

*Christ, the Bright and Morning Star - Revelation 22:16*

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# PEACE

*Second Sunday of Advent*

December 7, 2025 10:45 am

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# GRACE

Community Church, PCA

A Presbyterian Church in America

**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:** 9:45-10:30 a.m.

Adults (Fellowship Hall) – “Facing the Last Enemy” – Ron Brightwell

Youth Sunday School (Library)

**Morning Worship Service:** 10:45 a.m. – “The Magi Star” – Matthew 2:1-12

Rev. Brent Bergman

**Sunday Evening Worship:** Caroling Under the Stars – 6:00 p.m.

**Weekly Calendar:**

Monday 2:15 p.m. Women's Prayer – at the church

Tuesday 9:15 a.m. Men's White Horse Stable (Hebrews 12)

Wednesday 6:00 p.m. Prayer Service

Friday 10:00 a.m. Women's "T" Room (Genesis 48)

**Fellowship and Announcements: check website for additional details**

- Caroling Under the Stars – Sunday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m.
- Dinner and White Elephant Party – Sunday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m.
- Christmas Eve Worship Service - Wednesday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m.
- Women's Monthly Fellowship – Tuesday, Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., at the church
- Men's Monthly Fellowship – Saturday, Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 8:00 a.m. Bayou Café in Tarpon Springs

October 2025				
	Beginning Balance	Income	Expenses	Ending Balance
General Fund	\$191,098.29	\$ 25,273.12	\$(18,750.73)	\$197,620.68
Deacons Fund	\$ 10,695.97	\$ 672.00	\$ -	\$ 11,367.97
Special Outreach Fund	\$ 22.66	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22.66
Restoration Fund	\$ 10,955.48	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,955.48
Self-Insurance Fund	\$ 83,541.34	\$ 1,811.25	\$ -	\$ 85,352.59
Total	\$296,313.74	\$ 27,756.37	\$(18,750.73)	\$305,319.38

Pastor: Rev. Brent Bergman – 727-692-1865  
Assistant Pastor: Rev. Jai Mahtani – 616-264-8492

Ruling Elders: Ron Brightwell, Bob Walker  
2255 Nebraska Avenue, Palm Harbor, FL 34683  
727-789-2124 • Fax 727-785-8096 • Web: gccpalmharbor.org

# Order of Worship

## Theme: Peace

### Peace Advent Candle Lighting

Katelyn Larson

#### 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.**

#### Psalm 111:1-4 (pg. 509)

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#### Once in Royal David's City

*You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger. Luke 2:12*

1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,  
2. He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all,  
3. And through all his won - drous child - hood he would hon - or and o - bey,  
4. And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;  
5. Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,

where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:  
and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall:  
• love and watch the low - ly maid - en in whose gen - tle arms he lay:  
for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove,  
we shall see him, but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;

Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.  
with the poor, and mean, and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.  
• Chris - tian chil - dren all must be mild, o - be - dient, good as he.  
and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.  
when like stars his chil - dren crowned all in white shall wait a - round.

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

Hebrews 12:28

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

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.*

We offer the  
Prayer of  
Invocation in  
accordance  
with

## 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.

Psalms 22:3  
KJV

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

### Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

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*Waiting for the consolation of Israel. Luke 2:25*

1. Come, thou long-expect-ed Je-sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;  
2. Joy to those who long to see thee, Day-spring from on high, ap-pear;  
3. Come to earth to taste our sad-ness, he whose glo-ries knew no end;  
4. Born thy peo-ple to de-liv-er, born a child and yet a king,

from our fears and sins re-lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
come, thou prom-ised Rod of Jes-se, of thy birth we long to hear!  
by his life he brings us glad-ness, our Re-deem-er, Shep-herd, Friend.  
born to reign in us for-ev-er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.

Is-rael's strength and con-so-la-tion, hope of all the earth thou art,  
O'er the hills the an-gels sing-ing news, glad tid-ings of a birth:  
Leav-ing rich-es with-out num-ber, born with-in a cat-tle stall;  
By thine own e-ter-nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a-lone;

dear De-sire of ev-'ry na-tion, joy of ev-'ry long-ing heart.  
"Go to him, your prais-es bring-ing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."  
this the ev-er-last-ing won-der, Christ was born the Lord of all.  
by thine all-suf-fi-cient mer-it, raise us to thy glo-rious throne.

