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GRACE CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY
Invites You To ...

WORSHIP

Night

COME EXPERIENCE THE LORD'S PRESENCE AS
WE WORSHIP TOGETHER!

11.20.2026 | 610 EAST MT. PLEASANT AVENUE
7:30PM | PHILADELPHIA, PA 19119

INSTAGRAM/TWITTER: @GCAFAMILYCHURCH
FACEBOOK: GCA

WWW.GCAFAMILYCHURCH.ORG

GCA Elders and Deacons

Elders: Brian H. Grant, Pastor • George Peters, Pastor • Jim McConnell, Elder Emeritus • Dr. Elijah Korich • Dr. Raphael Thomas • Nicolas Grant.
Deacons: Clive White • Stephen Washington • Dwight Neilson • Carlton Henry • Kirkland Wheeler • Marlon Henry • Gavin Lawson.

Germantown Christian Assembly, Inc. DBA
Grace Christian Assembly
"To know Christ and make Him known."

610 E. Mt. Pleasant Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19119
Phone: 215-242-5550

Web site: www.gcafamilychurch.org
Email: gcafamily@verizon.net

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Listen to us on WFIL Radio, 560 AM or WFIL.com
Sundays at 5:30 & 11:30 p.m.

Brian H. Grant, Pastor

Sunday
October 18, 2026

JOHN^{the} BAPTIST
A BURNING AND SHINING LAMP, PART 3
A Call to Endure Persecution

Matthew 14:1-12



Order of Service

* Please do not enter or leave the sanctuary.

* Call to Worship ~ Bro. Chet Carter

♪ Praise & Worship

*♪ Ministry in Music ~ Voices of Praise

Intercessory Prayer ~ Bro. James McConnell

*♪ Offering & Cong. Hymn ~ "My Jesus, I Love Thee"

* Scripture Reading ~ Bro. Floyd Johnson

*♪ Ministry in Music ~ Voices of Praise

Message ~ Dr. Raphael Thomas

Welcome & Announcements ~ Bro. Chet Carter

Closing

Next Week ~ Bro. Nicolas Grant



WELCOME VISITORS!

We are happy to have you visit us today. Please make sure you receive a GCA Welcome Packet from one of our ushers or greeters and fill out the Visitor Information Card so we can update you on our church activities. You may return the card by leaving it at the Information Desk.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Children's Church** is held on the lower level for students in grades 1 through 4. **Nursery and Preschool** are held on the main floor for children ages 0-5 years old. **You must sign your children in and out.**
2. **GCA Sunday School:** Join us each Sunday at 9 a.m. We have classes for all ages, from kindergarten to adults.
3. **GCA Annual Fall Festival** will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 27th during Community Connections. The children's ministry is requesting donations of individually wrapped candy for this event. Please place your donations in the container marked "Fall Festival Donations" located in the lobby. Contact is Sis. Cressia Souza-Brown.



OCTOBER MISSIONARIES

Grand Old Gospel Fellowship (GOGF)

Lisa Lambert – BCM, Philadelphia, PA

4. **Community Connections:** This is your special invitation to join us each Tuesday. The schedule is as follows: On Tuesdays, **5:15 p.m. FREE Family Dinner**; **6 p.m. Kids Club**; **Youth Bible Study and ESL Classes**; **6:45 p.m. one in-person and ZOOM Adult Bible Institute class, "Bible Prophecy"**; **7:30 p.m. two ZOOM Bible Institute classes, "The Letter to the Romans, Part 2" and "Exodus, Part 2."** Also, an **8 p.m. Ladies-Only ZOOM Bible Study, "Satisfy My Thirsty Soul,"** on Wednesdays.
5. **The Annual GOGF Unity Conference** will be held here at GCA on Saturday, Oct. 31st from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The theme is "Unity in the Family." Register online now at **www.gogfministries.org**. The cost is \$35 per person or \$45 at the door. A continental breakfast, lunch and conference materials are included in the cost. If you would like to donate a basket for the silent auction, please provide the cost of each item so it can be priced adequately. Your baskets should be delivered to GCA church office by Wednesday, Oct. 21st.
6. **New Beginnings Class:** If you are interested in exploring membership or finding out more about what GCA believes, you are invited to attend the class at 12:30 p.m. in the library today.
7. **Scrapbooking Club** will meet this Saturday, Oct. 24th from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. All are welcome. Everyone provides enough food to share. If you plan to join, please contact Sis. Marsha Hough for more details.
8. **Worship Night:** Come join us for another Worship Night at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 20th. Experience the presence of the Lord as we worship and give Him praise. Don't forget to invite your family and friends.
9. **Men's Bible Study:** All men are invited to join the Bible study every Thursday starting at 6:30 p.m. The topic of study is 2 Timothy. For ZOOM access, the Meeting ID is 818 6660 7264 and the passcode is 723137.
10. **Monday:** 10 a.m. **FREE food giveaway** in the Fellowship Hall.
11. **Wednesday:** 12 noon **Lunchtime Prayer Hour**. The call-in number is 774-267-4072.
12. **Thursday:** 6:30 p.m. **Men's Bible Study by ZOOM**; 7:30 p.m. **Voices of Praise choir rehearsal** in the sanctuary.
13. **Saturday:** 4 p.m. **Weekly Prayer Time**. The call-in number is 774-267-4072.



10/18/2026

“John the Baptist: A Burning and Shining Lamp, Part 3”

A Call to Endure Persecution

Matthew 14:1-12

Dr. Raphael Thomas

Introduction

Jesus described John the Baptist as a “burning and shining lamp.”
(John 5:35)

This series:

A Call to Embrace Preparation

A Call to Engage in Proclamation

A Call to Endure Persecution

Big Idea: When we stand for God's truth, we must be prepared to face persecution. Faithfulness to Christ may invite persecution, but God honors those who remain steadfast.

Four Lessons from John's Persecution:

I. The R_____ He Experienced. (Matthew 14:1-5)

John faced hostility, rejection, and imprisonment because of his unwavering commitment to God's truth.

II. The R_____ He Espoused. (Matthew 14:3-4; 3:7-10)

John courageously upheld God's moral standards, confronting sin even when doing so placed his life in danger.

III. The R_____ He Exhibited. (Matthew 14:3-5; Mark 6:17-20)

John refused to compromise his convictions, even when confronted by the political power and hostility of Herod.



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IV. The R_____ He Entered. (Matthew 14:6-12;
Matthew 5:10-12; Revelation 2:10)

Although John's earthly ministry ended in martyrdom, his faithfulness points us to the eternal hope promised to faithful believers.

Conclusion

“The world may extinguish the lamp, but it cannot extinguish the light of God's truth.”

Personal Challenge: Am I prepared to stand for God's truth even when it becomes costly?

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