

Pastoral Concerns:

Bernice Hamrick, Lisa Thomas, Becky Justus, Bobby Justus, Sylvia Mahaney, Pat Medley, Vickie Hughes, Cathy Dobson, Josie Potter, Deborah Harkins, Wendy Blake, Helen Haberneck, Erin Haberneck, Carroll Marshal, David McKinney, Mike Duncan, Theo Weger and his parents Daniel and Christiana, Gus and Pat McKinney, Phillip and Caroline McKinney, Martha Pound, Lesha Justus, Eveline Horrell, Judy Weger, Helen Greene, the family of Gay Garland, Conner Miller, Bobby Teague, Walt Smith, the Wyatt family, the family of Martha Snipes, Joe Davenport, Shirley Hise, the family of Lisa Jo McMahan, and Dennis Dale.

Announcements:

We will have a congregational meeting **Sunday January 8th** to affirm the budget and elect new elders.

Church Staff

Pastor of Parish Care, Bobby Justus 828-467-3515 or 828-688-4413
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Pastor of Worship, Jim Taylor— 828-963-0349 (you can text)
singingpreacher53@gmail.com

Director of Music, Eveline Horrell--828-766-9184

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Grassy Creek Presbyterian
January 1, 2017
We Worship, We Share, We Serve

Announcements and Welcome**Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Prelude: We Three Kings**Preparation for the Word*****Call to Worship**

L: In the midst of darkness, God brings a new light.

P: Thanks be to the God of light.

L: In the midst of confusion and fear, God brings hope and peace.

P: Thanks be to the God of peace.

L: In the midst of strife and stress, God comforts and soothes us.

P: Let us praise God who truly loves us and brings us new life. Amen

Hymn of Praise—63 As with Gladness Men of Old

Unison Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, we confess at times we see only our flaws. We want to change our lives for the better because we feel insufficient. We focus on concerns of the world—how we look, how we are perceived by others, instead of looking to Your concerns: how we care for the poor, how we include the marginalized, how we work for justice. Forgive us for our short-sightedness. Turn us away from the voices of the world that tell us we aren't good enough, and instead, help us to hear Your voice calling us to the work of justice, to live for others, and to live for You. In the name of Christ, who has given us new life, we pray.

(A moment of silent confession.) Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

L: In the silence, in the dreams, in the wonder, in the words, God comes to save us and have mercy on us.

P: **It is fitting that we offer our thanks and praise to the One who forgives us. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

The Word Proclaimed

First Lesson

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem: Signs of the Seeker

Second Lesson

Isaiah 63: 7-9

Matthew 2: 13-23

Sermon:

Refugees on the Run
Jim Taylor, CLP

Response to the Word

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: *What Star is This, with Beams So Bright*

***Doxology**

***Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving**

In this gifting season, O God, we are grateful for the gift of your dear Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Receive, we pray, these offerings we bring. May they be used in the service of your grace and truth dwelling among us! In Christ's holy name we pray. Amen

Communion Hymn—62 Bring We the Frankincense of Our Love

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Prayer of Thanksgiving
Sharing the Bread and Cup

**Closing Hymn—68 What Star is This, with Beams So Bright*

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

**Please stand if able.*

Come to the Table of Grace 507

Capo 3: (D) (A) (Bm) (D7/A) (G)
 F C Dm F7/C B^b

1 Come to the ta - ble of grace. Come to the

(A) (D) (A) (D) (Em)
 C F C F Gm

ta - ble of grace. This is God's ta - ble; it's

(D/A) (G) (D/A) (A7) (D) (G) (D)
 F/A B^b F/C C7 F B^b F

not yours or mine. Come to the ta - ble of grace.

- 2 Come to the table of peace...
- 3 Come to the table of love...
- 4 Come to the table of hope...
- 5 Come to the table of joy...

The simple, formulaic nature of this song makes it especially suitable for use during the communion portion of the Lord's Supper. Because it can be learned readily and does not require reference to a printed source, it frees people to sing before and after receiving the elements.