

Grace Community Presbyterian Church
November 27, 2022



Thought for Meditation: You don't really understand Advent if it doesn't scare you just a little bit. It means that life is not what you had hoped for. And it's certainly not what you have settled for. Life is lived now in the presence of holiness. *Craig Barnes*

Prelude Prelude Solenne Purvis

Welcome and Announcements Doug Marshall

Call To Worship Isaiah 61:1

L: Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us.

P: The Spirit of the Lord is upon Jesus.

L: God sent Jesus to bring good news to the oppressed;

P: To bind up the brokenhearted;

L: To proclaim liberty to the captives;

P: And release to the prisoners.

L: Let us worship Emmanuel, God with us.

* **Songs of Praise** Emmanuel #243
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus #244

Prayer of Confession

Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming. We live in sin, as though there were no justice. We live in fear, as though there were no grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths, for you are the God of our salvation.

Silent Prayer of Confession...

Assurance of Forgiveness 2 Corinthians 5:21

L: God made him who had no sin to be sin for us.

P: Jesus died for our sins.

L: In Christ we have become the righteousness of God.

P: Jesus died for our sins.

L: Grace Church, through Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

ALL: Alleluia! Praise the Lord

* **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 To God** While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks (v5) #272

All glory be to God on high, And to the earth be peace.

Good will to all from highest heaven

Begin and never cease! Begin and never cease!

Special Music Blessed Is the Lord (Forrest) Chancel Choir

Chrismon Celebration

Introduction

Symbols of God

Kellie Newcomb

Carol Of The Father's Love Begotten (v1, 3)

#240

Symbols of the Nativity

Judy and Gary Barbiaux

Carol While Shepherd's Watched Their Flocks (v1)

#272

Symbols of the Passion

Jennifer Beck

Carol Silent Night! Holy Night! (v3-4)

#253

Symbols of Victory

Paige Newcomb

*** Hymn of Response** Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates (see insert)

***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 Comfort Ye My People Johnson

*** Doxology** As with Gladness Men of Old (v3) #290

As they offered gifts most rare At that manger rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ to Thee our heav'nly King.

*** Prayer of Dedication**

*** Carol of Dedication** Love Has Come! #256

*** Charge and Benediction**

*** Congregational Response** Go Tell It on the Mountain (refrain) #258

Go, tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!

*** Postlude** Sleepers Awake, A Voice Is Calling Walther

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***PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE**

Welcome to Grace Community Presbyterian Church.

We are delighted that you have chosen to join us for worship. Gary and Judy Barbiaux will be your greeters today. We hope you can join us for Coffee Fellowship after worship today. Lee and Linda Johnson will be your hosts.



The Amy's Angels Tree is ready for the adoption of angels. When you've chosen your angel, remove the angel from the tree and sign your name and phone number on the clipboard next to the corresponding number of your angel. **Please return your wrapped gift, with the angel taped to the outside, to the Narthex by Sunday, December 4th.** Thank you for supporting the Hope Center and their annual Adopt-A-Family campaign.



There is one time slot available this Saturday, December 3 (4pm-5pm). Volunteers are a vital piece to The Salvation Army's red kettle campaign. Every 2 hours that a volunteer stands at a red kettle, The Salvation Army can provide 104 meals to local neighbors in need. Please consider volunteering; sign up sheet located on the bulletin board outside of the office.

Congregational Meeting



Please plan to stay after worship on December 11 for the Annual Congregational Meeting. We will review the 2023 budget.

TODAY'S MUSIC: Today's anthem, **Blessed Is Our Lord**, is based on Luke 1:5-22, where we read about the angel Gabriel visiting Zacharias the priest, announcing that his future son, John, would be the forerunner of the coming Messiah.

Benedictus, Blessed is our Lord, Benedictus, Welcome His incarnate Word. Chosen first among the priests to serve within the temple walls, Zacharias stood in awe when he heard the angel call.

"Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, will come to raise salvation's horn. God incarnate, Word made flesh to a virgin shall be born."

"Comfort, Comfort Ye My People" (today's offertory) is a paraphrase of Isaiah 40:1-5, in which the prophet looks forward to the coming of Christ. More specifically, the coming of the forerunner of Christ – John the Baptist – is foretold. The hymn was written by Johann Olearius in honor of St. John the Baptist day, and was published in the 1671 collection *Sacred Song-Art*. This collection contained nearly 1,200 hymns, 300 of which came from Olearius himself.

The tune was written by Louis Bourgeois, a French composer and music theorist of the Renaissance. He was one of the main compilers of Calvinist hymn tunes in the middle of the 16th century. He was the composer of one of the most famous tunes in hymnody, *Old 100th*.

Comfort, comfort ye My people, Speak ye peace, thus saith our God; Comfort those who sit in darkness, Mourning 'neath their sorrow's load; Speak ye to Jerusalem Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her sins I cover, And her warfare now is over.

For the herald's voice is crying In the desert far and near, Bidding all men to repentance, Since the kingdom now is here. O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way! Let the valleys rise to meet Him, And the hills bow down to greet Him.

This Week's Calendar

November 27 - December 3

Sunday	Sunday School (all ages)	9:00am
	Worship	10:00am
	Youth Group	6:00pm
Tuesday	Bible Study	1:00pm
Wednesday	CS Den Meeting	6:00pm
	Choir Rehearsal	7:00pm
	November CrossCurrents will be mailed out. If you have anything you would like to submit, please send an email to the office by Monday, November 28.	
Thursday	CS Pack Meeting	6:00pm
	Ladies Club	6:30pm

Looking Ahead December 4 - 10

December 4	Sunday School (all ages)	9:00am
	Worship/Communion	10:00am
	Youth Group	6:00pm
December 5	Session Meeting	7:00pm
December 6	Bible Study	1:00pm
December 7	Cub Scouts Pack Meeting	6:00pm
	Choir Rehearsal	7:00pm
December 8	Christian Ed Meeting	3:00pm
	Cub Scouts Pack Meeting	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