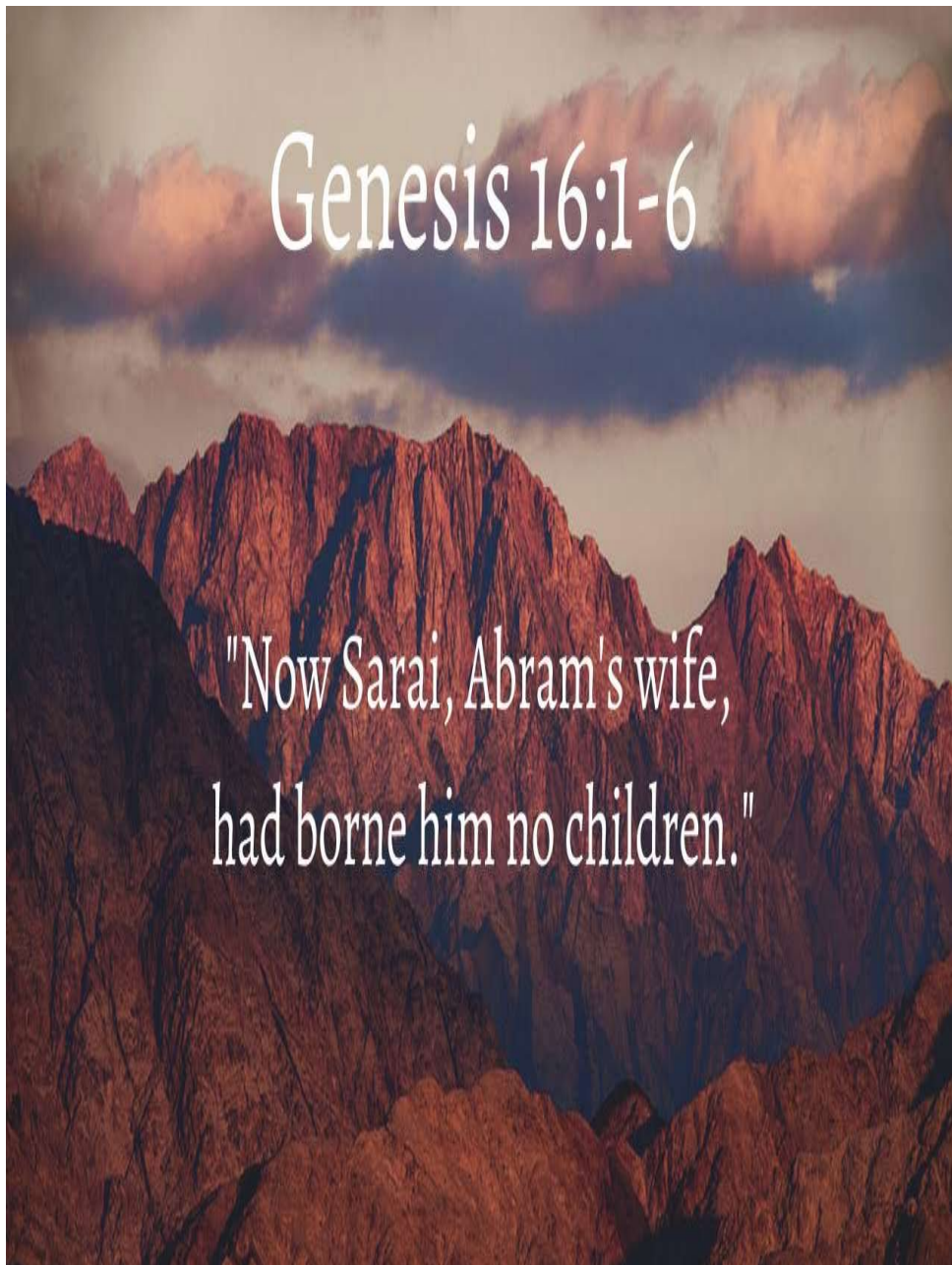


Grace Community Presbyterian Church
January 8, 2023

Genesis 16:1-6

"Now Sarai, Abram's wife,
had borne him no children."



Thought for Meditation:

Faith is not an abstract belief in the Word of God, nor a mere mental credence, nor a simple assent of the understanding and will; nor is it a passive acceptance of facts, however sacred or thorough... Faith is not an aimless act of the soul, but a looking to God and a resting upon his promises. *EM. Bounds*

Prelude Prayer of Consecration Purvis

Welcome and Announcements Doug Marshall

*** Call To Worship** Daniel 4:34, 37 Henry Kedzierski

L: Blessed be the Most High God.

P: Praise and honor the One who lives forever.

L: Praise, exalt, and glorify the King of heaven.

P: All of God's ways are true!

L: All of God's ways are just!

ALL: Alleluia! Let us praise the everlasting King!

*** Hymn of Praise** Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven #1

Prayer of Confession

Heavenly Father, forgive us for thinking small thoughts of you and for ignoring your immensity and greatness. Lord Jesus, forgive us when we forget that you rule the nations and our small lives. Holy Spirit, we confess that we have ignored your presence and squandered your gifts. We confess that our blindness to your glory, O triune God, has resulted in shallow faith, tepid conviction, and selfish lives. Have mercy on us. In Jesus' name. *Silent Prayer of Confession...*

Assurance of Forgiveness Romans 8:38-39

L: There is nothing in all of creation that can separate us from God's love in Jesus Christ;

P: Nothing dead or alive, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable – absolutely nothing can get between us and God's love.

L: Friends, let us rejoice and live in the good news:

P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

ALL: Glory be to God!

