

Welcome to Grace Presbyterian Church. We are pleased that you are here and look forward to discovering ways that we can grow in faith and service together. We pray that you will be blessed in worship today. If you have any questions, we encourage you to contact the church office at (337) 984-6400 or gracpreb@lusfiber.net. For Pastoral Care, please contact Rev. Pat at 337-781-1806 or at wadp1@msn.com.

THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH:

Sunday, December 22

10:30 a.m. – Worship in Sanctuary

11:30 a.m. – After Church Refreshments

Tuesday, December 24

5:30 p.m. – Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, December 29

10:30 a.m. – Worship in Sanctuary

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS:

AFTER CHURCH REFRESHMENTS – Everyone is invited to stay after worship **TODAY** for Refreshments & Fellowship. Today's refreshments are provided by **Tim & Mary Conner**.

STAFF BONUSES – **TODAY** is the official last day to contribute to Church Staff Bonuses. Please see Tim Conner or David Jones if you would like to donate.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE - our Annual Candlelight Service will be held on **Tuesday, December 24th** at **5:30 p.m.** Our offering on Christmas Eve will be split between our Agape Fund & our Good Samaritan Fund which helps people that are in temporary need.

JOY OFFERING – will be taken on **Sunday, December 29th**. If you would like to donate to the Christmas Joy Offering, there will be special envelopes in your bulletin on December 29th. You can also donate to this offering on Christmas Eve if you would like, just make sure to place your donation in the special envelope so we know what it is for.

CHURCH OFFICE – will be closed on **December 24th & 25th** for Christmas and also on **December 31st & January 1st** for New Years.

Grace Presbyterian prays for..... (new in bold)

Larry Schendel
Joyce Guillot
Betty Tucker
Greta Halphen
Katherine Hess
Elke Hitt
Betty Adams
Jim & Jean McLain
Bill & Bette Grubb
Mary Ann Daigle
Mary Lou Montgomery
April Grigg Manzo (Nick Manzo)
Gloria Keller (David & Jysele Jones)
Delores Knots Marks (Terry Wolford)
Byron Hebert (Betty Couch)
Jacquie Mauter Family (Causey's)
Jim & Jean McLain's Family
Anita Stamm Spears (Betty Couch)
Ann Womack Family (Jysele Jones)
Suzy Stewart (Sandy Stewart)
Mrs. Peebles (Gail Rea)
Troy & Melanie Lillie (Sarah Gaspard)
Joyce Sorbet (Nick Manzo)
Mona Faherty (Sandy Stewart)
Jeff & Leslie Zellers (Melissa Gonzalez)
Sherri Elter (Danny Jones)
Alice Guillotte (Betty Adams)
Ms. Mary Jo Brook
Tiffani Bass & Mazen Lee McCoy (William Baker)
Larry Baker (Nancy Sorbet)
Linda Scholes (Jean McLain)
Mildred & Maryann Baker (William Baker)



Grace Presbyterian Staff

Pat Wadsworth
Sarah Gaspard
Gray Guillot
Katharine Schendel
Nick Manzo

Interim Pastor
Administrator
Custodian
Organist/Pianist
Music Director

Grace Presbyterian Church of Lafayette

Unashamed in
Jesus' Name, we will

Gather, Grow, and Go

Website: gracelafayette.org
Facebook: [gracelafayette](https://www.facebook.com/gracelafayette)
(337) 984-6400

518 ROSELAWN BLVD., LAFAYETTE, LA 70503

Celebration of Worship

December 22, 2024

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Gather - Assemble in God's Name

Prelude Katharine Schendel

Silent Meditation

Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: Shepherd of Israel, you lead the descendants of Joseph,
People: and you sit on your throne above the winged creatures.

Lighting the Advent Candles Paul & Andrea Montgomery

Opening Prayer

God of grace, your eternal Word took flesh among us when Mary placed her life at the service of your will. Prepare our hearts for his coming again; keep us steadfast in hope and faithful in service, that we may receive the coming of his kingdom for the sake of Jesus Christ, the ruler of all, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*Hymn "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" Blue #22

Call to Confession

Leader: Lord, listen to our prayer
People: and let your light shine
Leader: Let us confess our sins together to the God whose light shines upon us.

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

God of light and hope, we eagerly anticipate the coming of Christ in this season, and we look forward to good times with friends and family; but we tend to

neglect our spiritual disciplines, and to make excuses for ignoring our faith values. Forgive us, we pray, and help us to surround ourselves with those who share our faith values, and who will support us in our need. May this season be a time of spiritual and emotional growth for us, in spite of the temptations and excesses that seem inevitably to come. In Jesus' name we ask, amen.

Silent Prayers of Personal Confession

Declaration of Forgiveness

Leader: Our God, make us strong again!

People: Smile on us and save us.

Leader: In the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God!

*Praise Response

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.

*Passing of the Peace

Grow - Proclaim God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading Micah 5:2-5a

Special Music Nick Manzo

Epistle Reading Hebrews 10:5-10

New Testament Reading Luke 1:39-55

Message Rev Pat Wadsworth

*Affirmation of Faith (in unison) The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day

he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Hymn "In the Bleak Midwinter" Blue #36

Give Thanks to God

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer ("debts and debtors")

Offering

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

Go- In God's Name

*Closing Song Blue #58
"While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks"

*Benediction Rev Pat Wadsworth

*Postlude Katharine Schendel



*Those that are able please stand

VISITOR CARDS – if you are a visitor today, please fill out a "welcome card" which is located on the table as you exit the Sanctuary. Please place the completed card in the offering plate (located in the same area) so we can have a record of you joining us today!