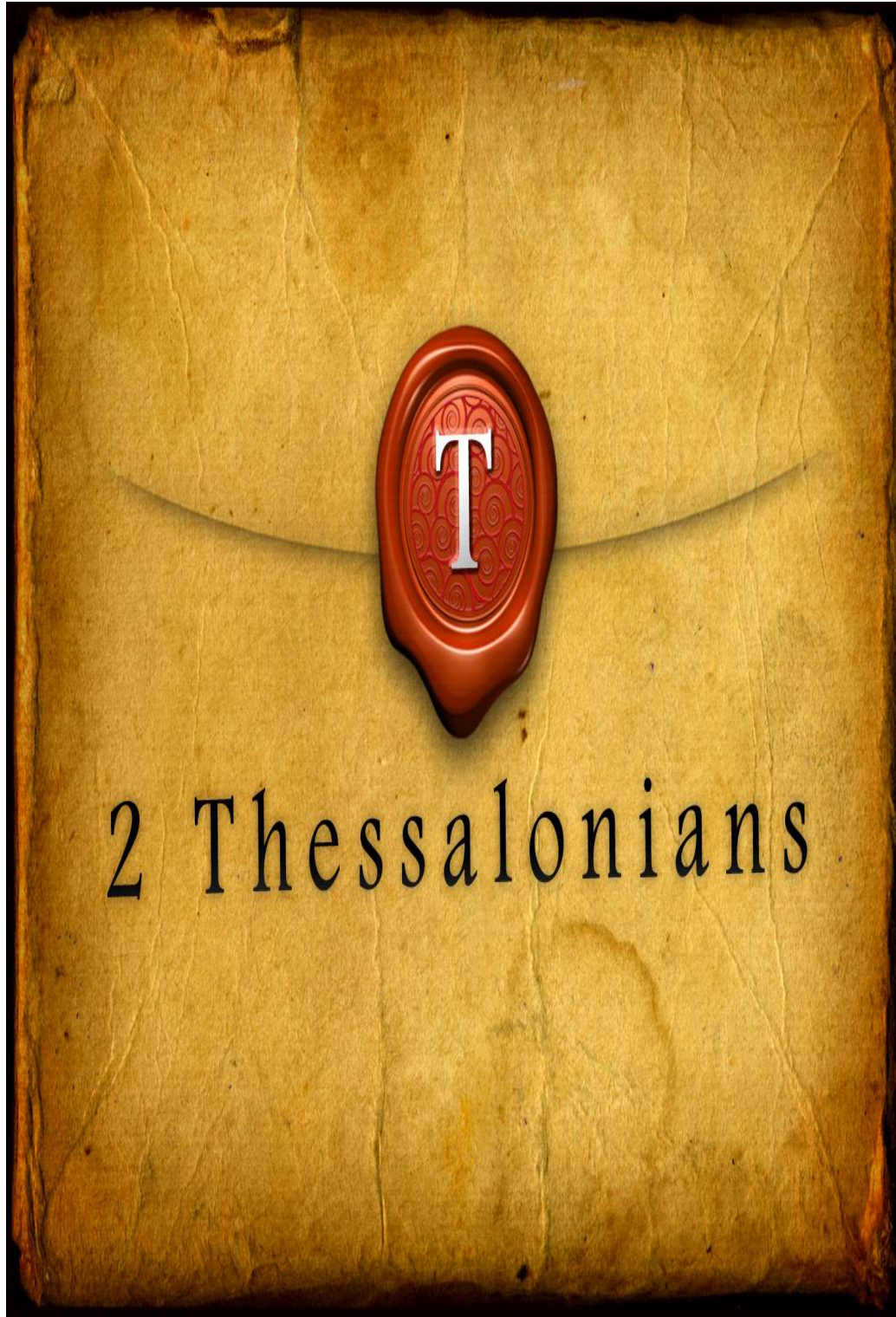


Grace Community Presbyterian Church
October 16, 2022



Thought for Meditation: Christians have always been invited to consider apocalyptic thought as fundamentally hopeful. It is a stripping away of the lies we tell ourselves, a revealing of what is true – and then it is a call to change. It is the affirmation that we have the God-given capacity to turn our lives away from the lies and back toward that truth. *Martha Tatarnic*

Prelude Prelude on Two Early American Hymns Hastings

Welcome and Announcements Cathy Vitari

Call To Worship Psalm 87:1-3

L: God set his foundation on the holy mountain;

P: The LORD loves the gates of Zion.

L: Glorious things are said of you, O city of God.

P: Let us join our voices to sing the praises of God.

*** Hymn of Praise** Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken #400

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we confess that we do not meditate on your commands and teachings. We do not keep your word before us always and in all things. Instead, we turn away from your demanding truth and wander toward easier options. Forgive us, we pray, for pursuing our own desires rather than yours. Forgive us for growing weary in following you; for failing to pray and work tirelessly for justice; for losing hope in your power to transform the powers of this world. Turn our hearts to your commandments and word of grace. Do not remember our sin, but remember your mercy forever. *Silent Prayer of Confession...*

Assurance of Forgiveness

L: In the presence of God and of Jesus Christ,

P: We give thanks for the gift of forgiveness.

L: Friends, God promises to forgive us,

P: God forgets our sins and gives us a second chance.

