

announcements

Welcome Visitors - Please take a moment to complete the Visitor Welcome card located on the back of the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate as it is passed. If you are looking for a church, we invite you to make Grace your church home. If you are from out of town, we hope you will worship with us whenever you are in the area.

Financial Report - Following the worship service next Sunday, January 21st, a brief financial report will be given to include a year-end summary of 2017 and a presentation of the 2018 budget. All are invited and encouraged to stay.

Adult/College Sunday School Class - Please join us for a new series "The Early Church: The First 500 Years". Learn how doctrines regarding Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit were clarified while under attack, and gain understanding about the lives and impact of theologians, martyrs and emperors.

Ladies Bible Study – All ladies are invited to attend a new Bible study beginning this Wednesday, January 17. The group will meet each Wednesday from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. at Rachel Thomas’ home (1794 Sand Wedge Road). They will be using the book *Proverbs: the Ways of Wisdom* by Kathleen Nielson. You may purchase the book on Amazon or through Rachel (662-617-5135). A Nursery will be provided at church.

PCA Women’s Conference – There will be a women’s conference on April 13-14 in Jackson. The speaker will be Courtney Doctor, author of *From Garden to Glory: A Bible Study on the Bible’s Story* and Director of Women’s Ministry at the Kirk of the Hills PCA in Saint Louis, MO. For more information, please see www.pcacdm.org/one-conferences/.

Disaster Response Team - GPC wants to help with disaster response in Houston, TX during spring break (approximate trip date March 10-17). Are you interested in going or learning more? If so, please let us know! Contact Lisa Vaughan, our church administrator, at office@pcagrace.org or Anthony Craven, Chairman of the Outreach Committee, at bingmsu@yahoo.com.

Small Groups – Small Group is a great place for lasting friendships, ministry and spiritual growth. They meet the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month in homes and at the church. We encourage everyone to be involved in one, if possible. A nursery is provided here at the church from 5:15 to 7:15 p.m. For more information, speak with the pastor, one of the elders or call the church office (662-324-0180).

Wednesday Night Hour of Prayer – Prayer is needed for each person, family and ministry of Grace and also for lifting up Christ in our church, in Starkville, the nation and the world. We invite you to join us this week at 5:45 p.m. in the conference room.

Come be a part of the Grace Music Team! Weekly rehearsals of our choir are held on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. For more information about the choir or our instrumental music team, please contact Cliff Taylor at ctaylor@pcagrace.org.

Nursery – We welcome your infants and toddlers in the worship service and in the church nursery where we provide a safe, nurturing and friendly environment.

Children’s Sunday School – We encourage you to bring your children to Sunday School where we seek to shepherd every child toward a growing faith in Jesus Christ.

Adult and College Sunday School – Sunday School is a place within the larger body of Christ where people are prayed for and cared for, where biblical community is experienced, and a place where new people are welcomed and can develop relationship in our church family. We invite you to join us each Sunday morning at 9:45 in the Fellowship Hall.

The Grace Presbyterian Church Library Catalog for Books is available on our church website. Visit our website at www.pcagrace.org.

Assisted Hearing Devices - Grace Presbyterian Church offers assisted hearing devices for the morning worship service. They are located in the decorative box on the entryway table beside the bulletins. If interested, please speak with Ben Ardahl, 662-312-8407 or ardahlbe@bellsouth.net.

Please, no food or drinks in the sanctuary. Thank you

church missions & benevolences

Please write to encourage them, and pray for them.

Local Missions

RUF – Mississippi State University
Elliott Everitt – Campus Minister, RUF MSU (elliott.everitt@ruf.org)
Allie Harmon – Intern, RUF MSU (allie.harmon@ruf.org)
Ward Evans – Intern, RUF MSU (ward.evans@ruf.org)
Wilson and Callie West – Covenant Theological Seminary
Starkville Pregnancy Care Center (info@starkvillepregnancycarecenter.com)
Deacons’ Fund * Trail Life USA * Mission Sundays * Casserole Kitchen

Regional Missions

Covenant Presbytery (covpressc@gmail.com)
Palmer Home for Children (tharris@palmerhome.org)
Disaster Response Ministry * French Camp Academy

National Missions

Mark Casson – Metanoia Prison Ministries (mcasson@pcanet.org)
Anna Grider – RUF East Carolina University (anna.grider@ruf.org)
Madeline Hogue – RUF University of Georgia (madeline.hogue@ruf.org)
Ross Lockwood – RUF Western Kentucky (rglockwood@gmail.com)
Austin McCann – RUF Auburn (austin.mccann@ruf.org)
Anna Kristen Mitchell – RUF University of Florida (annakristen.mitchell@ruf.org)
David Stucky – RUF Baylor University (david.stucky@ruf.org)
Kristen Spink Thompson – RUF Washington University (kristen.thompson@ruf.org)
Caroline White – RUF University of KY (caroline.white@ruf.org)
Laura Whitten – RUF Stanford University (laura.simoneau@ruf.org)
PCA General Assembly

