

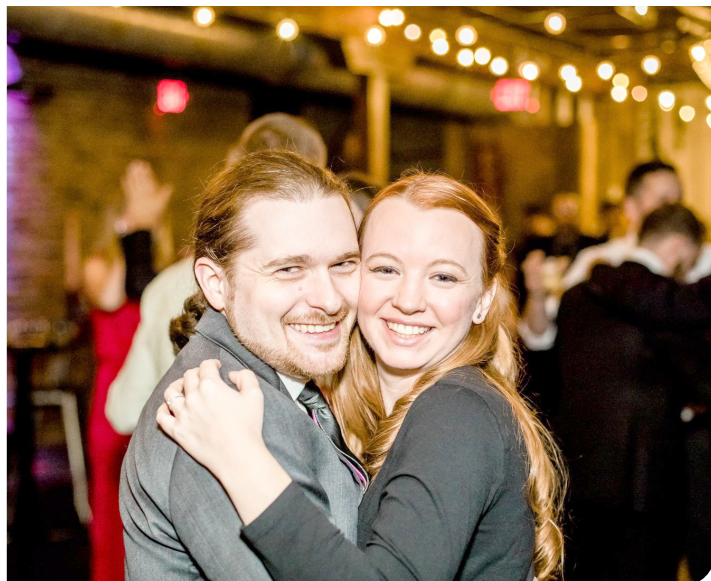


Hello We Are...



Lauren & Preston

Graceful
Adoptions™ 



Our Hopes & Dreams

Our greatest hope as parents is to raise a kind, generous, and joyful person, someone who feels safe, loved, and confident enough to share their light with the world. In a time when life can feel uncertain, we want our home to always be a place of security, warmth, and happiness.

Not long after we were married, we began trying to grow our family. When we learned we would not be able to have children biologically, we allowed ourselves time to grieve before deciding how to move forward. Adoption felt like the path meant for us. Preston's aunt was adopted, and he has a foster sister as well, so adoption has always been close to our hearts. Our families are fully supportive and excited, this child will be embraced as family from the very beginning and loved without question.

We dream of sharing life's little joys with a child, burying toy bones in the backyard for them to dig up like an archaeologist, reading bedtime stories that spark their imagination, and introducing them to the wonder of travel. We hope to give them opportunities we didn't have, like learning a second language early in life, while also continuing traditions that shaped us, like exploring state and national parks, enjoying family meals, and celebrating holidays in special ways.

What makes us unique is the balance we've found together. We are old enough to have learned from our early mistakes, yet young enough to bring energy, curiosity, and playfulness to parenthood. We celebrate differences, whether it's culture, food, or hobbies, and want to create an environment where your child feels free to discover and embrace what makes them unique, too.

We are also deeply mindful of the incredible love and courage it takes for a mother to consider adoption. We want you to know that we will honor you always. We will make sure your child knows who you are, respects the strength of your decision, and carries your love as part of their story. Regardless of the role you want in your child's life, you will always be honored in our family.

Most of all, we want to create a life full of laughter, imagination, and love. We are a little nerdy and playful, but we take to heart the responsibility of raising a child with empathy, kindness, and joy. This child will grow up surrounded by family, supported by community, and encouraged every day to become exactly who they are meant to be.

Sincerely,

Lauren & Preston

Graceful
Adoptions™

A Beautiful Experience

YourPartner@GracefulAdoptions.com | GracefulAdoptions.com



Our Values & Beliefs as Parents

EMPATHY - Working well with others requires the ability to truly listen, understand, and care about their feelings and experiences. Empathy helps us recognize the challenges others may face and respond with patience, compassion, and respect. Lauren connects with her students by putting herself in their shoes, helping them feel seen and understood. We will foster empathy in our home by reading books and telling stories that encourage our child to imagine how others feel, why someone may act differently, or what struggles they may be facing. These stories will help our child recognize that everyone has their own experiences, emotions, and challenges.



KINDNESS - We believe that kindness creates the foundation for growth, and a child flourishes when they feel supported, valued, and cared for. In our daily lives, we strive to extend kindness in many forms, through charity and volunteer work, the time and attention we give to friends and family, and the small, thoughtful gestures we offer to strangers. We want our child to experience the joy that comes from generosity, whether it's helping a neighbor, showing compassion to a friend, or serving those in need. One of our family traditions will be participating in volunteer events together, such as serving holiday meals at our local food bank and donating to Toys for Tots during the holiday season.



PERSEVERANCE - We believe that life's most meaningful accomplishments come through persistence, patience, and the courage to keep going when things don't turn out as planned. We had envisioned a large wedding, but when faced with several curveballs, we chose to adapt and focus on what mattered most. In the end, we had a beautiful wedding, even if it looked different from what we first imagined. That experience reminded us that challenges don't define us; our response to them does. As parents, we will encourage our child to keep trying when things feel difficult and to find creative ways to move forward. Whether it's learning a new skill, solving a problem, or working through frustration, we'll offer gentle encouragement. We want our child to know that challenges can be steppingstones and persistence leads to growth and rewarding outcomes.



LEARNING - Life is full of opportunities to discover something new. The wisest people know there is always more to learn, and we embrace that mindset in our everyday lives. Lauren, for example, took up pottery two years ago. Now she loves it and enjoys exploring new techniques and styles. As parents, we will encourage our child to try new things, step outside their comfort zone, and explore the world around them. We want them to know that learning isn't just about books or classrooms, it's about curiosity, creativity, and growth. Whether it's traveling to new places, making new friends, or picking up a hobby, we will celebrate their willingness to learn.

