

# The Celebration of Worship

CULTIVATING  
& LETTING GO

Community of Grace  
March 8, 2026

**As the Prelude begins, we invite you into a time of quiet reflection and prayerful preparation for worship.**

The Welcome and Announcements

The Choral Opening

*"Prepare"*

\*The Call to Gathering

**Leader:** In this season of Lent, we come not to achieve, but to be formed.

**People:** We come to let go of what does not give life and to cultivate what does.

**Leader:** We release what is shallow, hurried, and distorted.

**People:** We open ourselves to deeper roots.

**Leader:** For the Spirit meets us in wilderness places—

**People:** And grows in us strength we did not know we had.

**All:** Let us worship the God who prunes and plants, who clears and cultivates, who leads us into life.

\*The Invocation

\*The Hymn of Praise

*"Great Is Your Faithfulness"*  
(No. 423 v. all)

Quilt Time

The Offertory

The Prayers of the People

The Scripture Lesson

Jeremiah 17:7-8

The Choral Meditation

*"Draw Me Near"*

Words of Grace

*"Root Bound"*

\*The Hymn of Reflection

*"There's A Wideness in God's Mercy"*  
(No. 23 v. all)

\*Choral Benediction

*"Speak Lord In The Stillness"*

\*Benediction

\*Postlude

*\*All who are able, please stand*

## Announcements

**We Welcome Debbie Kidd to the pulpit today.**

**Lent Offering: "Cultivating Young Minds".**

**We will be collecting money and books for Speak Life and Life.**

## Upcoming events

**Saturday, March 21: Family Picnic at noon at Lake Norman State Park.  
More info to come.**

**March 22—Church conference**

**Thursday, March 26th: we will be doing a Beer & Hymns at 6pm at Red Buffalo.**

**Easter Saturday: April 4 Egg Hunt and Easter Party on the church grounds.**

**Maunday Thursday Meal: April 2- 6:00pm.**

**Easter: April 5 - Sunrise service at 7am, with a lite breakfast, no Sunday School, then  
worship with Contata at 11:00am.**

### Birthdays

7 - Gina DeLong  
9 - Donn Wardo  
10 - John Marshall  
10 - Terry Hamby  
13 - David Rogers

### CONCERNS

*Continue to remember:*

*Our friends on homebound:  
Clara Rogers.*

*Those issues close to us:*

*Spencer Cox, Billy Adams, those on disability, Buddist Monks, Nancy Dill, Vera Bowman family,  
Tony Smith, Carrilea's grandmother, Teddy, Bryan, Kristy, Farris Ervin family, Amy Jacks Dean,  
Susan Fanjoy family, Lowe's employees, Hispanic community, Nichole's neighbor, Recent shootings,  
Milo, Bob Barber, Government workers and others with job instability,  
All those affected by Hurricane Helene, Louise's brother, Jack, Middle East crisis,  
Lucas Watt and family, Cameron Gray, Iredell Statesville Schools students and staff,  
peoples of the Ukraine, caregivers, healthcare workers, homeless children, our nations immigrants.*

*Those facing tough times, those who are mentally ill, those who are affected by violence,  
those who are incarcerated, children who are a part of the Guardian ad Litem program,  
local law enforcement officers and fire fighters.*

*Those in the military:*

*James Pulliam, Adam Ivey, Anthony Corcoran, Kelso Igano, Zach Thompson*

## Church Maintenance

Before next Sunday - Salisbury/McKinney  
March 22 - DeLong  
March 29 - Keesbury

## Second Hour Helpers

Today - Paul Vanderstreek, Cory Scott, Marsha Angell  
March 15 - Cory Scott, Cathy Fulbright, Louise Grose  
March 22 - Leigh Brown, Chris Brown, Janna Brown

### BUDGET UPDATE

Needed year to date: \$19,062.00  
Received year to date: \$18,425.21  
UNDER budget: \$636.79  
Weekly needs: \$2118.00  
This Week's Offering: \$2479.10



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We are Grace Baptist Church - a ministering people of God, reaching beyond our walls to the needs of our local and global community. We are an intergenerational faith community called and committed to the life of love and servant-hood through the experience of celebrative worship, the development of each person's gifts and the work for peace and justice.

In our diversity we find strength and a way to understand the inclusiveness of God. We recognize each individual as a child of God. We welcome and affirm ALL people, who and where you are, to join in our common mission through participation and leadership in this community of faith.

We are affiliated with the Alliance of Baptists,  
the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America and the  
Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists.

*Ministers: All Members of the Congregation*

Interim Pastor: Carrilea Hall  
Secretary: Lisa Wardo

Music Director: LeAnda Barnard  
Church Musician: Nichole Tilley

### Boards

Cabinet: Carole Hendrix  
Deacon: Janna Brown  
Mission: Louise Grose  
Education: Sam Scott  
Stewardship: Jen DeLong  
Worship: LeAnda Barnard

*WELCOME TO ALL who have chosen to worship with us today. We pray that being here will bring joy, peace and the presence of God to you.*

*If you are interested in joining this congregation, as we seek to discern and live out God's call to us, please speak to our pastor or a deacon (Janna Brown, John Barnard, Renae Keesbury, Tom Wiberg, Chris Brown, River Irby, Paul Vanderstreek)*

*You are welcome to be a participant in the church activities at Grace.*

You may also contact us by phone at 704-872-5130, or by email at [gracestatesville@gmail.com](mailto:gracestatesville@gmail.com).

Visit our website at [www.gracestatesville.org](http://www.gracestatesville.org).

Our Facebook page is: Grace Baptist Church of Statesville, NC