* 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

Anthem Dedication for the New Year (Ringwald) Chancel Choir

Scripture	Genesis 15:1-8 (page 11) Genesis 16:1-6 (page 11)	
Sermon	The Failure of the Promise	
* Hymn of Response	Faith of Our Fathers	#404
*Affirmation of Faith	The Apostles' Creed	
	<p>I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And 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 to 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.</p>	
Call for Tithes and Offerings		
Offertory	God the Father, Be Our Stay	Powell
* Doxology		#166
	<p>Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!</p>	
* Prayer of Dedication		
* Hymn of Preparation	Come to the Table	#464
The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper		
* Hymn of Dedication	Standing on the Promises	#410
* Charge and Benediction		
* Congregational Response	Standing on the Promises (Refrain)	#410
	<p>Standing, standing, Standing on the promises of God, my Savior. Standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.</p>	
* Postlude	Festival Alleluia	Miller

The Prayer of Confession is adapted and reprinted by permission from *The Worship Sourcebook, Second Edition*, © 2013, Faith Alive Christian Resources.

***PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE.**

Welcome to Grace Community Presbyterian Church.

We are delighted that you have chosen to join us for worship. Terry Ludwig will be your greeter today. Please join us for Coffee Fellowship after worship; June Cicola will be your host.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

We plan to print an updated membership directory in February. If you have made any changes to your home and/or email address, phone number, etc. please contact the office at 724-339-9661 or send us an email to doug@gracecommunitypresbyterian.org and/or secretary@gracecommunitypresbyterian.org with your changes.



Glenn Nordmark, Reverend Ken and Barb Foust will talk about their recent trip to the Holy Land following the worship service today in the library.



2022 Contribution Reports: Please pick up your contribution report located in the Narthex.

2023 Offering Envelopes

The 2023 Offering Envelopes are on the table, in the narthex, just to the right of the old entrance. Please pick up your envelopes. Thanks.



Please note - many of the numbers have changed. Make sure you look for the box with your name. Don't automatically take the same # you have always had!

TODAY'S MUSIC: One evening Adelaide Pollard attended a small prayer meeting. In the group was an elderly woman whose prayer touched Adelaide's troubled heart. Her prayer omitted the frequent requests for blessings, and simply petitioned God for an understanding of His will in life. Upon returning home that evening, Miss Pollard meditated further on the story of the potter, found in Jeremiah 18:3, 4. Before retiring that evening, Adelaide Pollard completed the writing of all four stanzas of ***Have Thine Own Way, Lord*** (#591 in our hymnal and the basis for today's prelude "**Prayer of Consecration**"). She went on to become an itinerant Bible teacher, taught for eight years at the Missionary Training School in New York City, and served in Africa for a short time.

Laurence Tuttiett was ordained a deacon in the Anglican Church in 1848, and a priest in 1849. Tuttiett wrote many poems, devotional and theological books, but is better known for his hymns, the most well-known being today's anthem, "**Dedication for the New Year.**" John Julian in his work Dictionary of Hymnology states, "Mr. Tuttiett's hymns are characterized by smoothness of rhythm, direction of aim, simplicity of language, and deep earnestness. Those for special services and seasons are of great merit."

"**God, the Father, Be Our Stay**" today's offertory, is a 15th century German chorale, either by an unknown 14th century author or by Martin Luther. It was translated from German to English by Richard Massie and published in *Martin Luther's Spiritual Songs* in 1854. Massie was an Anglican rector, best known for his translations of hymns by Martin Luther and Paul Gerhardt.

*God the Father, be our stay, oh, let us perish never.
Cleanse us from our sins, we pray, and grant us life forever.
Keep us from the evil one; uphold our faith most holy,
Grant us to trust Thee solely with humble hearts and lowly.
Let us put God's armor on with all true Christians running
Our heavenly race and shunning the devil's wiles and cunning.
Amen, Amen, this be done, so sing we, Hallelujah!*

**This Week's Calendar
January 8-14**

Sunday	Sunday School (all ages)	9:00am
	Worship/Communion	10:00am
	Holy Land Presentation (Library)	11:15am
	Youth Group	6:00pm
Monday	Cub Scouts Committee Meeting	6:45pm
Tuesday	Bible Study	1:00pm
Wednesday	Cub Scouts Pack Mtg.	7:00pm
	Choir Rehearsal	7:00pm
Thursday	Christian Ed. Meeting	3:00pm
Saturday	Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby	9:00am

**Looking Ahead
January 15 -21**

January 15	Sunday School (all ages)	9:00am
	Worship	10:00am
	Deacons Meeting	11:00am
	Youth Group	6:00pm
January 16	Martin Luther King Jr. Day	
January 17	Bible Study	1:00pm
January 18	Cub Scouts Den Meeting	6:00pm
	Choir Rehearsal	7:00pm
January 19	Ladies Club	6:30pm

CALENDAR SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Grace Community Presbyterian Church
2751 Grant Street, Lower Burrell, PA 15068
(724) 339-9661
Website: 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
Organist: Kenneth McGeary
Treasurer: Ray Zerjav
Custodian: John Baron and Paul Zunich

Elders

Reitha Bieranoski
Cathy Brady
Cathy Christoforetti
Ben Edwards
David Highfield
Dan Howard
Henry Kedzierski
Val Lester
John Napierski
Sharon Rupert
Stephanie Tutka
Cathy Vitari (clerk)

Deacons

Darlene Artman
Rich Artman
Gary Barbiaux
Judy Barbiaux
Elsie Deem
Margie Bistline
Beulah Brown
Jackie Chickerella
Cindy Irvin*
Terri Ludwig
Lavonne Pelisari
Debbie Roskey
Mary Ann Walter
Lou Walter
Shirley Wilson

*Denotes Moderator