



grace community church

Delighting in God | Demonstrating Mercy | Declaring Grace

*Order of Worship*

28 APRIL 2024

9:45 AM

## Welcome!

Thank you for joining us for worship, today. No matter what circumstance we find ourselves in, we seek to celebrate God's grace through Jesus Christ, who came to give us life, today and for eternity. We also seek to cultivate a safe environment for the convinced and unconvinced to hear the free offer of the gospel in Jesus Christ. Whether you are a follower of Jesus, or it has been a while since you've considered your relationship to Him, or you are exploring His claims for the first time, we are delighted to have you with us today.

We are confident that the Lord is using this time to strengthen and refine us as individuals and as a community of grace. Life can be hard for sure, and it may get harder still. There is a lesson in the sufficiency of the grace of Jesus in all of this. "The Lord your God is in your midst, He is mighty to save (Zeph. 3:17)."

We would love to be able to connect with you and share with you more about the ministry of our church. If you are a visitor, please take a moment during the service and fill out the Communication Card located in the pew rack. During the offering, place the card in the offering plate when it is passed down the aisle, and we will be in touch to share more about the ministry here at GCC. If you are a first-time visitor and provide your mailing address, we will send a copy of R. C. Sproul's *Enjoying God: Finding Hope in the Attributes of God* as our gift to you.

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## For Your Children

We are so thankful you have brought your children into our sanctuary for worship. We are a covenant family of faith and believe children belong in worship. This is an opportunity to teach our children to worship their Heavenly Father by modeling worship for them. We also understand that staying through the entire service may be new for some of the younger ones. Jesus once told his disciples, "Let the little children come to Me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." In this spirit, we welcome children to attend and participate in the corporate worship by singing, praying, and offering responses as they are able. We do so with the understanding that kids are kids. As one congregation has put it, "God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house."

Our Children's Ministry Team has provided a "children's bulletin" with activities to help them engage with the different parts of our worship service. The Nursing Mothers Room is available for one family at a time, and the service will be on the TV in the Fellowship Hall if you need to step out with a child at any time.

## **Prelude**

*We gather as the people of God called into his presence.*

### **PRELUDE NO. 1 IN C MAJOR**

LEESA WILKINSON, ORGAN SOLOIST

by J.S. Bach

## **Introit**

*We rest our hearts in God's presence as we prepare for worship.*

### **SO SEND I YOU (#450)**

by Margaret Clarkson

# Call to Worship

*God invites us to worship with Him in Spirit and in Truth.*

## REVELATION 7:9-12

Leader: After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice,

**Congregation: "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"**

Leader: And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying,

**Congregation: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."**

# Hymn of Praise

We sing praises to God for who He is and for what He has done.

## MAY THE PEOPLES PRAISE YOU

Words & music by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend, Ed Cash, and David Zimmer  
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The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of ten staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes a chorus, a bridge, and a final line of lyrics. The bridge is marked 'BRIDGE: Ho - ly, Ho - ly, is the Lord Al - mighty - y.' and the final line is 'Worth - y, worth - y is the Lamb who was slain.' The score also includes a 'CHORUS: May the' line. The lyrics are: 'You have called us out of dark - est night, in - to Your glo - rious (May our) ev - 'ry breath re - tell the grace that broke in - to our All the earth is Yours and all with - in, each har - vest is our (May the) seeds of mer - cy grow in us for those who have not This our ho - ly priv - 'lege to de - clare Your prais - es and Your light, that we may sing the won - ders of the strife, with bound - less love and deep - est joy, with own, and from Your hand we give to You, to heard, May songs of praise build lives of grace to name to ev - 'ry na - tion, tribe and tongue, Your ris - en Christ. May our life. CHORUS: May the end - less life. CHORUS: May the make Christ known. May the Word. spread Your church pro - - - claim. 14 peop - les praise You, let the na - tions be glad! All Your 20 bless - ing comes that we may praise, may praise the name of Je - sus! BRIDGE: Ho - ly, Ho - ly, is the Lord Al - mighty - y. 24 Worth - y, worth - y is the Lamb who was slain.

