

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

*Offertory Prayer for the Tithes We Have Received

Leader: We come again to this time of prayer that is ours every week: a time to acknowledge what is ours and what we have given to others.

People: Let us come this week with excitement and anticipation solely because we are blessed with the opportunity to give. So let us acknowledge that we have lifted our voices in praise and thanksgiving for all that we have been given in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Leader: Now we pray that our gratitude goes beyond our singing.

People: May what we give this week reflect the bounty that is ours so others too might be able to lift their voices in praise and thanksgiving through Jesus Christ, the way the truth and the life. Amen.

*Doxology ***“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”*** Hymn #706
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Him, all creatures here below;
praise Him, above ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

SENDING

*Hymn *“Jesus is All the World to Me”* #612

*Benediction

*Response ***“We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer”*** Hymn #356
With voices united our praises we offer;
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us.
To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise. (Verse 3)

Postlude *“Trumpet Voluntary”* - Purcell

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Grace Presbyterian



Church

Sixth Sunday of Easter — May 14, 2023

STAFF:
Transitional Pastor: Terry Simm, ph. 712.461.0918
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Admin. Assistant: Rab Snyder, ph. 501.504.6899
Director of Music/Organist: Lyle Rupert
Pianist: Eloise Stowe

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 14, 2023—10:30 a.m.

GATHERING

Gathering Hymn *“We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer”* Hymn #356
We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator, (Verse 1)
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You,
we bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *“This is My Father’s World”* - Babcock

* The Call to Worship

Leader: The time has come to follow Christ as the way of life.

People: Let us come here to worship with a true heart in the assurance of faith.

Leader: Through Christ we are birthed new and become partners in God’s creation.

People: May the healing and healthful waters of Christ pour down upon us.

All: As we journey on together, let us join in community as we celebrate in the love of Christ as the way, the truth and the life.

*Prayer of Adoration

*Hymn *“In Christ Alone”* #569

CLEANSING

*Unison Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, all we have and all we are is a gift from you, yet we often fail to acknowledge your presence and your grace in our lives. We prefer to take credit for what we do right, to blame others for what goes wrong, and to dismiss as insignificant our weaknesses, self-righteousness, and pride. We want to be regarded as being strong, rather than relying on your strength. We want to avoid hardship and trials rather than endure the suffering that molds godly character. We want to be in control rather than yield to you and place you at the center of our lives. We ask for your forgiveness. We confess that our stubbornness reveals our mistrust of both your goodness and your love and desires for us. (Time of silence to confess our sins) Grant us your mercy, we pray, and restore us to a right relationship with you, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

*Gloria Patri Hymn # 704
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Majestic God, we open the Scriptures needing to see you as you are instead of the small, manageable, accommodating God, we make you out to be. Pierce us with the truth and light of Christ. Sweep away our self-delusions. In these words, give us a vision of the God of the universe whose power and might evoke awe and fear in the hearts of the truly humble. For the sake of Christ, we pray. Amen.

Epistle Reading

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Philippians 3: 7-11

Special Music

Eleanor and Max Whisenhunt

Children’s Message

*Hymn of Preparation

“Jesus is Lord of All”

#431

Gospel Reading

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

John 14: 1-6

Message

“Christ Centered

Philippians 3: 10

“that I may know him [Jesus], and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,”

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

*Affirmation of Faith

“The Apostle’s Creed”

see hymnal