

Welcome to Grace Community Church, a Presbyterian Church in America. If you are worshipping with us for the first time, we pray that you may know the Gospel's transforming grace in Jesus Christ.

Today's Scheduled Activities:

Sunday School: 9:45-10:30am

Adults (Fellowship Hall) — "He is Worthy" – Rev. Steve Jennings

Children (Library) – "God Showing Grace in the OT"

Morning Worship Service: 10:45am – "Love: Our Reason for Perseverance"

Isaiah 49:13-16 — Rev. Brent Bergman

Sunday Evening: 6:00pm— Christmas Fellowship Dinner

Weekly Calendar:

Monday 2:15pm Women's Prayer - contact Janis Stevenson

Tuesday 9:15am Men's White Horse Stable

Wednesday 7:00pm Prayer Meeting

Friday 10:00am Women's 'T' Room – Not Meeting

Fellowship and Announcements: check website for additional details

- Christmas Fellowship Dinner December 18th today at 6:00pm
- Christmas Eve Service December 24th at 6:00pm
- Women's Fellowship Friday, January 20th, at 6:30pm.
- Men's Fellowship Saturday, December 31st, Bayou Café at 8:00am.
- New Members Class being scheduled for January

| October 2022 | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Beginning Balance | Income | Expenses | Ending Balance |
| General Fund | \$29,778.70 | \$ 7,087.07 | \$ (10,809.33) | \$ 26,438.11 |
| Deacons Fund | \$ 12,593.95 | \$ 337.00 | \$ - | \$ 12,930.95 |
| Special Outreach Fund | \$ 652.18 | \$ 4,000.00 | \$ (4,000.00) | \$ 652.18 |
| Restoration Fund | \$ 509.25 | \$ 3,200.00 | \$ (6,800.00) | \$ (3,090.75) |
| Total | \$43,534.08 | \$ 14,624.07 | \$ (21,609.33) | \$ 36,930.49 |

Pastor: Rev. Brent Bergman – 727-692-1865

Elder: Ron Brightwell

2255 Nebraska Avenue, Palm Harbor, FL 34683

727-789-2124 • Fax 727-785-8096 • Web: gccpalmharbor.org

Order of Worship

Theme: Love Announcements

Prelude

The prelude is a time to prepare for the worship of our holy God. Pray that God would meet His people as we gather. (Please silence all phones and electronic devices.)

Love Candle Lighting

Bob Walker

We receive
the **Call to
Worship** in
accordance
with

Hebrews
12:28

*Let us offer to
God
acceptable
worship, with
reverence and
awe.*

Hymn #219: All praise to Thee, Eternal Lord

Call to Worship *

The service begins with a scriptural “call to worship.” It is God Himself who calls His people to worship. We do not call ourselves, but it is the King who opens His gates and beckons us into His courts. Worship is a reflexive and deliberate response to His gracious call.

Matthew 2:1-2, 5-6

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ...

They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: “ And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judea, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.”

We offer the
**Prayer of
Invocation** in
accordance
with

Psalms 22:3
KJV

*But Thou art
holy, O thou
that inhabits
the praises of
Israel.*

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation *

This prayer exalts the Name of the Lord and invokes His presence and communion as we come to worship Him.

Hymn #213 What Child is This?

**Please stand if able.*

Confession of Faith

Belgic Confession Article 20

We offer our
**Confession of
Faith**
in accordance
with

Hebrews
10:23

*Let us hold
fast the
confession of
our hope
without
wavering, for
He who
promised is
faithful.*

Belgic Confession; Article 20:

“The Justice and Mercy of God in Christ”

All: We believe that God – who is perfectly merciful and also very just- sent his Son to assume the nature in which the disobedience had been committed, in order to bear in it the punishment of sin by his most bitter passion and death.

So God made known his justice toward his Son, who was charged with our sin, and he poured out his goodness and mercy on us, who are guilty and worthy of damnation, giving to us his Son to die, by a most perfect love, and raising him to life for our justification, in order that by him we might have immortality and eternal life.

We offer the
**Prayer of
Confession** in
accordance
with

Prayer of Confession

I John 1:9

*If we confess
our sins, He is
faithful and
just to forgive
us our sins and
to cleanse us
from all
unrighteousness*

Assurance of Forgiveness

Isaiah 59:20

“And a Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who turn from transgression”, declares the Lord.

Hymn #194: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

We offer the
**Prayer for
the
Congregation**

in accordance
with

1 Peter 5:7
*Casting all
your anxieties
on Him,
because He
cares for you*

Prayer for the Congregation

Sonia Scott, Etienne

Tithes and Offerings / Offertory

Giving is an act of worship.