Holy, Holy, is the Lord Almighty, all creation praise Your glorious name!  
(Repeat Chorus twice after Bridge)

## Prayer of Invocation

We celebrate God's presence with us and ask for His Spirit to work powerfully among us.

## Hymn of Adoration

We sing praises to God for His great love and mercy.

### BEHOLD OUR GOD

Words & music by Jonathan Baird, Meghan Baird, Ryan Baird, Stephen Altrogge

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Who has held the o - ceans in his hands? Who has num - bered  
Who has giv - en coun - sel to the Lord? Who can ques - tion  
4 Who has felt the nails up - on his hand, bear - ing all the  
ev - ery grain of sand? Kings and na - tions trem - ble at his voice.  
an - y of his words? Who can teach the One Who knows all things?  
7 guilt of sin - ful man? God e - ter - nal, hum - bled to the grave,  
All cre - a - tion ris - es to re - joice.  
Who can fa - thom all his won - drous deeds? CHORUS: Be -  
10 Je - sus, Sav - ior, ris - en now to reign!  
15 hold our God, seat - ed on His throne. Come, let us a - dore Him. Be - hold our  
King, — noth - ing can com - pare, come, let us a - dore — Him!  
19 BRIDGE:  
MEN: You will reign for - ev - er! — You will reign for - ev - er! — (4X)  
WOMEN: Let Your glo - ry fill the earth! — Let Your glo - ry fill.

(Repeat Chorus twice after Bridge)

## Corporate Confession of Sin

*We acknowledge our need of forgiveness and renewal through the cleansing blood of Jesus.*

### from LUKE 5

Leader: Jesus said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick;

**Congregation: For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."**

Leader: Let us confess our sins before God.

**Congregation: Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask for your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy upon us, O God. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us clean hearts, so we may love and serve you all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

## Silent Confession of Sin

*We acknowledge our personal need of forgiveness and renewal through the cleansing blood of Jesus.*

## Assurance of Pardon

*God reminds us of His promise of forgiveness in Christ.*

### MATTHEW 11:28-30

Leader: Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.