# Confession of Faith Heidelberg Catechism

*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.*

*Q. 29: Why is the Son of God called “Jesus,” meaning “savior”?*

**ALL:** Because He saves us from our sins; and because salvation is not to be sought or found in anyone else.

*Q. 30: Do those who look for their salvation and security in saints, in themselves, or elsewhere really believe in the only savior, Jesus?*

**ALL:** No. Although they boast of being His, by their actions they deny the only savior, Jesus. Either Jesus is not a perfect savior, or those who in true faith accept this savior have in Him all they need for their salvation.

## Prayer of Confession

*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  
unrighteousness.*

## Assurance of Forgiveness Isaiah 40:1-2

Comfort, comfort My people, says your God.  
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and cry to her that her warfare is ended,  
that her iniquity is pardoned,  
that she has received from the LORD's hand  
double for all her sins.

## Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

*Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem. Is. 40:1, 2*

1. Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;  
 2. Yea, her sins our God will par - don, blot - ting out each dark mis - deed;  
 3. For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,  
 4. Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er plac - es plain;

com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, mourn - ing 'neath their sor - row's load.  
 all that well de - served his an - ger he no more will see or heed.  
 bid - ding all men to re - pen - tance, since the king - dom now is here.  
 let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits his ho - ly reign.

Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them; tell her  
 She hath suf - fered man - y a day, now her griefs have passed a - way; God will  
 O that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way; let the  
 For the glo - ry of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad; and all

that her sins I cov - er, and her war - fare now is o - ver.  
 change her pin - ing sad - ness in - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.  
 val - leys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him.  
 flesh shall see the to - ken, that his word is nev - er bro - ken.

*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**

Christ the King Chapel

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

**Malachi 3:10**

*Bring the full tithe into  
the storehouse*

## **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.  
(Offertory Hymn – "Prepare the Way, O Zion")

*We receive the **Scripture  
Reading** in accordance  
with*

**I Timothy 4:13**

*Devote yourself to the  
public reading of  
Scripture.*

## **Scripture Reading\***

1 Samuel 23:15-29 (p. 246)

*\*Please stand if able*

## While by the Sheep We Watched at Night

*With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. Is. 12:3*

1. While by the sheep we watched at night, glad tid - ings brought an  
 2. There shall be born, so he did say, in Beth - le - hem a  
 3. There shall the child lie in a stall, this child who shall re -  
 4. This gift of God we'll cher - ish well, that ev - er joy our

*f* REFRAIN *p* echo  
 an - gel bright.  
 child to - day.  
 deem us all.  
 hearts shall fill.  
 How great our joy! Great our joy!

*f* *p* echo  
 Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy! Praise we the Lord in

*echo* *p*  
 heav'n on high! Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!



We offer the  
**Prayer for  
Illumination** in  
accordance with  
Psalm 18:28

*For it is You Who  
light my lamp;  
the LORD my God  
lightens my  
darkness.*

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.*

## **Prayer for Illumination**

## **Preaching of God's Word**

*"The Magi Star"*

Matthew 2:1-12 (p. 807-808)