We offer our
**Tithes and
Offerings**
in accordance
with

We give because all we are and all we have are gifts of God's grace.
For those who are currently unable to attend the worship service
you will find on the website under the *MINISTRIES* tab a place for
ONLINE GIVING

Malachi 3:10.

*Bring the full
tithes into the
storehouse*

We receive the
**Scripture
Reading**

Scripture Reading* Matthew 1:18-25 (p.807)

in accordance
with
1 Timothy 4:13

*Devote
yourself to the
public reading
of Scripture*

Hymn#205: Away in a Manger

**Please stand if able*

Prayer for Illumination
Preaching of God's Word

We offer the
**Prayer for
Illumination**
in accordance
with
Psalm
119:130

Love: Our Reason for Perseverance

Isaiah 49:13-16 (p.610)

Rev. Brent Bergman

*The unfolding
of Your words
gives light; it
imparts
understanding
to the simple.*

1) The Benefits of Devine Love (v. 13)

We submit to
the
**Preaching of
God's Word**
in accordance
with
Romans
10:17.

2) The Sinful opposition to Devine Love (v. 14)

*So, faith comes
from hearing,
and hearing
through the
word of Christ.*

3)The Evidence of Divine Love(v. 15,16)

Christmas Eve: Isaiah 9:6-7
Next Week: Isaiah 7:14

**Hymn#223: While Shepherds Watched their
Flocks**

Benediction

Ephesians 3:17-19

(May) Christ dwell in your hearts through faith-that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have the strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breath and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Weekly Prayer Journal

(December 18 – December 24, 2022)

Please notify us of new prayer requests or answers to prayer. You may call the church office at 727-789-2124 or e-mail the information to faithkeeper77@juno.com.

We receive
the
Benediction
in accordance
with Leviticus
9:22-23

Then Aaron
lifted up his
hands toward
the people
and blessed
them.

Sunday: Prayer Theme: **Love** *God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16 Lord, give us to love our neighbor as ourselves with that love which is the fulfilling of the law; Romans 13:9-10, that by this all men may know that we are Christ's disciples. John 13:35*

Monday: Prayer Needs: Etienne- Haiti *Jehovah said, "I have loved thee with an everlasting love; therefore, with lovingkindness have I drawn thee." Jeremiah 31:3 help us as we are taught by God to love one another, give us to abound therein more and more; 1 Thessalonians 4:9-10*

Tuesday: *Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to the LORD my God. Revelation. 19:1 Lord, make us able to love our enemies, to bless those who curse us, to pray for those who despitefully use us, and to do good to those who hate us; Matthew 5:44 bearing with one another and forgiving one another in love, as Christ has forgiven us. Colossians 3:13*

Wednesday: *Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! Amen and Amen. Psalm 41:13 for He brought me to the banqueting house, and His banner over me is love. Song of Songs 2:4*

Thursday: *Lord, put upon us that love which binds everything together in perfect harmony, Colossians 3:14 that we may maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, Ephesians 4:3 and may live in love of peace, that the God of love and peace may be with us. 2 Corinthians 13:11*

Friday: Give thanks for our church body and pray for our sanctification, the Pastors, the Elders and Deacons, and Sonia Scott.

Saturday: *I prostrate my soul before the throne and worship God, saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to God forever and ever! Amen. Revelation 7:11-12*

Grace Community Church PCA exists for ...

The proclamation of God's grace.

God's will for His Church is for the Church to proclaim and defend Truth (I Tim. 3:15) so that God's people may avail themselves of the ordinary means of grace in order to grow in grace and manifest the fruit of the spirit. (Col. 1: 5-6, WSC* #89)

The growth of God's people.

God's will for His people is to enable them to more and more die to sin and live unto righteousness. (I Thess. 4:3, WSC* #35)

The magnification of God's glory.

God's will is for all things to glorify Him. So, whether we eat or drink, or whatever we do, it is to be for the glory of God. We are to let our light to shine before men so that they might see our good works and glorify our Father in heaven. (I Cor 10:31; Matt 5:16). Therefore, man's chief end is to "glorify God and to enjoy Him forever." (WSC* #1)

*Westminster Shorter Catechism

Missionaries We Support

| Financial & Prayer | | Prayer |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Matlack | MTW Prayer Ministry | Aldo Mondin – RUF @ USF |
| Schmidts | Brazil | New Life Solutions (Walk for Life) |
| Kawachis | France | Genevan Institute |
| Etienne | Haiti | |

Scriptures quoted are from the ESV unless otherwise noted.

Next Communion: January 1, 2023

Next Benevolence Offering: January 8, 2023