International Missions

Betsy Aeschliman – MTW Medical (betsy.c@comcast.net)
Dale and Susan Ellison – Peru Mission (daleellison@hotmail.com)
Richard and Brenda Harman – Wycliffe Bible Translators (richard_harman@wycliffe.org)
Ellie Honea – MTW Tokyo (le_san2007@yahoo.com)
Craig and Stacy Pohl – MTW Santiago, Chile (cpohl@mtwsa.org)
Alex and Irina Ponomarev – Ministry to Slavic Tribes (alex.most@juno.com)
Bruce and Barbara Wannemacher – MTW Africa (barbara.wannemacher@gmail.com)
Linda Wixon – MTW Japan (wixonmtw1@aol.com)
Evan and Bonnie – MTW West Africa (evanedj6@gmail.com)

servant leadership

The Staff

Bill Heard, Pastor, 662-722-1726, bheard@pcagrace.org
Lisa Vaughan, Church Administrator, office@pcagrace.org
Amelia Nolen, Children’s Ministry Director, 662-312-5454, anolen@pcagrace.org
Emily Benson, Youth Leader, 256-460-9713, ebenson@pcagrace.org
Nathan Lowery, Youth Leader, 229-591-4018, nlowery@pcagrace.org
Cliff Taylor, Music Director, 662-418-8224, ctaylor@pcagrace.org
Carolyn Rodgers, Organist/Pianist, 662-323-1632
Gwen Elizabeth Sutphin, Choir Accompanist

The Session (Board of Elders)

Bill Heard, Moderator
Anthony Craven
Kenneth Thomas
Timothy Allison
Johnny Joe
Charles Clayton
David Nolen, Clerk

The Diaconate

Jonathan Adams
Jason Townsend
Tom Jackson
Gray Turnage
Logan Link
Terry Wagner
Harold Mashburn

Treasurer

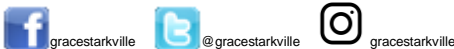
Dennis Baird

Reformed University Fellowship

Elliott Everitt – Campus Minister, 662-705-1809, elliott.everitt@ruf.org
Allie Harmon – RUF Intern, 334-782-1534, allie.harmon@ruf.org
Ward Evans – RUF Intern, 706-207-6981, ward.evans@ruf.org

Grace Presbyterian Church

525 Academy Road, Starkville, MS 39759, phone 662.324.0180
email: office@pcagrace.org website: www.pcagrace.org
web/social media contact, Tracy Craven, web@pcagrace.org



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Sunday, January 14, 2018, 10:50 a.m.

Prelude

Greetings and Announcements

Visitors, please fill out a Welcome Card and place it in the offering plate.

Choral Call to Worship: “Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty” - #376 vs. 1

Open now thy gates of beauty, Zion, let me enter there,
Where my soul in joyful duty waits for him who answers prayers.
Oh, how blessed is this place, filled with solace, light, and grace!

Prayer

Call to Worship: Psalm 95:1-3 (ESV)..... Responsively

Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;
Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

**Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
Let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

For the LORD is a great God,

And a great King above all gods.

“Come Christians, Join to Sing” - # 302

Come, Christians, join to sing Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King; Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice, before His throne rejoice;
Praise is His gracious choice. Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high, Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen!
He is our Guide and Friend; to us He’ll condescend;
His love shall never end. Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again, Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven’s blissful shore, His goodness we’ll adore,
Singing forevermore, “Alleluia! Amen!”

“How Firm a Foundation” - #94

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed;
For I am your God, and will still give you aid;
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call you to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
And sanctify to you your deepest distress.

When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
My grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply;
The flame shall not hurt you; I only design
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

Confession of Faith: *Nicene Creed (325 & 381 A.D.)*

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who, for us and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Pastoral and Congregational Prayer

“Abide With Me”

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.
When other helpers, fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, abide with me.

Thou on my head, in early youth didst smile;
And, though rebellious, and perverse meanwhile,
Thou hast not left me, though I oft left Thee,
On to the close Lord, abide with me.

I need Thy presence, every passing hour.
What but Thy grace, can foil the tempter’s power?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless
Ills have no weight, tears lose their bitterness
Where is thy sting death? Where grave thy victory?
I triumph still, abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross, before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heaven’s morning breaks, and earth’s vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, Lord, abide with me.