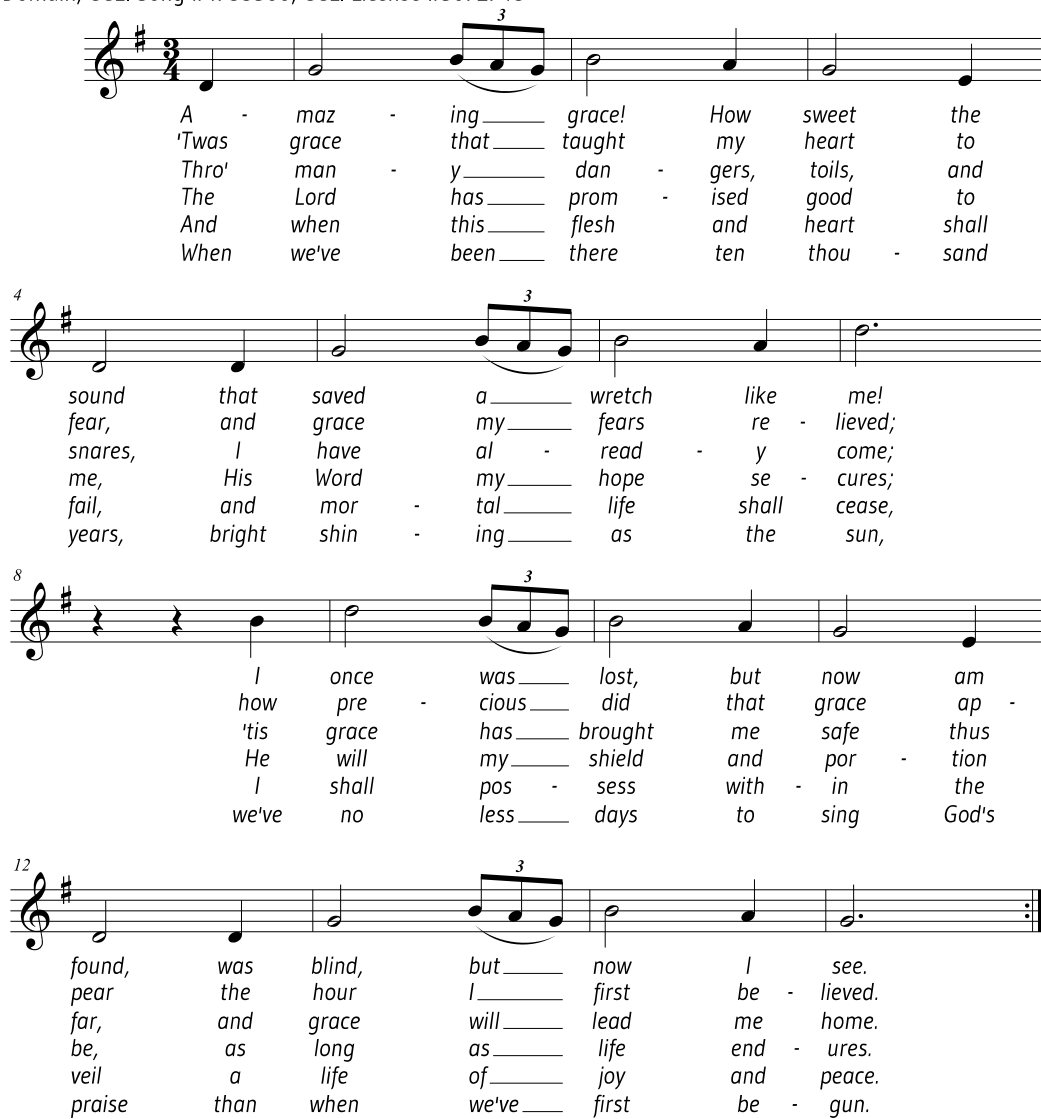
# Hymn of Assurance

We give God praise for the salvation that we have experienced in Christ.

## AMAZING GRACE

Words & music by John Newton

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A - maz - ing \_\_\_\_\_ grace!      How    sweet    the  
'Twas    grace    that \_\_\_\_\_ taught    my    heart    to  
Thro'    man    -    y \_\_\_\_\_ dan -    gers,    toils,    and  
The    Lord    has \_\_\_\_\_ prom -    ised    good    to  
And    when    this \_\_\_\_\_ flesh    and    heart    shall  
When    we've    been \_\_\_\_\_ there    ten    thou -    sand

4  
sound    that    saved    a \_\_\_\_\_ wretch    like    me!  
fear,    and    grace    my \_\_\_\_\_ fears    re -    lieved;  
snares,    I    have    al -    read -    y    come;  
me,    His    Word    my \_\_\_\_\_ hope    se -    cures;  
fail,    and    mor -    tal \_\_\_\_\_ life    shall  
years,    bright    shin -    ing \_\_\_\_\_ as    the    sun,

8  
I    once    was \_\_\_\_\_ lost,    but    now    am  
how    pre -    cious \_\_\_\_\_ did    that    grace    ap -  
'tis    grace    has \_\_\_\_\_ brought    me    safe    thus  
He    will    my \_\_\_\_\_ shield    and    por -    tion  
I    shall    pos -    sess    with -    in    the  
we've    no    less \_\_\_\_\_ days    to    sing    God's

12  
found,    was    blind,    but \_\_\_\_\_ now    I    see.  
pear    the    hour    I \_\_\_\_\_ first    be -    lieved.  
far,    and    grace    will \_\_\_\_\_ lead    me    home.  
be,    as    long    as \_\_\_\_\_ life    end -    ures.  
veil    a    life    of \_\_\_\_\_ joy    and    peace.  
praise    than    when    we've \_\_\_\_\_ first    be -    gun.



# Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

*As recipients of His grace, we give back to God a portion of what is already His.*

## Offertory Anthem

### FOR THE CAUSE

GCC CHOIR, YOUTH CHOIR, CHILDREN'S CHOIR, & ENSEMBLE

by Keith & Kristyn Getty

For the cause of Christ the King, we give our lives, an offering,  
'Til all the earth resounds with ceaseless praise to the Son.  
For the cause of Christ we go, with joy to reap, with faith to sow,  
As many see, and many put their trust in the Son.  
Christ we proclaim, the Name above every name,  
For all creation, every nation, God's salvation through the Son!  
For the King once lifted high to cries of rage, of crucify!  
Endured the cross, as every sin was laid on the Son.  
To the King who conquered death to free the poor and the oppressed,  
For lasting peace, for life and liberty in the Son.  
Let it be my life's refrain: To live is Christ, to die is gain!  
Deny myself, take up my cross and follow the Son.

## Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## Prayer of Dedication

*We are asking God to use these tithes and offerings for his glory as we trust in him.*

# Children Dismissed for the Children's Message

*Children ages 3 through 5 (PreK) are dismissed at this time*

## Scripture Reading

*God speaks to us through the reading of His Word.*

### PSALM 67:1-7

May God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make his face to shine upon us, *Selah*

<sup>2</sup> that your way may be known on earth,  
your saving power among all nations.

<sup>3</sup> Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you!

<sup>4</sup> Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide the nations upon earth. *Selah*

<sup>5</sup> Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you!

<sup>6</sup> The earth has yielded its increase;  
God, our God, shall bless us.

<sup>7</sup> God shall bless us;  
let all the ends of the earth fear him!

## **Sermon**

*God speaks to us through the preaching of His Word.*

### **The Joy of the Nations**

Dr. Doug Landrum

### **Welcoming the Children Back**

*Children are a vital part of our church family.*

## **Invitation to the Lord's Supper**

*The Lord's Supper, which is also called Communion or the Eucharist, was instituted by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The purpose of this sign is to confirm God's covenant promises to His people and feed them spiritually by faith. It is a family meal of Christians, and so anyone who has believed the good news of the gospel, has repented of their sins, and is seeking to follow Jesus as a baptized member in good standing in the Lord's Church is invited to come to this table and to partake of this sacrament.*

### **Instructions for Taking the Lord's Supper at GCC**

The sacrament will be distributed by each row coming forward down the middle aisle. One usher will give you a piece of bread to eat, and another usher will give you a cup of wine or grape juice. All of our bread is gluten free. Please be aware that the cups on the outer rings of the communion trays contain wine, and the inside rings contain non-alcoholic grape juice. After finishing the wine or grape juice, please leave your cup in the provided basket and return to your seats down the outer aisle.

If you are not a follower of Jesus Christ, or if you find yourself unprepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer and thoughtful reflection. To that end, we have provided the following prayers.

#### **A Prayer for Those Searching for Truth**

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might understand the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

#### **A Prayer for Awakening**

Lord Jesus, I have heard teaching from the Bible for years, and have been in the church for years, but very little of this seems real to me. Please show me the reality of what you are saying. Unnerve me with the badness of the bad news. Enthrall me with the goodness of the good news. Make what is familiar seem new. Amen.

#### **A Prayer of Belief**

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life to me. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

# Confession of Faith

*As we approach the table, we proclaim what we believe.*

## WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM Q&A 27 & 28

Leader: What did Christ's humiliation consist of?

**Congregation: Christ's humiliation consists of his being born, and that in a low condition, made under the law, undergoing the miseries of this life, the wrath of God, and the cursed death of the cross; in being buried, and continuing under the power of death for a time.**

Leader: What did Christ's exaltation consist of?