L: In Christ we have a new beginning.

P: Our salvation is through faith in Christ Jesus.

ALL: Thanks 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

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.

Old Testament Lesson Daniel 2:3-45 (page 761)

Anthem	A Song of Thanks (Nygard)	Chancel Choir
Scripture	2 Thessalonians 2:1-4 (page 1032) 2 Timothy 2:1-4 (Page 1038)	Rodney Murray
Sermon	The Sign of Our Time	
* Hymn of Response	We Shall Behold Him	#755
Affirmation of Faith	The Apostles' Creed	
	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.	
Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer		
Call for Tithes and Offerings		
Offertory	When I Can Read My Title Clear	Hustad
* 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	Soon and Very Soon (v1-3)	#757
* Charge and Benediction		
* Congregational Response	Soon and Very Soon (v4)	#757
* Postlude	Toccatà & Fugue in D minor	Bach

The Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness are adapted and reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion*. Copyright 2012

***PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE**

Welcome to Grace Community Presbyterian Church.

We are delighted that you have chosen to join us for worship. Beulah Brown will be your greeter today. Please join us for Coffee Fellowship in Cana Hall after worship today. Sharon Rupert will be your host.



The **SPAGHETTI DINNER** is this Saturday, 10/22 from 4-7 pm. Cost is \$10/adult and \$7/child. Take-out is available. Advance tickets with a \$1 discount will be sold on Sundays after worship in Cana Hall on 10/9, and 10/16. They will also be available in the church office during daytime hours (Monday -Thursday 9am – 2pm). If you would like to donate an already-assembled gift basket or new items to include in a gift basket, these may be dropped off in the basket room downstairs by Sunday, October 16.



The Fellowship and Nurture Committee will be hosting a New Members Class on Sunday, November 6th following worship. Those interested should contact the church office (724-339-9661). Lunch will be provided.

We welcome Reverend Rod Murray to the pulpit this morning. Rev. Rod Murray was born in Omaha, NE, where he has a BA from the University of Nebraska, and a master's from the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Rod was married for 62 years and has three children, one Granddaughter and one new Great Grandson.

Rod is a member of Redstone Presbytery since 1967, when he was called to the Vandergrift Church, where he served for nearly 34 years, until his retirement in 2001. Rod has actively served on several Presbytery Committees.

Pastor Murray has served on local, county, and State boards: Mental Health Association, Salvation Army, including 20 years as a Vandergrift Volunteer Fireman.

Since his retirement, Rev. Rod has served as an interim Pastor in five churches.

TODAY'S MUSIC: Well-educated and the product of a Christian home, Joseph Hart was a London school teacher who lapsed into dissolute ways and agnostic thought. In 1757, he was converted at the Moravian Chapel in London. Two years later "**Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy**" (#486 in our hymnal) was included in his *Hymns Composed on Various Subjects*. This hymn is one of the **Two Early American Hymns** that comprise today's prelude (the other being "Amazing Grace")

In Hart's picturesque words, a direct invitation is addressed to sinners (not a popular term, but who among us is not a sinner). Several of the needs that people experience are paired with Jesus' provision for those needs. In the final stanza comes this insight: "If you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all." That strikes at the root of a common misconception: that we are responsible to somehow patch ourselves up, and improve ourselves to the point where God will accept us. We do not have that power. Only Jesus does. Only by his grace can we be redeemed and transformed.

When I Can Read My Title Clear is a hymn by Isaac Watts. It first appeared in his *Hymns and Spiritual Songs* in 1707. It was titled "The Hopes of Heaven our Support under Trials on Earth." The tune is an early American melody, first published in *Kentucky Harmony* in 1816. The tune's name is Pisgah. Mount Pisgah is a mountain ridge of ancient Moab, northeast of the Dead Sea. From its summit, Mount Nebo, Moses viewed the Promised Land. (Deuteronomy 34:1)

Famed for its iconic opening, Bach's **Tocatta and Fugue in D minor** is arguably the most well-known piece of organ music ever written. It is known for its dramatic opening, majestic sound, and driving rhythm. It would probably be well-known on its own, but its appearance in the opening minutes of the 1940 Disney movie *Fantasia* (and at least 28 other movies) has helped.

This Week's Calendar
October 16 -22

Sunday	Sunday School (all ages)	9:00am
	Worship	10:00am
	Deacons Meeting	11:00am
	PNC Meeting	1:30pm
	Youth Group	6:00pm
Tuesday	Bible Study	1:00pm
Wednesday	CS Den Meeting	6:00pm
	Finance Meeting	6:30pm
	Worship Meeting	6:30pm
	Choir Rehearsal	7:00pm
Thursday	CS Den Meeting	6:00pm
	Ladies Club	6:30pm
Saturday	SPAGHETTI DINNER	4:00PM

Looking Ahead

October 23 -29

October 23	Sunday School (all ages)	9:00am
	Worship	10:00am
	Choir Recognition	11:00am
	PNC Meeting	1:30pm
	Youth Group	6:00pm
October 24	Session Meeting	7:00pm
October 25	Bible Study	1:00pm
October 26	Cub Scouts Den Meeting	6:00pm
	Choir Rehearsal	7:00pm
October 27	Cub Scouts Den Meeting	6:00pm
	Men's Club	6:00pm

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 Zurich

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