

Grace Community Presbyterian Church
February 6, 2022

I Believe in God the Father
Almighty

Thought for Meditation:

In these days when some individuals refuse to name the First Person of the Trinity “Father” because some people find that word “oppressive,” it is essential that we recapture the love and grace of that name and recognize how profoundly Jesus carries us into his own intimacy with his Father by the power of their Spirit. *Marva J. Dawn*

Prelude	And Can It Be?	Page
Welcome and Announcements		Doug Marshall
Moment for Ministry		Stephanie Tutka
Call To Worship	Galatians 1:1-5 (<i>paraphrased</i>)	Glenn Nordmark
L: Paul an apostle – sent out through Jesus Christ,		
P: Sent out through God the Father, who raised Jesus from the dead,		
L: To the people in the church:		
P: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,		
L: Who died for our sins and set us free according to the will of our God and Father,		
P: To whom be the glory forever and ever.		
L: Let us worship and adore God, our Father.		
* Hymn of Praise	God, Our Father, We Adore Thee	#93

Prayer of Confession

O God, though we walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve and deliver us. Though our lips are not clean and our hearts are not pure, you call us. Forgive us, we pray, when we wander away from you, lost and at risk. Forgive us when our lives do not reflect your glory and the purposes you intend. Help us to comprehend your ways in the world. We long to know your grace and see your glory, knowing that only in Jesus can we be healed and set free... *Silent Prayer of Confession*

*Assurance of Forgiveness

Psalm 103:11-13

L: As the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

P: As far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.

L: As a father has compassion for his children,

P: So the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.

L: Believe the Good News of Jesus Christ:

P: 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 Be To The Father**

#813

Special Music

Come unto Me and Rest (Larsen)

Chancel Choir

Scripture

Deuteronomy 6: 4-5 (page 151)
Luke 15: 11-32 (page 909)

Sermon

Apostles' Creed: I Believe in God the Father Almighty

***Affirmation of Faith**

The Apostles' Creed

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

And 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**

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind (v1-2)

#639

Call for Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Lord Speak to Me

DeCou

*** Doxology**

#81

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 Preparation**

Come, Share the Lord (v1-2)

#462

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

*** Hymn of Dedication**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

#139

*** Charge and Benediction**

*** Congregational Response**

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided.
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.

*** Postlude**

Fugue in A

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 Lee and Linda Johnson.

Volunteers needed for coffee fellowship, sign-up sheet is located near the office or see a member of the Reach Out committee.

Thank You!

Sunday School: Our weekly Sunday School meets from 9:00am – 9:45am. Kindergarten and Junior High students are welcome to join us.

Youth Group Meetings: Our Youth Group meets every Sunday from 6:00pm – 8:00pm. Junior and High School Students are welcome to join us.

GCPC Directory: Don't forget to pick up a copy of the directory located in the Narthex. One per household.

Going Going Gone: 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 today. If not claimed, we will find them a good home!

2021 Contribution Report and 2022 Offering Envelopes: Don't forget to pick up your contribution report and/or offering envelopes located in the Narthex.

TODAY'S MUSIC: Charles Wesley's hymn "**And Can It Be?**" begins with a question of wonder and awe. Wesley's reply to his own question is equally full of wonder: "*Amazing love, how can it be, that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?*"

Wesley wrote "**And Can It Be?**" soon after his own conversion. Looking back on his life, he saw himself as a prisoner in a dark dungeon, chained by the sins which he had committed and even more, made captive by the sin which was part of his very nature. It may sound as if this were the dramatic experience of one who was rescued from a life of degradation. Not so. At the time of his conversion, Charles Wesley had already been a rector in the Church of England for three years. He had just returned from a term as missionary to Georgia in the New World. But, in all this religious activity, he had never found spiritual peace. He was about to learn what Paul wrote to the Ephesians: "*by grace you have been saved through faith; ...not because of works, lest any man should boast.*" According to his Journal his conversion – a confrontation, as he described it – took place after reading the Bible for some time. "*At midnight I gave myself up to Christ: assured I was safe, sleeping or waking...Confessed, with joy and surprise, that he was able to do exceedingly abundantly for me, above what I can ask or think.*"

Horatius Bonar (1807-1889) was Protestant Scotland's first true hymn writer. In Bonar's day the Scottish church sang metrical Psalms almost exclusively. Bonar found that the youth had little love for them, and he was concerned that they learn the truths of the person and work of Christ. His hymn "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say," today's anthem "**Come to Me and Rest,**" is one of these hymns. Bonar's words speak to our human needs and are rooted in the promises of scripture. Isaiah proclaimed: "*Come, everyone who thirsts, to the waters! Come, he who has no money, buy, and eat!*" The hymn's most direct roots are in the words of Jesus himself: "*Come to me, all you who labor and are heavily burdened, and I will give you rest.*"

Johann Sebastian Bach was a feisty musician, fiercely dedicated to quality, who passionately created music for the glory of God. Albert Schweitzer, noted authority on Bach, called him "the Fifth Evangelist." The theme of Bach's **Fugue in A** (today's postlude) closely resembles the theme of the prelude to his cantata #152, *Walk in the Way of Faith*. Schweitzer likens this not to a rugged faith in the midst of turmoil and life's adversities. Rather, the impression is of the steps of the redeemed walking hand in hand with their Savior. Whether Bach intended this meaning for his fugue is speculation but the imagery is still beautiful to imagine.

This Week's Calendar

Feb. 6	Sunday School (all ages)	9:00am
	Youth Group	6:00pm
Feb. 7	Mission Cmte	6:30pm
	Cub Scouts 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

Looking Ahead

Feb. 13	Sunday School (all ages)	9:00am
	Youth Group	6:00pm
Feb. 15	Bible Study	1:00pm
	Finance Cmte	6:00pm
Feb. 16	Cub Scouts Den Mtg.	6:00pm
	Worship Cmte.	6:30pm
	Choir	7:00pm
Feb. 17	Cub Scouts Den Mtg.	6:00pm
	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 (interim)
Organist: Kenneth McGeary
Treasurer: Ray Zerjav
Custodian: John Baron and Paul Zurich

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