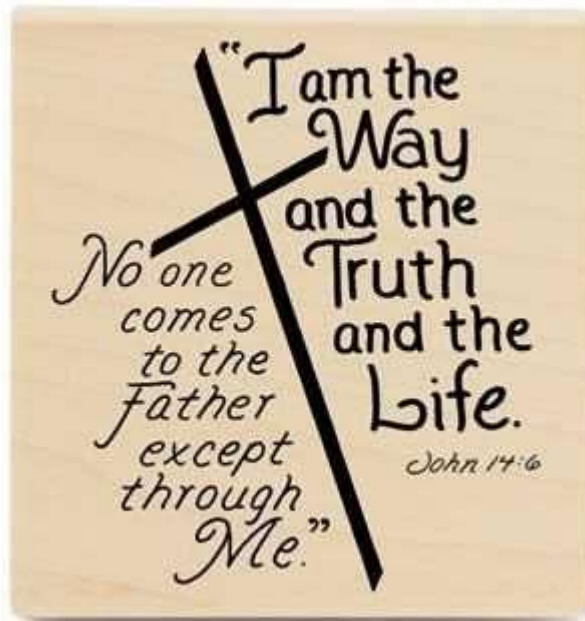


*Grace Community Presbyterian Church*  
*March 12 2023*



**Thought for Meditation:**

Jesus is our way to God, but at the same time Jesus is God's way to us... The way we come to God is the same way that God comes to us. God comes to us in Jesus; we come to God in Jesus. It is the same way, the Jesus way... The way includes both the path/road we travel and the way we travel on the way of Jesus. *Eugene Peterson (paraphrase)*

**Prelude** Organ Hymn Haan

**Welcome and Announcements** Doug Marshall

**Call To Worship** 1 Peter 4:11 Elsie Deem

L: Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God;

**P: Whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies;**

L: So that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ.

**P: To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever.**

L: Amen. Let us sing the praise of Jesus Christ!

**\* Hymn of Praise** When Morning Gilds the Skies #215

### **Prayer of Confession**

Lord, sometimes our lives have such little focus: we have so much to do; we possess so much stuff, yet we are driven by the need for still more – and it easily seems to control us. We're sorry, Lord, for how distracted we've become and for losing our way without even realizing it. Forgive us and help us to know that you are the Way, the Truth, and the Life. *Silent Prayer of Confession...*

**Assurance of Forgiveness** Psalm 103:8-10

L: The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**P: The LORD will not always accuse or stay angry.**

L: God does not deal with us according to our sins,

**P: God does not repay us according to our iniquities.**

L: Grace Church, believe the good news:

**P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

**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.

**Children's Message** Cathy Vitari

**Anthem:** I Am His and He Is Mine Women's Choir  
Loved with everlasting love, led by grace that love to know; Spirit, breathing from above, Thou has taught me it is so! Oh, this full and perfect peace! Oh, this transport all divine! In a love which cannot cease, I am His and He is mine.

His forever, only His; who the Lord and me shall part? Ah, with what a rest of bliss Christ can fill the loving heart! Heaven and earth may fade and flee, first-born light in gloom decline; but while God and I shall be, I am His and He is mine.

<b>Scripture</b>	John 14:1-14 (page 938)	
<b>Sermon</b>	Following the Way Home	
<b>* Hymn of Response</b>	Softly and Tenderly	#479
<b>*Affirmation of Faith</b>	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.	
<b>Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer (debts, debtors)</b>		
<b>Call for Tithes and Offerings</b>		
<b>Offertory</b>	Brother James' Air	Martin
<b>* Doxology</b>	Praise and Honor	Regent Square
	Praise and honor to the Father, Praise and honor to the Son, Praise and honor to the Spirit, Ever Three and ever One; One in might and one in glory while eternal ages run.	
<b>* Prayer of Dedication</b>		
<b>* Hymn of Dedication</b>	To God Be the Glory	#56
<b>* Charge and Benediction</b>		
<b>* Congregational Response</b>	To God Be the Glory (refrain)	#56
	Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear His voice! Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the people rejoice! O come to the Father thro' Jesus, the Son, And give Him the glory – great things He hath done!	
<b>* Postlude</b>	Prelude in G	Bach

The Prayer of Confession is adapted and preprinted by permission *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. Cindy Irvin will be your greeter today. Please join us for Coffee Fellowship after worship today. The Fellowship Committee will be your hosts.

### Announcing Staff Appreciation Day

The staff at Grace Church works hard to give us the very best spiritual life. Most of us never get to see how much they do for us. The music doesn't get selected and rehearsed, the phones answered, Bulletins and CrossCurrents printed, the youth activities set up, the building cleaned, and tables set up for our dinners without the day to day work behind the scenes.

