

+ PRAYER

God our creator, your Holy Spirit prays for us even when we do not know how to pray. Send your Spirit to comfort us in our need and loss, and help us to commend those we love but see no longer to your merciful care; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

... In the shadow of the valley of death, let us pray to the Lord of life: *(follow with The Lord’s Prayer)*

ANTHEM	Geistliches Lied, Op. 30 (Spiritual Song)	Johannes Brahms Paul Flemming
Laß dich nur nichts nicht dauren mit Trauren, sei stille, wie Gott es fügt, so sei vergnügt mein Wille!	<i>Do not be sorrowful or regretful; Be calm, as God has ordained, and thus my will shall be content.</i>	
Was willst du heute sorgen auf morgen? Der Eine steht allem für, der gibt auch dir das Deine.	<i>What do you want to worry about from day to day? There is One who stands above all who gives you, too, what is yours.</i>	
Sei nur in allem Handel ohn Wandel, steh feste, was Gott beschleußt, das ist und heißt das Beste. Amen.	<i>Only be steadfast in all you do, stand firm; what God has decided, that is and must be the best. Amen</i>	

* + BLESSING

For those who walked with us, this is a prayer. For those who have gone ahead, this is a blessing. For those who touched and tended us, who lingered with us while they lived, this is a thanksgiving. For those who journey still with us in the shadows of awareness, in the crevices of memory, in the landscape of our dreams, this is a benediction. **Amen.**

DANNY POTTS AND JESSICA SANTORO WILL BEGIN SINGING OUR CLOSING HYMN, *JUST A CLOSER WALK WITH THEE*,
AND WILL INVITE THE CHOIR AND CONGREGATION TO JOIN IN THE SINGING AND IN A “SECOND LINE”
PROCESSION TO OUR GALA RECEPTION IN WARNER HALL.

*Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
Daily walking close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.*

+ Prayers written by The Rev. Jan Richardson
* Please stand as you are able

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

MINISTERS - Rev. Michael R. Bailey, Rev. Caroline Kelly
COMBINED SANCTUARY CHOIRS –
Marjorie Johnston, Dir. of Music, Mr. Jason Pedeaux, Organist & Director of Instrumental Ensembles,
Leslie Poss, Dir. of Music & Worship Arts & Christian Formation, and Dr. Michael Delfín, Organist
FPC CARILLON HANDBELL CHOIR
LECTORS - John Whitehead
USHERS – Bill Campbell and Jennie King
THE RED MOUNTAIN JAZZ COLLECTIVE – Gaines Brake, Don Bennett, John Taylor, Tony Lombardo
RECEPTION – Jill Cilimberg and FPC Fellowship Committee



A Service of Remembrance and Celebration

Honoring the Saints and Comforting the Bereaved

“The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit.”
~ Psalm 34, vs. 18

Sunday, November 3, 2024

4:00 PM

First Presbyterian Church
900 Greensboro Ave.
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

Grace Presbyterian Church
113 Hargrove Rd.
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

PRELUDE:

I’ve Got Peace Like a River

Carillon Handbell Choir

Christe Sanctorum

Michael Delfin, organ

Justorum Animae

William Byrd

Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-2a, 3b

Justorum animae in manu Dei sunt,
et non tanget illos tormentum mortis.
Visi sunt oculis insipientium mori,
illi autem sunt in pace.

But the souls of the righteous are in the hand
of God, and no torment will ever touch them.
In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have
died, but they are at peace.

Kate Paras, Alissa Plenzler, Leslie Poss, Dee Hamner, Danny Potts

Quintet

WELCOME AND OPENING SENTENCES

Rev. Michael R. Bailey

Leader: God is our refuge and strength
All: a very present help in trouble.

Leader: The eternal God is your dwelling place,
All: and underneath are the everlasting arms.

Leader: Blessed are those who mourn,
All: for they will be comforted.

PSALM 23, (read responsively)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name’s sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil,
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

INTROIT

Now I Walk in Beauty

Gregg Smith

Navajo Prayer

Now I walk in beauty, beauty is before me, beauty is behind me, above and below me.

+ PRAYER

When the wall between the worlds is too firm, too close. When it seems all solidarity and sharp edges. When every morning you wake as if flattened against it, its forbidding presence fairly pressing the breath from you all over again. Then may you be given a glimpse of how weak the wall and how strong what stirs on the other side, breathing with you and blessing you still, forever bound to you but freeing you into this living, into this world so much wider than you ever knew. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Romans 8:31-39

John Whitehead

Grace Presbyterian Church

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Neither Angels, Nor Demons, Nor Powers

Timothy C. Takach

Psalms 121:1, Felicia Dorothea Hemans, Romans 8:38-39, Revelation 7:17

And I believe. So I believe.

I will lift my eyes to the hills.
There, dost thou well believe, no storm should come to mar the stillness of that angel-home;
There should thy slumbers be weighed down with honey-dew, serenely blessed.

And I believe. So I believe.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, neither angels, nor demons, nor powers,
neither things present nor things to come, neither height nor depth, nor any other creature,
shall be able to separate us from the love of God.

I do believe.

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

* CONGREGATIONAL HYMN 787

God Weeps with Us Who Weep and Mourn

MOSHIER

Stanza 1 – upper voices (sopranos & altos)

Stanza 2 – lower voices (tenors & basses)

Stanza 3 – all voices

SCRIPTURE

James 1:2-4

John Whitehead

Grace Presbyterian Church

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Lay Me Low

arr. Kevin Siegfried

Text and tune adapted from The Shaker Song by Addah Z. Potter

Lay me low. Where the Lord can find me, Where the Lord can own me, Where the Lord can bless me.

SCRIPTURE

Romans 8:15b-21; Colossians 3:4

John Whitehead

Grace Presbyterian Church

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Be Thou Faithful unto Death (from St. Paul)

Felix Mendelssohn

Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give to thee a crown of life. Be not afraid. My help is nigh.

Dee Hamner, tenor Marjorie Johnston, piano

SCRIPTURE

John 14:18-29

John Whitehead

Grace Presbyterian Church

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

All are invited to come forward during the anthem with Remembrance Cards naming those we remember today.

ANTHEM

Christ has no body now but yours

David Ogden

Teresa of Avila

Christ has no body now but yours, no hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Yours are the eyes with which he sees, yours are the feet with which he walks,
Yours are the hands with which he blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands.
...the feet. ...the eyes.