Rev. Brent Bergman

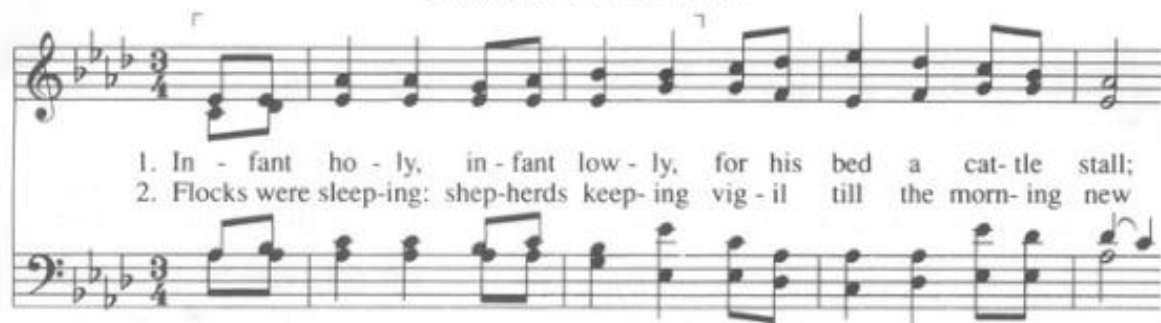
Next Week: Revelation 22:16

## **Communion**

# Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

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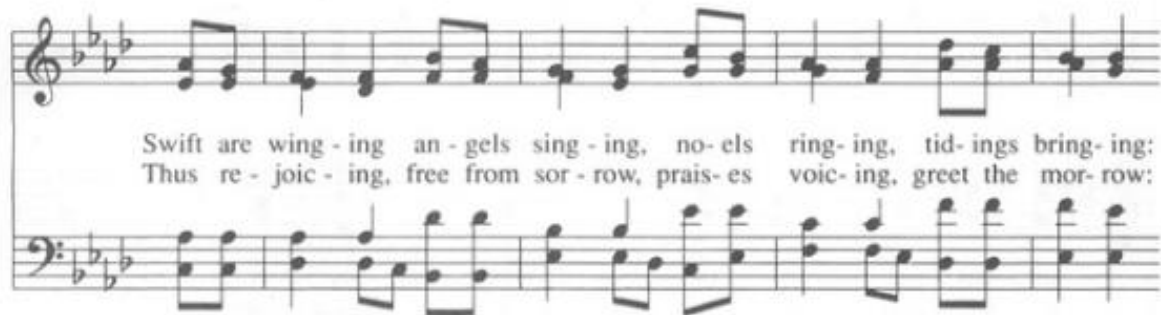
*He is Lord of lords and King of kings—and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers. Rev. 17:14*



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

# Benediction

## 2 Peter 3:18

[May you] grow in the grace and knowledge of  
our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

To Him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity.

Amen.

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

## Weekly Prayer Guide

(December 7 – December 13, 2025)

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](mailto:faithkeeper77@juno.com).

**Sunday:** Prayer Theme—**Peace** – *The Lord of peace Himself give us peace, all peace, at all times in every way, 2 Thessalonians 3:16* That peace which Jesus Christ has left with us, which He gives to us; such a peace as the world can neither give nor take away; such a peace as that our hearts may not be troubled or afraid. **John 14:27**

**Monday:** Prayer Needs – **Christ the King Chapel** – *Lord, do not lay any stumbling block before us, so that we should stumble and perish, Jeremiah 6:21* but give us that great peace which they have who love Your law, for nothing can make them stumble. **Psalm 119:165**

**Tuesday:** *In Christ Jesus let us, who once were far off, be brought near by the blood of Christ; for He Himself is our peace, who has broken down the dividing wall of hostility between us, that He might reconcile us to God through His cross, thereby killing the hostility, and so making peace. Through Him, therefore, let us, who have made ourselves strangers and aliens, become fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God. Ephesians 2:13-19*

**Wednesday:** *Let the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus; Philippians 4:7* and let that peace rule in our hearts, to which we have been called. **Colossians 3:15**

**Thursday:** *Being justified by faith, let us have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, and through Him let us have access into that grace in which believers stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Romans 5:1-2* O let us therefore agree with You and be at peace, that thereby good may come to us. **Job 22:21**

**Friday:** Give thanks for our church body and pray for our sanctification, the Pastors, the Elders and Deacons, and **Lucas Sluder**. *May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may abound in hope. Romans 15:13*

**Saturday:** *We bless You for the redemption we have through Christ's blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of Your grace, which You have lavished upon us. Ephesians 1:7-8* You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. **Isaiah 26:3**

# **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

Kawachis/France

Etienne/Haiti

Christ the King Chapel

### Prayer

Aldo Mondin – RUF @ USF

New Life Solutions (Walk for Life)

Genevan Institute

Scriptures quoted are from the ESV unless otherwise noted.

**Next Communion:** January 4, 2026

**Next Benevolence Offering:** December 14, 2025