knatters
		11:00 AM Bible Study
		12:00 PM MCI Group
		7:00 PM Chancel Choir
Thurs. - Sun.	21-24	<i>Sisters at the Sea Retreat</i>
Friday	22	<i>Youth Lock-In</i>
Sunday	24	8:15 AM Worship
		9:15 AM Education Hour
		10:45 AM Worship
		5:00 PM Children's Choirs
		6:00 PM Evening Prayer Service

Next Sunday, February 24, 2019

Worship services at 8:15 & 10:45 AM
Education Hour (for all ages) at 9:15 AM

Sermon: "Joseph Megamix" by Richard Coble
Scriptures: Genesis 45:3-11, 15; Luke 6:27-38

SESSION

Class of 2019

Omar Bolivar
Frank Callison
Jay Hill
Bonnie Parker
Peggy Rada
Amy Wiesner

CLASS OF 2020

John Clark
Paul Rogers
Carley Stein
Laurie Stradley
Debbly Vance

CLASS OF 2021

Sheryl Aikman
Ken Fisher
Melissa Hicks
Roger Meade
Margaret Tierney

MODERATOR:

Marcia Mount Shoop

ASSOCIATE PASTORS:

Samantha Gonzalez-Block
Richard Coble

CLERK: Kelley Griffith

TREASURER: Joe Brumit—
treasurer@gpcusa.org

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



BOARD OF DEACONS

CLASS OF 2019

Walt Justice
Ryan Madamba
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

CLASS OF 2021

Mary Berg
Earl Fowler
Nancy Gaskin
Mike McCauley
Lynne Meacham
Louise Root
Amber White

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
Asheville, NC 28804
www.gpcusa.org
828.254.3274

STAFF

Ministers: All the Members

Pastor/Head of Staff: Marcia Mount Shoop—mmshoop@gpcusa.org

Associate Pastor: Samantha Gonzalez-Block—sgblock@gpcusa.org

Associate Pastor: Richard Coble—rcoble@gpcusa.org

Music Ministries: Jeff Jones—jjones@gpcusa.org

Children's & Family Ministries: Heather Ferguson—hferguson@gpcusa.org

Operations Administrator: Sherrie Meehan—smeehan@gpcusa.org

Communications: Anna Louise Murchison—almurchison@gpcusa.org

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Maintenance & Repair Technician: Cliff Schlegelmilch—cliff@gpcusa.org

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