Words by Henry Lyte alt by Justin Smith, Music by Justin Smith. © 2007 Justin Smith Music

Choral Anthem: “I Will Remember Thee” by Jay Althouse

*According to Thy gracious word, with great humility,
This will I Do, my dying Lord: I will remember Thee.
Thy body, broken for my sake, my bread from heaven shall be.
And with Thy cup I take and drink and, thus, remember Thee.
When to the cross I turn my eyes and rest on Calvary,
O Lamb of God, my sacrifice, I must remember Thee.*

Children ages K3 through K4 may be dismissed to go to Children’s Church.

The Preaching of God’s Word: Revelations 4 (ESV) Elliott Everitt

“Through the Door”

4 After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, “Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.” ²At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne. ³And he who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian, and around the throne was a rainbow that had the appearance of an emerald. ⁴Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones were twenty-four elders, clothed in white garments, with golden crowns on their heads. ⁵From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of

thunder, and before the throne were burning seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God, ⁶and before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass, like crystal.

And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: ⁷the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like an eagle in flight. ⁸And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say,

“Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!”

⁹And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, ¹⁰the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

¹¹“Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.”

The Lord’s Supper

“Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether”

Draw us in the Spir-it's te - ther, for when hum - bly in ___ thy ___ name,
two or three are met to - geth - er, thou art in the midst of ___ them.
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Touch we now ___ thy gar - ment's hem.

As disciples used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,
Then with thanks to God the Father break the bread and bless the cup:
So now bind our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of thee,
That by caring, helping, giving, we may true disciples be.
Alleluia! Alleluia! We will serve thee faithfully.

“Shepherd of Souls, Refresh and Bless” - #424

Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless your chosen pilgrim flock
With manna in the wilderness, with water from the rock.

Hungry and thirsty, faint and weak, as you when here below,
Our souls the joys celestial seek which from your sorrows flow.

We would not live by bread alone, but by that Word of grace,
In strength of which we travel on to our abiding place.

Be known to us in breaking bread, but do not then depart;
Savior, abide with us, and spread your table in our heart.

There sup with us in love divine; your body and your blood,
That living bread, that heav’nly wine, be our immortal food.

The Worship of God with Our Tithes and Offerings

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav’nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Benediction

Scripture is taken from the New American Standard Bible unless otherwise indicated. Elliott Everitt’s sermon will be available on our website: www.pcagrace.org

small group fellowship

Meeting Places this Evening

Allison - Nolen Group
5:30 p.m. – Meeting at the church

Clayton - Jackson Small Group
5:30 p.m. – Meeting at home of Charles and Carolyn Clayton, 105 Oakmont Rd.

Craven - Heard Small Group
5:00 p.m. – Meeting at the church

Joe - Turnage Small Group
5:30 p.m. – Meeting at home of Gray and Jeannie Turnage, 98 Knight Arnold Rd.

Thomas – Wagner Small Group
5:30 p.m. - Meeting at home of Kenneth and Rachel Thomas, 1794 Sand Wedge

Nursery is provided here at the church from 5:15 – 7:15 p.m.

the week at grace

Birthdays This Week

Joshua Nolen – January 14
Carrie Everitt – January 16
Terry Wagner – January 17

Today

9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:50 a.m. The Worship of God
5:30 p.m. Small Group Fellowship

Monday

6:00 p.m. Session/Diaconate Meeting

Wednesday

9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study
5:45 p.m. Hour of Prayer
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Next Sunday

9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:50 a.m. The Worship of God
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship

Sunday School Teachers

2 and 3 year olds - Amelia Nolen
Pre-K and Kindergarten - Carolyn Clayton
1st and 2nd grades – Kelley Murphree, Emily Sanders and Mollie Schmidt
3rd - 5th grades boys – Ethan Hatcher, Clay McCann and Luke Wojohn
3rd - 5th grades girls – Allie Harmon
Youth (6th - 12th grades) – Emily Benson and Nathan Lowery
Adult/College Class – Jon Barlow

Volunteers for Today

Nursery – Edna Joy Prisock
Children’s Church – Jeannie Turnage and Gaby Lopes
Deacon of the Week – Logan Link
Ushers – Jonathan Barlow, Kevin Jones

Volunteers for Next Sunday

Nursery – Ashley Simmons
Children’s Church – Julia Kraker
Deacon of the Week – Harold Mashburn
Ushers – Jonathan Barlow, Kevin Jones and Newt Thomas

mission spotlight

French Camp Academy

In 1885 a group of Presbyterian missionaries established a school, The MS Institute for Girls, at French Camp, MS. It was so successful, a school for boys was started later that year. It was named French Camp Academy. Today it is an interdenominational ministry that provides a Christ-centered home and school to serve young people and families for the glory of God. The academy provides a full slate of extracurricular activities, including team sports, an equine program, choral music, art and theater. Their desire is to see young people mature academically, athletically, socially and emotionally, all within a Christian worldview.