

The Celebration of Worship



Grace
Baptist CHURCH
September 1, 2024

The Welcome and Announcements

The Prelude

The Congregational Opening

"This Is My Story"

*This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long:
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.*

*The Call to Gathering

Leader: Eternal God, whose breath is the universe, whose Word is the world—

People: amazed, we praise you.

Leader: Creating God, who with delight and play, with wisdom and beauty fashions every creature—

People: in love, we thank you.

Leader: Loving God, you weave us into the great web of life, which is our shared home, our common body, our one belonging.

All: Grateful, we worship you.

*The Invocation

*The Hymn of Praise

"Blue Boat Home"
(Insert)

The Offertory

The Prayers of the People

The Scripture Lesson

Job 38: 1-33

Special Reading

Excerpt from *Half Earth* by E. O. Wilson

The Choral Meditation

"Colors of the Wind"
Katelyn Corcoran

Words of Grace

"Not As God's"

*The Congregational Benediction

"Go Now In Peace"

*Go now in peace; go now in peace.
May the love of God surround you
everywhere, everywhere you may go.*

*Benediction

*Postlude

**All who are able, please stand*

Announcements

We welcome Andora Nicholson to the pulpit today as a “Voice of Grace”!

We will resume regular schedule next Sunday, on September 8.

With Sunday School at 10:00am and Worship at 11:00am.

***If you haven't already, please add a little info under your photo on the bulletin board on the back wall near the sound equipment. It can be where you volunteer or any other info you wish to share with visitors or newbies who haven't learned all our names.**

***Mark your Calendars for Our Davis Lecture Series coming November 17th.**

Birthdays

4 - Katelyn Hayes

4 - May and Davis Kenney

4 - Leigh Brown

5 - Josh Hayes

Anniversary

4 - Jen and Gina DeLong

CONCERNS

Continue to remember:

Our friends on homebound:

Nancy Milstead & Clara Rogers

Those issues close to us:

Susie Wiberg family, Gay Park, Darren & Tia, James, Shakira, Grace Eller, Kyle & Patricia, Lanny McCoy, Gay Shaver, Jennifer Jolly's mother, Janna's mom, Walter Arreaza, Al Fraley, Louise's brother, Jack, Nikki Crawford, Middle East crisis, Sharon Westbrook, Regina Shumaker, Rebecca, Lucas Watt and family, Wild fires in the west, Iredell Statesville Schools students and staff, Amber Jordan and family, People of Cuba, Kim Christman and Stan Dotson, peoples of the Ukraine, Cameron Gray, Spencer Cox, 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:

Josh Wingfield, James Pulliam, Mark Staley, Adam Ivey, Austin Frutig, Anthony Corcoran, Kelso Igano, Zach Thompson, Caleb Sisk.

Blue Boat Home

Though below us, we feel no motion
Standing on these mountains and plains
Far away from the rolling ocean
Still our dry land hearts can say
We've been sailing all our lives now
Never harbor or port have we known
The wide universe is the ocean we travel
And the earth is our blue boat home.

Sun, our sail, and moon our rudder
As we ply the starry sea
Leaning over the edge in wonder
Casting questions into the deep
Drifting here with our ship's companions
All we kindred pilgrim souls
Making our way by the lights of the heavens
In our beautiful blue boat home.

We give thanks to the waves upholding us
Hail the great winds urging us on
Greet the infinite seas before us
Sing the sky our sailor's song
We were born upon the fathoms
Never harbor or port have we known
The wide universe is the ocean we travel
And the earth is our blue boat home.

by Peter Mayer

Church Maintenance
Before next Sunday - J Brown
September 15 - Scouts
September 22 - Salisbury/McKinney

BUDGET UPDATE

Needed year to date: \$67,218.00
Received year to date: \$64,742.16
UNDER budget: \$2475.84
Weekly needs: \$1,977.00
This Week's Offering: \$805.00



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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

Pastor: Steve Shoemaker

Music Director: LeAnda Barnard

Secretary: Lisa Wardo

Church Musician: Nichole Tilley

Boards

Cabinet: Neal Grose

Deacon: Phyllis Rogers

Mission: Kim McKinney

Education: Linda Marshall

Stewardship: Carole Hendrix/Jen DeLong

Worship: Doug Hendrix

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, Steve Coarsey, David Comer, Doug Hendrix, Renae Keesbury, Phyllis Rogers, Randy Berryhill).

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.

Visit our website at www.gracestatesville.org.

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

Steve Shoemaker can be reached directly at 704-591-0192 or shoe1948@yahoo.com