**Congregation: Christ's exaltation consists of his rising again from the dead on the third day, ascending up into heaven, sitting at the right hand of God the Father, and in coming to judge the world at the last day.**

## **Prayer of Consecration and Access**

*We ask God to set apart the elements and feed us spiritually by faith.*

## **Words of Institution**

Leader:                    On the night in which He was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took the bread; and when He had given thanks for it, He broke it and handed it to His disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." In the same manner after supper, He took the cup, and having given thanks for it, He handed it to His disciples and said, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Drink from it all of you in remembrance of Me."

## **Communion Hymn**

### **TURN YOUR EYES UPON JESUS (#481)**

by Helen Lemmel

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

*We give God thanks and praise for feeding us at His table.*

# Hymn of Response

We respond to God's grace to us through singing.

## FOR ALL THE SAINTS

Words & music by William How and Christopher Miner  
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For all the saints who from their  
 Thou wast their rock, their for-tress,  
 O may Thy sol-diers faith-ful,  
 The gol-den ev-ening brigh-tens  
 But lo! There breaks a yet more  
 From earth's wide bounds, from o-cean's

2  
 la-bor's rest, to Thee by faith be-fore the  
 and their might; Thou, Lord, their Cap-tain in the  
 true and bold, fight as the saints who nob-ly  
 in the west; soon, soon to faith-ful war-riors  
 glo-rious day; the saints tri-um-phant rise in  
 far-thest coast, through gates of pearl streams in the

4  
 world con-fess thy name, O Je-sus be for-ev-er blessed. Al-le-  
 well-fought fight; Thou, in the dark-ness dear, their one true light. Al-le-  
 fought of old, and win with them the vic-tor's crown of gold. Al-le-  
 comes their rest; sweet is the calm of par-a-dise the blest. Al-le-  
 bright ar-ray, the King of glo-ry pas-ses on His way. Al-le-  
 count-less host, sing-ing to Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. Al-le-

7  
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. 6.  
 lu-ia, Al-le-lu. lu-ia!  
 lu-ia, Al-le-lu.  
 lu-ia, Al-le-lu.  
 lu-ia, Al-le-lu.  
 lu-ia, Al-le-lu.  
 lu-ia, Al-le-lu.

## Benediction

*God sends us out with His blessing.*

### ZEPHANIAH 3:17

Leader:           The LORD your God is in your midst,  
                          a mighty one who will save;  
                          he will rejoice over you with gladness;  
                          he will quiet you by his love;  
                          he will exult over you with loud singing.

## Dismissal

Leader:           Let us go out to serve our neighbors and the world as those who love  
                          and are loved by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Congregation:   Thanks be to God!**

## Gloria Patri

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.

## Postlude

*We go out with joy and purpose in the Lord.*

## MAY THE PEOPLES PRAISE YOU

by Keith & Kristyn Getty



# Announcements

## About our Guest Preacher and Catalyst Missions

Dr. Doug Landrum is a native of Martin, TN and came to faith while in college at UT Martin. It was in college that he met his wife, Ashley, and they were married in 2009. They have five boys. Doug received his M.Div. and Ph.D. from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in Cordova, TN, finishing in 2014. Doug serves as the Executive Director of Catalyst Missions. In addition to his role as Executive Director, Doug leads Catalyst Latin America projects including Nicaragua. His ministry passions are expository preaching and discipleship through the local church and training pastors internationally for faithful local church ministry. Doug serves as Senior Pastor for Grace Bible Church Lakeland, which was a church plant that officially launched in Oct 2020. For more information about Catalyst, scan the code.



## Missions Conference

Our GCC Missions Conference is today during the Sunday School Hour. Please stay to hear a report from our Germany mission team, an exciting announcement about an upcoming missions opportunity, and a special update from our Catalyst Mission partner!

