

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church

Asheville, North Carolina

www.gcpcusa.org

April 21, 2019

Easter

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper



*"There is more beauty than our eyes can bear,
precious things have been put into our hands and to do nothing to honor them is to do great harm."
~ Marilynne Robinson, Gilead*

Bell Peal

Prelude

Allegro
from Concerto in G Major

J. S. Bach

Introit

This Is the Day

Jacobus Gallus

* Call to Worship

Sing glad songs of victory!
God has become our salvation.
The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.
Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed!

* Hymn 232

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

EASTER HYMN

* **Call to Reconciliation**

* **Prayer of Confession**

**Merciful God,
Your creatures cry out and we turn away. We excuse ourselves from responsibility: we are too young, too old, too tired, too busy. It is hard to imagine that we might make a difference. Life-giving God, restore our imaginations and our hearts. Fill us with courage and compassion, so that we can reach out to others and share your transformative love with the world. Amen.**

* **Response**



1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, ♪ with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)
F B \flat E \flat B \flat Gm7 C7



and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, ♪ with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F \sharp) (Bm)
C7 F A Dm



and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, ♪ with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)
Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F



As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

* **Assurance of Forgiveness**

* **Passing of the Peace**

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

Faith Sharing with Children

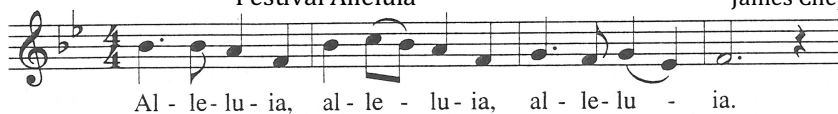
Our Life Together *(Please sign the pad located in your pew)*

Sung Prayer for Illumination

(Sing as directed)

Festival Alleluia

James Chepponis



Hebrew Scripture

Isaiah 65:17-25

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

Gospel Lesson

Luke 24:1-12

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“It Seemed to Them an Idle Tale”

Marcia Mount Shoop, Samantha Gonzalez-Block, and Richard Coble

* Hymn 231

Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

SUO GAN

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to The Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise!

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.

The Bread and The Cup

Communion is by intinction. Come to one of the stations as directed by ushers. Return to your pew by the outside aisles. You may also be served in your pew. All bread is gluten-free. (A plate with separate cups is available at the front pulpit-side station for those with compromised immune systems.)

Hymns During Communion

249	Because You Live, O Christ	VRUECHTEN
240	Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks	ALLELUIA NO. 1
238	Thine Is the Glory	JUDAS MACCABEUS

Prayer After Communion

Offering *(Please place prayer cards in the offering plate. Staff will pray for them this week.)*

Offertory Anthem Easter Anthem William Billings

*** Doxology**



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

Bm A D G D Bm E A D



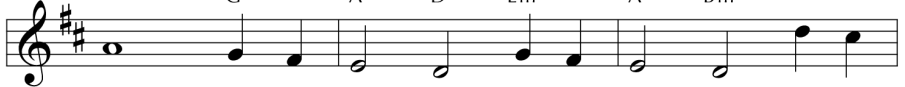
high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise

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 abundance,
What a privilege it is to share in your work of
resurrection, where life can suddenly appear in the
most unexpected places! We ask that you direct these
offerings in accordance with your work and grace.
Amen.**

*** Hymn 485** We Know That Christ Is Raised ENGELBERG

*** Charge & Benediction**

(Children will be invited to come forward and help take the remaining Communion elements out for a life-giving purpose)

* **Sung Response**

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

HALLE, HALLE

* **Postlude**

Final Symphony No. 1

Louis Vierne

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(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!)

*** 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!

Head Ushers 8:15: Connie Jones | **10:45:** Bill Wolcott

Liturgists 8:15: Andy Barnett & Ed Parker | **10:45:** Margaret Rada & Bre Bolivar

Deacon of the Week Mary Berg, **email:** marhber@hotmail.com

Thank you to Jeannette Williams for the flowers that decorate the sanctuary this morning, given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jeannette's mother, Jeannette Ralph; happy anniversary to grandson Spenser and wife, Cassie and happy birthday wishes to great grandchildren Brady, Austin and Reilly.

Thank you to the Worship Council for preparing the sanctuary for our Easter Celebration. Additional thanks to Gary Egerer, Jen Edwards and Annie Cole for their assistance.

A called meeting of the congregation is scheduled for Sunday April 28 immediately following the 10:45am worship service for the purpose of approving a \$50,000 loan from the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program (PILP) for a solar panel system.

Mozart's Coronation Mass | Sunday, May 12 | 5:00 PM | Cathedral of All Souls

The GCPC Chancel Choir and the Choir of the Cathedral of All Souls will be combining forces to present Mozart's Coronation Mass with full orchestra. The Concert is free and open to the public.

Our ministry partner CIMA, has asked that we help replenish their Sanctuary Fund. This fund helps families with loss of income from a detained family member as well as costs of legal assistance for families. ***To contribute to this special offering during the month of April,*** please include the word "CIMA" in the memo line of your check or on your cash envelope and put it in the offering plate.

Presbyterian Women Sunday | April 28

Originally begun in 1922, the Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering is an annual tradition that has celebrated our denomination's commitment to mission through the funding of more than 200 projects that touch the lives of women and children, both in the US and abroad. We ask that you give as you have been blessed, generously and as led by the Holy Spirit. **We will collect the 2019 Birthday offering on Presbyterian Women Sunday, April 28. Special envelopes are in the pew racks.*

PART (Power & Race Team)

The Racial Justice Book Club | Thursday, May 9 | 12:15 PM | Jerusalem Rm

For May, we are reading *We Were Eight Years in Power* by Ta-Nehisi Coates.

