

*Grace Community Presbyterian Church*  
*January 30, 2022*

I Believe...

## Thought for Meditation:

Faith aims at understanding, at seeing and knowing. Augustine and Anselm both had it right: "I believe in order to understand." The truth of faith, however, is not a "knowing" in the sense of a descriptive knowledge, but a recognizing in the sense of a loving and trusting personal experience.

*Jan Lochman*

**Prelude** The Solid Rock Burkhardt

**Welcome and Announcements** Doug Marshall

**Call To Worship** Romans 4:16-20

Steve Lester

L: Our salvation depends on faith, the promise rests on grace.

**P: This promise is for all who share the faith of Abraham.**

L: Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed.

**P: Abraham grew strong in his faith and gave glory to God.**

L: In faith, let us give glory to God.

**P: Let us praise the God of Abraham.**

\* **Hymn of Praise** The God of Abraham Praise #23

## Prayer of Confession

God of life, we admit to you and to each other that we have not always lived lives of love. We have lost patience and been rude. We have been irritable and insisted on our own way. We have even let our love die.

Forgive us and heal us, dear God. Empty us of fear and shame, and fill us with love that is humble and patient and kind. We pray this in the name of the One who humbled himself, Jesus Christ... *Silent Prayer of Confession.*

**Assurance of Forgiveness** Galatians 2:19-20

L: Through the law we have died to the law so that we might live for God.

**P: We have been crucified with Christ.**

L: We no longer live, but Christ lives in us.

**P: We live by faith in the Son of God, who loved us and died for us.**

L: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

**ALL: Alleluia! Amen!**

## \* **Passing of the Peace**

L: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

*Please pass the peace of Christ to your neighbors in the pews and introduce yourself to those you do not know.*

\* **Glory Be To The Father** #813

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.

World without end. Amen. Amen.

**Special Music** God Is Our Refuge (Pote) Chancel Choir

**Scripture** Genesis 15:1-6 (page 11)  
Romans 1:16-17 (page 977)

**Sermon** Apostles' Creed: I Believe... Amen!

**\*Affirmation of Faith** The Apostles' Creed

**I believe** in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

**I believe** in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

**I believe** in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. **Amen.**

**\* Hymn of Response** My Faith Looks Up to Thee #539

**Prayers of the People**

**Call for Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory** Lead On, O King Eternal Smith

**\* Doxology** #815

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.

**\* Prayer of Dedication**

**\* Hymn of Dedication** Blessed Assurance #572

**\* Charge and Benediction**

**\* Congregational Response** **Blessed Assurance (Refrain)** #572

This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.

**\* Postlude** Fugue in A minor Bach

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**\*PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE**

**Welcome to Grace Community Presbyterian Church this morning.** Please join us for Coffee Fellowship in Cana Hall after the service. Your hosts will be Cindy and John Irvin.

**Hot off the Press:** Copies of the new Grace Church directory are in the Narthex. One per household.

**Calling All Owners:** There is a table with several containers and plates in Cana Hall that would love to go home with their owners. We would appreciate if you would claim your containers/plates by Sunday, February 6. If not claimed, we will find them a good home!

**2021 Contribution Report and 2022 Offering Envelopes:** Please pick up your contribution report and/or offering envelopes located in the Narthex.

**TODAY'S MUSIC:** The name of Edward Mote (1797-1874) does not have the same recognition as hymn writers such as Isaac Watts or Fanny Crosby. Yet he penned one of the most enduring hymns in our hymnal and lived a life that should inspire all Christians. Mote was not brought up in a godly home and did not have the advantage of early exposure to Scripture. In fact, his parents managed a pub in London and often neglected the boy. Of his religious upbringing, he said, "My Sabbaths were spent on the streets in play. So ignorant was I that I did not know that there was a God."

As a teenager, while apprenticed to a cabinetmaker, Mote was exposed to the Word of God and converted. He became a successful cabinet maker and a devoted church layman, eventually becoming a pastor. It was during his career as a cabinetmaker that the hymn "**The Solid Rock**" came into being. One morning in 1834, as he was walking to work, it entered his mind to write a hymn on "the gracious experience of a Christian." By the time he got to work, he had the chorus. He wrote four stanzas over the course of that day and two additional stanzas on the following Sunday. His original title was "The immutable Basis of a Sinner's hope."

On Christ the solid Rock I stand,  
All other ground is sinking sand.

"**Lead On, O King Eternal**" was written by Ernest Shurtleff (1862-1917) for his classmates in the graduating class of Andover Theological Seminary in 1887. Its themes of "days of preparation" leading to "the day of march" and "fields of conquest" fit the occasion. Prior to writing this hymn, Shurtleff was already a published poet, with *Poems* (1883), *Easter Gleams* (1885), *Song of Hope* (1886), and later, *Song on the Waters* (1913).

Before studying at Andover, Shurtleff attended Harvard University. He served Congregational churches in Ventura, California; Old Plymouth, Massachusetts; and Minneapolis, Minnesota, before moving to Europe. In 1905 he established the American Church in Frankfurt am Main, and in 1906 he moved to Paris, where he was involved in student ministry at the Academy Vitti. During World War I he and his wife were active in refugee relief work in Paris. It was said that his whole life was the embodiment of his hymn. His tombstone includes a portion of Proverbs 4:18, "The path of the just is as the shining light.

### This Week's Calendar

Jan. 30	C.S. Lewis Adult SS Class	9:00am
	Deacons/Session Meeting	11:30am
Jan. 31	Session Meeting	7:00pm
Feb. 1	Bible Study	1:00pm
Feb. 2	Cub Scouts Den Mtg.	6:00pm
	Choir	7:00pm
Feb. 3	Cub Scouts Den Mtg.	6:00pm
	Ladies Club	6:30pm

### Looking Ahead

Feb. 7	C.S. Pack Comte Mtg.	6:45pm
Feb. 8	Bible Study	1:00pm
Feb. 9	Choir	7:00pm
	Cub Scouts Pack Mtg.	7:00pm
Feb. 10	CE Comte Mtg.	3:00pm

**CALENDAR SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

Grace Community Presbyterian Church  
2751 Grant Street, Lower Burrell, PA 15068  
(724) 339-9661  
Website: [www.gracecommunitypresbyterian.org](http://www.gracecommunitypresbyterian.org)

Worship Service is at 10:00am

**Church Staff:**

Pastor: Doug Marshall, Interim Pastor  
doug@gracecommunitypresbyterian.org  
Secretary: Wendy Stein Clark  
secretary@gracecommunitypresbyterian.org  
Christian Ed.: Bill Ludwig (interim)  
Organist: Kenneth McGeary  
Treasurer: Ray Zerjav  
Custodian: John Baron and Paul Zunich

**Elders**

Cathy Brady\*  
Dave Briscoe\*  
Arch Carroll  
Cathy Christoforetti  
Michael Cochenour\*  
Martha Gumbert  
David Highfield  
Dan Howard  
John Irvin\*  
Henry Kedzierski  
Val Lester\*  
Lew McNay  
Glenn Nordmark\*  
Stephanie Tutka\*  
Cathy Vitari\*\*

\*Denotes Chairman  
\*\*Clerk of Session

**Deacons**

Darlene Artman  
Rich Artman  
Gary Barbiaux  
Judy Barbiaux  
Kitty Berkley  
Margie Bistline  
Beulah Brown  
Jackie Chickerella\*  
Cindy Irvin  
Linda Johnson  
Terri Ludwig  
Connie Markle  
Judy Sulitz  
Mary Ann Walter  
Lou Walter

\*Denotes Moderator