## Missions Opportunity

The Outreach Team is excited to announce that GCC's next mission trip is tentatively planned for Thursday, August 29th-Monday, September 2nd. Amanda Morris will lead our team this year as we head to Bogota, Columbia to visit Andrew and Kelly Baxley who serve with Mission to the World (MTW). GCC has supported the Baxleys for several years and we look forward to building a deeper partnership with them. Our primary goal is to gain deeper insights into the meaningful work the Baxleys are doing in Bogota. While there are no specific service needs for this trip, it promises to be an enriching experience as we learn, grow, and build relationships. We are currently seeking 6-8 members to join us on this vision trip. If you're interested in being part of this mission trip and experiencing the vibrant culture and impactful work in Bogota, please scan the QR code and fill out the form.



### **Inquirer's Class**

Our Inquirer's Class, for those interested in membership at GCC, will take a break today for our Missions Conference. The class will meet in the sanctuary next Sunday through May 19th. For more information, email Pastor Ashley. (ashley@gccmemphis.com)

### **Women's Bible Study**

We are studying the Letter to the Ephesians through May 15th. Whether you are new to Women's Bible study or have studied with us for years, you will be encouraged as we encounter the living Word and develop Bible literacy tools. Join us Wednesdays at 6:15 in the Conference Room.

### **Wednesday Evening Bible Study**

"The Gospel in Leviticus," which meets Wednesdays at 6:00 pm and is open to all adults, will resume this week. For more information, see Cal Beisner.

### **Sunday Prayer Time**

Due to Missions Conference, there will be no prayer time today. Join us next week! Please remember, throughout the week, to email your prayer requests to be included in our Sunday School hour prayer time to: prayer@gccmemphis.com.

### **Whitehorse Inn Men's Group**

This season, our theme is Outward Facing Men. May's meeting, on the 17th at 6:30 pm at GCC, is titled "Outward Facing Marriage" and will be led by Michael Joyner. Snacks will be served.

### **Vacation Bible School**

Save the date! GCC's VBS will take place July 16th-18th. Watch for more details in the coming months!

# Pray for One Another

*We pray for one another because we are connected in an authentic community of faith.*

Each day this week, take a moment to pray for some of the people God has planted in our community. Thank God for calling them to be members of our church family. Pray for His help and provision for their needs. Ask Him to encourage and grow them in their faith. If you have an opportunity, take a moment and send them a word of encouragement this week.

**Monday:** Kevin and Stephanie Durnell (Ben, Deagan, Payton)

**Tuesday:** Ashley and Kathryn Dusenbery (Waverly, Darby, Sully)

**Wednesday:** Mike and Betty Dusenbery

**Thursday:** Luis and Sarah Espinoza (Ace)

**Friday:** Cole and Allyn Farmer (Ethan, Agnes, Noah)

**Saturday:** Mark and Amy Fruitt

**Sunday:** Daniel and Ginny Gafford (Nyla, Naomi, Natalie, Novalee)

## FY 2024 Giving Summary

As of: 04/06/24		
2024	Giving	Weekly Avg.
Budget (Year)*	\$439,959	\$8,460
Since 9/1/23	\$325,280	\$10,165
Projection (Year)**	\$528,581	

\*Budget Year: 9/1/23-8/31/24

\*\*Projection assumes giving stays the same through 8/31/24

## **GCC Staff**

**Ashley Dusenbery, Pastor**

ashley@gccmemphis.com

**Philip Himebook, Music Director**

phimebook@gmail.com

**Paul Husband, Youth Director**

youth@gccmemphis.com

**Bethel Wiley, Ministry Assistant**

church.office@gccmemphis.com

**Prayer Requests**

prayer@gccmemphis.com

## **Church Officers**

**Ruling Elders:**

Rick Hall

Frank Riley

Philip Stubblefield

Dave Wunrow

**Deacons:**

Michael Joyner (chairman)

Matt Grayson (secretary)

Daniel Wunrow (facilities)

Trace Crenshaw (operations)

Blake Bidy (operations)



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