

GRACE

Community Church, PCA

A Presbyterian Church in America



Merry Christmas

December 25, 2022 10:45 am

Welcome to Grace Community Church, a Presbyterian Church in America. If you are worshiping 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 - No Sunday School

Morning Worship Service: 10:45am – “The Virgin Birth” - Isaiah 7:14
Rev. Steve Jennings

Sunday Evening: No service

Weekly Calendar:

Monday 2:15pm Women's Prayer - contact Janis Stevenson
Tuesday 9:15am Men's White Horse Stable – Resuming January 3rd
Wednesday 7:00pm Prayer Meeting – Resuming January 11th
Friday 10:00am Women's 'T' Room – Resuming January 6th

Fellowship and Announcements: check website for additional details

- Women's Fellowship Friday, January 20th, at 6:30pm.
- Men's Fellowship Saturday, December 31st, Bayou Café at 8:00am.

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

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Order of Worship

Theme: Virgin Birth

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

Hebrews
12:28

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

Announcements

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 reflective and deliberate response to His gracious call.

Hebrews 2:14-15; 4:15-16

Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need,

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

Psalm
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.

**Please stand if able.*

All Praise to Thee, Eternal Lord

You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor. 2 Cor. 8:9

1. All praise to thee, e - ter - nal Lord, clothed in a
 2. Once did the skies be - fore thee bow; a vir - gin's
 3. A lit - tle child, thou art our guest, that wea - ry
 4. Thou com - est in the dark - some night to make us
 5. All this for us thy love hath done; by this to

garb of flesh and blood; choos - ing a man - ger
 arms con - tain thee now: an - gels who did in
 • ones in thee may rest; for - lorn and low - ly
 chil - dren of the light, to make us, in the
 thee our love is won: for this we tune our

for thy throne, while worlds on worlds are thine a - lone.
 thee re - jice now lis - ten for thine in - fant voice.
 • is thy birth, that we may rise to heav'n from earth.
 realms di - vine, like thine own an - gels round thee shine.
 cheer - ful lays, and shout our thanks in cease - less praise.

Scripture Reading *

Matthew 1:18-25 (p. 372)

*We receive the
Scripture
Reading in
accordance
with*

I Timothy
4:13

*Devote
yourself to the
public reading
of Scripture*

*We offer the
Prayer of
Confession in
accordance
with*

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
unrightousnes
s*

Prayer of Confession

Leader: O Lord, You who are ever faithful and true, You Who are perfectly just and righteous in all Your doings, we come before You today as a people still contaminated by sin, even in our justified state.

ALL: We have strayed from the perfections of Your commandments. We have placed our own desires above Your precepts in thought, word, and deed. The motivation to satisfy our self-centered yearnings have displaced our zeal to bring honor to Your Name.

Leader: O Lord, You have been patient and long-suffering with us.

ALL: But we have been negligent in profiting from the means of grace that You so faithfully and continuously offer to us. We have faltered in our “diligence to make our calling and election sure” and are ever susceptible to “neglect so great a salvation” by which You have shown us such undeserved love.

Leader: But, O Lord, You continue to be faithful in calling us back to Yourself.

All: Forgive us, Gracious Savior, for the coolness of our love for Your Word and for Prayer. Teach us how desperately we need the fullness of Your Holy Spirit. By His ministry, guide us into all truth, and give us Your enabling grace so that we may demonstrate our love for You by our love of Your commandments. Answer our prayer to be “renewed in the spirit of our mind, and to put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and true holiness.” For Christ’s sake we pray. Amen

Assurance of Forgiveness

Psalm 130:3-4

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.

**Please stand if able.*

All My Heart This Night Rejoices

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory.

John 1:14

1. All my heart this night re-joice - es as I hear far and near
 2. Forth to - day the Con-qu'ror go - eth, who the foe, sin and woe,
 3. Shall we still dread God's dis-plea - sure, who, to save, free - ly gave
 4. He be - comes the Lamb that tak - eth sin a - way and for aye
 5. Hark! a voice from yon - der man - ger, soft and sweet, doth en - treat:

sweet - est an - gel voic - es. "Christ is born," their choirs are sing - ing
 death and hell, o'er - throw - eth. God is man, man to de - liv - er;
 • his most cher - ished Treas - ure? To re - deem us, he hath giv - en
 full a - tone - ment mak - eth. For our life his own he ten - ders;
 "Flee from woe and dan - ger. Breth - ren, from all ills that grieve you,

till the air ev - 'ry - where now with joy is ring - ing.
 his dear Son now is one with our blood for - ev - er.
 • his own Son from the throne of his might in heav - en.
 and our race, by his grace, meet for glo - ry ren - ders.
 you are freed; all you need I will sure - ly give you."