CURIOSITY - We believe that curiosity is the key that unlocks a love of learning. When we approach the world with wonder and ask questions, learning becomes exciting and meaningful. In our own lives, we ask one another for details when we come across something new or unfamiliar. As parents, we will nurture this same sense of curiosity in our child by pointing out fascinating details when they are young, to answering their questions with patience and enthusiasm as they grow. We'll explore new topics together, and when something captures their imagination, we'll dive deeper by going to a museum, doing research at home, and encouraging them to keep exploring.

A Beautiful Experience





Our Home

We live in a city full of opportunities to explore and enjoy together, pools and recreation centers, local museums and zoos, seasonal markets, and a festival park that hosts celebrations throughout the year.

Our neighborhood is quiet and diverse, with many families and children. It's common to see kids riding bikes, playing in each other's yards, and neighbors out for evening walks. A nearby bike path is well-loved, and we look forward to taking family walks, going for bike rides, and seeing our child make friends in the neighborhood.

We chose this home with the hope of growing our family. Every improvement we've made has been with a child in mind, creating a space that is safe, welcoming, and filled with love.

Inside, our home is colorful and cozy, decorated with family photos, vibrant artwork, and Lego sets that reflect our personalities. Out back, we have a patio with string lights, a small fire pit perfect for roasting marshmallows, and a little garden that brings us joy every spring when flowers bloom.

We love to spend time together at home. In the fall, we often sit around the fire catching up with friends. On other days, we might play board games, cook a meal together, bake something sweet, or host one of our favorite game nights. Preston enjoys cooking for everyone while Lauren whips up dessert. Music, laughter, and conversation always fill the air.

Our evenings are a special time of connection. After dinner and daily routines are done, we wind down together, talking about our day, enjoying a show, or simply sharing quiet moments. It's a rhythm that makes our house feel like home.

Still, we know life will change in the best way when we welcome a child. Their room is ready to be filled, with built-in bookshelves for stories, a toy box waiting to hold treasures, and plenty of space to make their own. Right now, a few toys are tucked away for visiting friends' children, but we can't wait to fill the shelves and toy box with books, games, and belongings that reflect our child's personality.

We dream of decorating their room just for them, creating a space that feels safe and special. Most of all, we look forward to the moments this room will hold, bedtime stories, laughter, curiosity, and the endless "whys" of childhood, memories that will grow right alongside our child in a home filled with love. We dream of bedtime stories, zoo trips, backyard adventures, and watching them grow in a home where they always feel safe and loved.

This is the first home we've owned, and moving in was a dream come true. Every day, we continue building that dream, one filled with warmth, love, and the family we've long hoped for.

HOBBIES:

Adoptive Mother: Pottery, gardening, singing, hiking, camping, theatre (performing and watching!), cozy video games, board games, reading (Sci-Fi and Fantasy especially), Renaissance Faires, drinking tea, playing with our cats, crocheting, and baking

Adoptive Father: Board games, carpentry, hiking, biking, soccer (playing and watching), home and appliance repair, singing (choir), reading (Sci-Fi and Fantasy), Renaissance Faires, drinking tea, cooking, and road trips

PROFESSIONS:

Adoptive Mother: Librarian

Adoptive Father: Engineer

EDUCATION LEVEL:

Adoptive Mother: Masters Degree

Adoptive Father: Masters Degree

PLUS:

- Both non-smokers

A Beautiful Experience



Our Family

We've been together for more than 12 years, and our story began while working at a summer theatre program in Utah. Lauren was on the lighting crew, and Preston was on the carpentry crew. Everyone lived in the same apartment complex, and one night Preston's apartment hosted a fried food and board game party. Lauren came, sparks flew, and what started as friendship quickly grew into something more.

From the beginning, Lauren loved how open Preston was about his passions, he made her laugh easily, and they discovered they had so much in common. Preston loved Lauren's ability to listen without judgment, offer genuine support, and still challenge him when he needed it. After five years of dating, we were engaged, and married two years later.

One of the strongest aspects of our relationship is communication. Over the years we've learned each other's needs, signals, and rhythms. We respect that sometimes we need different things or have different opinions, and we've grown in our ability to balance individuality with togetherness. We each have hobbies of our own, but we also love spending time together, whether that's playing board games with friends, hiking and camping, or simply enjoying a quiet evening at home.

Traditions are an important part of our life together. Camping is especially meaningful to both of us, since it was such a big part of our childhoods. We can't wait to pass that tradition on to a child by exploring state and national parks, making memories, and keeping track of the places we visit as a family.

Every Halloween, Preston makes his family's chili recipe, just as his mother did when he was growing up. The recipe has evolved, but the tradition remains the same. At Christmas, Lauren bakes her grandmother's cookie recipe in big batches to share with family, friends, and coworkers—a tradition passed down from her mom and grandmother that she looks forward to sharing with a child.

We are close to both sides of our extended families. Lauren's parents live just six blocks away, and we see them regularly, grilling out in the summer, going for walks, or spending time with Lauren's many aunts, uncles, and cousins nearby. They are thrilled about our plans to adopt and can't wait to be hands-on grandparents. Preston's family lives farther away, but we make a point to visit every other year and welcome them when they come to us. Our visits are full of meals, games, and outdoor adventures.

Both sides of our family have special traditions we cherish. Lauren's parents host a tree-trimming party each year before Christmas, where friends and family gather to decorate, eat, and celebrate together. Preston's dad, who grew up traveling the country in a camper van, now continues that tradition by visiting each of his children with his own camper.

Our families are incredibly excited for us and cannot wait to welcome a child. We know this child will be surrounded by love, joy, and support, not just from us, but from a large, caring extended family eager to share in their life.



A Beautiful Experience

YourPartner@GracefulAdoptions.com | GracefulAdoptions.com

