

**Rev. Kathryn Leech**  
**Assistant Pastor**

Pastor Kathryn was born in Sacramento, California but lived most of her life in Jacksonville, Florida. Her father worked for the Army Corps. of Engineers for over 40 years, which gave her family the opportunity to live in Germany and Belgium. As a child, she spoke fluent German! Kathryn's parents love to travel so they took her and her younger brother all over Europe, parts of Asia, central America, and all over North America.

Pastor Kathryn was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran Church, and then joined a United Methodist Church when she was in high school. She was an active member of the youth group, and after she graduated from college, she helped with the middle school youth group and taught Pre-K Sunday school. In her late 20s, she became an active member of a non-denominational church, where she went on several mission trips, taught Pre-K Sunday school, led small groups, and was part of multiple ministries that focused on local outreach to children, teens, and adults. It was her mission trip to Zimbabwe that made her realize full-time ministry was what she wanted to do.

Pastor Kathryn graduated from Florida State University (Go Noles!). While in college, she was in Army ROTC and the Reserves. She thought she was going to be an Army officer, but God called her to something very different—a Kindergarten teacher! She has taught grades PreK-5<sup>th</sup>, but most of her 12 years of teaching were in Kindergarten, PreK, and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the public school system.

After Kathryn's mission trip to Africa in 2011, she spent 4 years discerning where she should go and what she should do. God made it clear—Denver Seminary in Littleton. So, she sold her condo and everything she owned and moved to Colorado. Pastor Kathryn graduated from Denver Seminary in 2018 with a Master of Divinity. Then she began working as a chaplain resident at Baptist Hospital in Jacksonville, and later was re-hired as a resident fellow. She was ordained in the ECO Presbyterian denomination in 2020.

Kathryn loves being the Assistant Pastor at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church because she gets to teach people about Jesus, work with students and families, help organize events, and do life with a very caring and gracious church community.

Pastor Kathryn enjoys exercising, jogging, hiking, biking, and kayaking. She also likes to read, watch movies, attend social events, travel/explore new places, go to Disney World, and spend time with family and friends. Kathryn loves being outdoors on a sunny day, especially near mountains or water.