Prayer for the Congregation

Laurie Staples, Aldo Mondin - RUF

*We offer the
Prayer for the
Congregation
in accordance
with*

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

Tithes and Offerings / Offertory

Giving is an act of worship.

We give because all we are and all we have are gifts of God's grace.

*We offer our
Tithes and
Offerings in
accordance with*

*Malachi 3:10
Bring the full
tithe into the
storehouse.*

*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.*

Confession of Faith

WCF 8.2;WSC Q#22

WCF 8.2: "Of Christ the Mediator

The Son of God, the second person in the Trinity, being very and eternal God, of one substance and equal with the Father, did, when the fullness of time was come, take upon him man's nature, with all the essential properties, and common infirmities thereof, yet without sin; being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost, in the womb of the virgin Mary, of her substance. So that two perfect perfect, and distinct natures, the Godhead and the manhood, were inseparably joined together in one person, without conversion, composition, or confusion. Which person is very God and very man, yet one Christ, the only Mediator between God and man.

WSC Q#22 Leader: How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?

ALL: Christ, the Son of God, became man, by taking to himself a true body, and a reasonable soul, being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost, in the womb of the virgin Mary, and born of her, yet without sin.

Silent Night! Holy Night!

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They hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. Luke 2:16

Capo 1: ♯ B♭(A) 7 F⁷(E⁷) B♭(A) E♭(D)

1. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright round yon
 2. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Shep- herds quake at the sight! Glo - ries
 3. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light ra - dian
 4. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Won - drous star, lend thy light; with the

B♭(A) E♭(D) B♭(A)

vir - gin moth - er and child. Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild,
 stream from heav - en a - far, heav'n - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia;
 beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,
 an - gels let us sing al - le - lu - ia to our King;

F⁷(E⁷) B♭(A) ♯ F⁷(E⁷) B♭(A) 7

sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 Christ, the Sav - ior, is born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.
 Christ, the Sav - ior, is born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!

Prayer for Illumination Preaching of God's Word

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

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

“The Virgin Birth”

Isaiah 7:14

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

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

Next Week: John 1:1

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

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He is Lord of lords and King of kings—and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers. Rev. 17:14

1. In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;
 2. Flocks were sleep - ing: shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new

ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ, the babe, is Lord of all.
 saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.

Swift are wing - ing an - gels sing - ing, no - els ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:
 Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:

Christ the babe is Lord of all. Christ the babe is Lord of all.
 Christ the babe was born for you. Christ the babe was born for you.

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

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

Benediction

Romans 11:33-35

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgements and how inscrutable his ways! "For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor? Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?"

Weekly Prayer Journal

(December 25 – December 31, 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.

Sunday: Prayer Theme: **Virgin Birth:** *That you have in these last days spoken to us by your Son, **Hebrews 1:2** whose teaching was not his, but his who sent him; **John 7:16** and he spoke as one having authority; **Matthew 7:29** and that we are encouraged to come and learn from him, because he is gentle and lowly in heart, and in learning of him we will find rest for our souls. **Matthew 11:29***

Monday: Prayer Needs – Aldo Mondin. *We bless you that the works which he did bear witness about him, that the Father has sent him; **John 5:36** that by his power the blind received their sight, the lame walked, lepers were cleansed, the deaf heard, the dead were raised up, and the poor had good news preached to them, **Matthew 11:5** and even winds and sea obeyed him, **Matthew 8:27** for which we glorify the God of Israel. **Matthew 15:31** Doubtless this was the Son of God. **Matthew 27:54***

Tuesday: *We bless you for the assurance we have that Jesus is a teacher come from God, since no one could do those signs that he did unless God was with him. **John 3:2***

Wednesday: *We bless you that he has left us an example, so that we might follow in his steps, in that he committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth; and when he was reviled, he did not revile in return; **1 Peter 2:21-23** and his food and drink was to do the will of his Father, **John 4:34** in that he was holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners. **Hebrews 7:26** O that we may be armed with the same way of thinking, **1 Peter 4:1** and that as he was, so also may we be in this world; **1 John 4:17** and that we may walk in the same way in which he walked. **1 John 2:6***

Thursday: *Yours they were, and you gave them to Christ; **John 17:6** and this is your will: that you should lose nothing of all that you have given him, but raise it up on the last day. **John 6:39***

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

Saturday: *We ought always to give thanks to you, O God, because you have chosen some to salvation through sanctification by the Spirit: **2 Thessalonians 2:13** That there is a remnant, chosen by grace, **Romans 11:5** whom God has chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world, that they should be holy and blameless before you in love, having predestined them for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to yourself, according to the purpose of your will, to the praise of your glorious grace. **Ephesians 1:4-6***

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