The Staff Appreciation Social is our chance to recognize the work and thank the servants of God who are also our staff. To each of them, their job is much more than a job, it is a mission. None of them has received a raise over the past years. Bill Ludwig has taken a substantial pay cut this year. Our gratitude is a major part of their salaries.

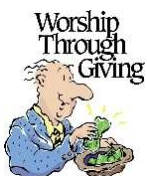
As a part of this celebration/recognition, we are asking the congregation to write notes of thanks to our employees. Starting Sunday, March 12, there will be a basket in the narthex to deposit these thank-you notes. It will be there through Sunday, March 26. Also, if you feel inclined to include a gift with your note, we are sure it will be greatly appreciated.

Mark your calendar for the Grace Church Fellowship and Nurture Committee Staff Appreciation Social in Canna Hall. This will be held immediately after the regular Sunday worship service on Sunday March 26. This social is in place of Coffee Fellowship.

For over 70 years, **One Great Hour of Sharing** has provided Presbyterians a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing – Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People – all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance and hope. Today, Grace Church will begin the 2023 campaign. You may donate to One Great Hour of Sharing through the envelope in your offering envelope box, the envelope in the pew, or if you would like to take home a fish bank, they are located on the table in the Narthex. Please return your fish bank on Palm Sunday (April 2). Thank you!



Help fill shoeboxes all year long! The **Operation Christmas Child** item for the month of March is **Soap & Washcloths/Toothbrushes**. Donations may be placed in the OCC box in the Narthex. Thank you!



### From your Stewardship & Finance Committee

February Year-to-Date Giving:	\$30,245
February Year-to-Date Spending:	\$38,284
Current Deficit:	\$(8,039)

**We encourage you to continue (or increase) your giving to God to support the ministry of Grace Church. Thank You.**

**TODAY'S MUSIC:** As a boy Raymond Haan dreamed of becoming a pianist and being involved in music. Despite his earliest teacher telling him that he would never make it as a musician, he never gave up his dream. He has over 500 published works though he never took a college music course. "I realized there was no way to support myself as a musician in a Christian Reformed Church, and at that time leaving my church was not an option." Instead he became a teacher and wrote music in his spare time – while also playing the organ, directing several choirs (more than 50 years for Cutlerville East CRC in Grand Rapids) and being a father to four children. This humble servant of Christ will tell you, "It's all the Lord's work. The Lord gave me this small talent, and he's multiplied it by some inscrutable power of his own. I'll take responsibility for the flaws, but the successes are the Lord's, no question." **Organ Hymn** (today's prelude) is his reflection on the text "For God alone my soul in silence waits" (Psalm 62:1), a meditation on our reliance in God for our salvation.

*"For I am convinced that neither death nor life,...nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38-39). "I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine..." (Song of Solomon 6:3)* Irishman George Wade Robinson (born in Cork in 1838) possibly had these verses in mind when he wrote "**I Am His, and He Is Mine.**" He entered the Congregational Ministry, and was co-pastor at York Street Chapel, Dublin, and later served in several other Congregational churches during his life. This hymn expresses the assurance and peace that come to believers who understand that we rest securely in God's hands. It first appeared in James Mountain's collection, *Hymns of Consecration and Faith*. Mountain was an Anglican minister and composer who was greatly influenced by the Moody-Sankey evangelistic campaigns in England.

**This Week's Calendar  
March 12 -18**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Sunday School (all ages)</b>	<b>9:00am</b>
	<b>Fellowship &amp; Nurture Meeting</b>	<b>9:00am</b>
	<b>Worship</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
	<b>Youth Group</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Mission Meeting</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Bible Study</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>
	<b>Garden Club</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Cub Scouts Den Meeting</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>
	<b>Worship Meeting</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>
	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Ladies Club</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>ST. PATRICK'S DAY</b>	

**Looking Ahead  
March 19 - 25**

<b>March 19</b>	<b>Sunday School (all ages)</b>	<b>9:00am</b>
	<b>Worship</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
	<b>Deacons Meeting</b>	<b>11:00am</b>
	<b>Youth Group</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>

**DEADLINE FOR ORDERING MEMORIAL FLOWERS**

<b>March 20</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> DAY OF SPRING</b>	
<b>March 21</b>	<b>Bible Study</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>
<b>March 22</b>	<b>Cub Scouts Den Meeting</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>
	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>
<b>March 23</b>	<b>Men's Club</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>

**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

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 (moderator)  
Terri Ludwig  
Lavonne Pelisari  
Debbie Roskey  
Mary Ann Walter  
Lou Walter  
Shirley Wilson