

The Celebration of Worship

CULTIVATING & LETTING GO

Community of Grace

March 15, 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

"Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer"
(No. 18 v. all)

The Offertory

The Prayers of the People

The Scripture Lesson

Luke 13:1-9

Words of Grace

"Letting Go of Cynicism —Cultivating Patience/Faithfulness"

The Choral Meditation

"The One"

The Sharing of Bread and Cup

Everyone is invited to share in communion.

When you are finished, please form a circle around the sanctuary.

If you are not able to come forward, let a deacon know and the elements will be brought to you.

*Benediction in Song

"What Does the Lord Require"

1st Group (repeat 4 times): What does the Lord require of you?

2nd Group (repeat 3 times): Justice, kindness, walk humbly with your God.

3rd Group (repeat 2 times): To seek justice and love kindness and walk humbly with your God.

*Postlude

**All who are able, please stand*

Announcements

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.

Picnic Shelter behind Visitor's Center.

Bring your own lunch. Water and dessert provided.

Next Sunday-(March 22), you are invited to meet at the labyrinth in the front yard of the church to walk the labyrinth (in silence) any time between 9 and 9:30 a.m.

Materials will be provided to use for reflection.

March 22—Church conference after church.

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.

1-2:30pm. With Ice Cream Truck!

Maunday Thursday Meal: April 2- 6:00pm. Light meal.

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

Birthday

17 - Louise Grose



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 - DeLong

March 29 - Keesbury

April 5 - Tilley

Second Hour Helpers

Today - Cory Scott, Cathy Fulbright, Louise Grose, Ava Tilley

March 22 - Leigh Brown, Chris Brown, Janna Brown, Serenity

March 29 - Diane, Carole, Hollace, Alice

BUDGET UPDATE

Needed year to date: \$21,180.00

Received year to date: \$21,542.85

OVER budget: \$362.85

Weekly needs: \$2118.00

This Week's Offering: \$3117.64



Use this QR code for PayPal

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

Music Director: LeAnda Barnard

Secretary: Lisa Wardo

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.

Visit our website at www.gracestatesville.org.

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