"Biting cultural and political analysis from the award-winning journalist . . . [Coates] reflects on race, Barack Obama's presidency and its jarring aftermath. . . He contextualizes each piece with candid personal revelations, making the volume a melding of memoir and critique. . . Emotionally charged, deftly crafted, and urgently relevant." (Kirkus Reviews)

Education

**"Jesus' Call to Be a Matthew 25 Church" Workshop – Rev. Jimmie Ray Hawkins
| Sunday, April 28 | 5:30 PM | GCPC Fellowship Hall**

We will examine how Christian denominations and congregations are adopting Matthew 25 as an intimate element in their mission to proclaim the good news of the gospel. **Limited to 60. RSVP required to Anna Louise, almurchison@gcpcusa.org, by April 22nd. Cost: \$5 (includes simple dinner).**

Marketplace, AD - VBS: "Love Your Neighbor" | June 24-27 | First Pres. AVL
Marketplace is for children ages 3 years old (by January 1, 2019 AND fully potty trained) - children who will be completing 5th grade. **All forms and payment are online this year at <http://bit.ly/MarketplaceAD>.** Youth and adult volunteers are also needed. Email Heather Ferguson at hferguson@gcpcusa.org for more info.

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

GCPC Community

Men @ GCPC | Thursday, April 25 | 8 AM | HomeGrown (371 Merrimon Ave.)
Join us for fellowship and discussion of the introduction to Bryan Stevenson's New York Times bestseller, *Just Mercy*, in preparation for Stevenson's talk at UNCA the evening of April 25. Contact Richard, rcoble@gcpcusa.org with questions.

Young Fathers Group | Tuesday, April 30 | 7 PM | East Village Grill
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.

Mild Cognitive Impairment Group | Wed., May 1 | 12 PM | Garden Room
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.

Church Anniversary Potluck | Sunday, May 5 | after 10:45 worship | Atrium
GCPC turns 66! We will have the traditional church potluck to celebrate our 66 years of ministry in Asheville. We'll provide the drinks. You provide something tasty to share according to the first letter of your last name: **A – G:** Main Dish (proteins); **H – M:** Salads (pasta, fruit, green, etc.); **N – S:** Sides (veggies, beans, casseroles, etc.); **T – Z:** Desserts. We look forward to celebrating together!

Youth News

No youth group today. Our next youth group event is below:

LAST CALL to Register for Youth Adventure Day! | *Saturday, April 27th | 10:30 AM -7:00 PM | Camp Grier (Old Fort) | GCPC discounted cost \$10

The Presbyterian Youth Council is inviting youth from across our presbytery to an adventure day that includes: canoeing, hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, and more. Scholarships available. Email Samantha sgblock@gpcusa.org to sign up!

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

Adult Education | Speaker Series | April 28, May 5 & 12 | 9:15 AM | FH

April 28: "Presbyterians & Advocacy: From Abolition to the Poor People's Campaign" with Rev. Jimmie Hawkins

May 5: Panel on Housing and Homelessness in Asheville with representatives from BeLoved House, AHOPE, and Habitat for Humanity.

May 12: Discussion about Reproductive Justice with Dr. Rebecca Todd Peters, professor of ethics at Elon University and author of *Trust Women: A Progressive Christian Account for Reproductive Justice*

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.**

Next Sunday, April 28, 2019

Presbyterian Women Sunday

Second Sunday of Easter

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

Sermon: "God's Grace is a Covenant of Love" by Rev. Jimmie Hawkins

Scriptures: Genesis 4:8-16; I Peter 4:7-11

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); Jeffrey Ferris (Mary Lou Nash's son); June Collins (Carolyn Tingle's mother); Robin Smith (Beth Robrecht's sister); James Martin (Stacy Shelley's dad); Rebecca Wells' brother, Jamey; Natalie C.; Dave Rummel (friend of the Kavalhunas); Family of Tara Williamson (friend of Caroline Wyrosdick-Webb and family); Jennifer Moore (Amanda Pressley's daughter); Hettie Lou Garland; Dot Holladay; Betty Smith; Margaret Rada; Bob Higgins; Olga Malinoski; Joyce Summerlin; James Harwell; Cory Hartbarger; Mary Ellen Horne

Our sympathy and support are extended to Alan Gragg's family, following his death; Mike and Betsy Fleenor on the death of his dad, Bob; Lesli and David Hollowell on the death of her father. Please keep these families in your prayers.

CALENDAR

Sunday	21		<i>Easter/Pritchard Park</i>
		8:15 AM	Worship
		10:45 AM	Worship
Monday	22		OFFICE CLOSED
		6:30 PM	Handbells
Tuesday	23	8:30 AM	GCPC Hike to Looking Glass Rock
		9:00 AM	Prayer Group
		6:15 PM	Session
Wednesday	24	10:00 AM	Knitters & Knatters
		11:00 AM	Bible Study
		11:00 AM	Kitchen Committee Mtg.
		7:00 PM	Chancel Choir
Thursday	25	8:00 AM	Men @ GCPC Gathering
Saturday	27	10:30 AM	Presbytery Youth Adventure
Sunday	28		<i>Presbyterian Women Sunday</i>
		8:15 AM	Worship
		9:15 AM	Education Hour with Rev. Jimmie Hawkins
		10:45 AM	Worship
		11:45 AM	Deacons
		5:00 PM	Children's Choir
		6:00 PM	Dinner & Workshop with Rev. Jimmie Hawkins

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
Debbie 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@gcpcusa.org

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Thank you!



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Caroline Wyrosdick-Webb

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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.gcpcusa.org
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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

Communications: Anna Louise Murchison—almurchison@gcpcusa.org

Financial Administrator: Natalie Weaver—nweaver@gcpcusa.org

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

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