

Grace Community Presbyterian Church
March 13, 2022

APOSTLES' CREED

I Believe in Jesus Christ

HIS ONLY SON,
OUR LORD

Thought for Meditation:

The "Lord of lords" rules not in the manner of other lords, as an authoritarian despot, but in a freely serving love... The true Lord is the serving man from Nazareth. The way he chose, and the way he directs us to take, involves not the love of power but the power of love. Christians and the church itself can convincingly bear witness to and act in the name of Christ's lordship only by ethically and politically conforming to *this* way.

Jan Milič Lochman

Prelude O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus Westenkuehler

Welcome and Announcements Doug Marshall

Call To Worship Psalm 2:4-7 Linda Johnson

L: The LORD in heaven laughs at the rulers of this world.

P: The LORD in heaven terrifies the rulers of the nations.

L: The LORD says, "I have set my king on Zion."

P: The LORD says to our Lord Jesus, "You are my son."

L: Let us worship the Lord of heaven and earth.

P: Crown Him with Many Crowns!

* **Hymn of Praise** Crown Him with Many Crowns #45

Prayer of Confession

God of mercy, you sent Jesus to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth.

Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to the paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior. *Silent Prayer of Confession...*

Assurance of Forgiveness Psalm 118:1-2

L: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

P: His steadfast love endures forever.

L: Let all God's people say,

P: His steadfast love endures forever!

L: Grace Church, believe the good news;

P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

ALL: God's steadfast love endures forever!

* 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.

Special Music	Restoration (Sorenson)	Chancel Choir
Children's Message		Michael Cochenour
Scripture	John 20: 24-29; (pg 945) Romans 10:9-13 (pg 985)	
Sermon	I Believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord	
*Affirmation of Faith	Apostles' Creed I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; I 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 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.	
* Hymn of Response	I Cannot Tell	#354
Prayers of the People		
Call for Tithes and Offerings		
Offertory	O Love that Will Not Let Me Go	DeCou
* Doxology	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.	#815
* Prayer of Dedication		
* Hymn of Dedication	Jesus Is Lord of All	#59
* Charge and Benediction		
* Congregational Response	Jesus Is Lord of All (Refrain) King of kings, Lord of lords, Jesus is Lord of all; All my possessions and all my life, Jesus is Lord of all.	#599
* Postlude	Reflection on "Duke Street"	Cherwien

Congregational Meeting After Worship Today, March 13.

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***PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE**

Welcome to Grace Community Presbyterian Church this morning. There will be Coffee Fellowship in Cana Hall after the congregational meeting today. Your hosts will be Margie Bistline and Cindy Irvin.

Congregational Meeting

Session has called a special meeting of the congregation after worship today, March 13. The purpose of this meeting is to consider the idea of changing the by-laws of the congregation to reduce the number of elders on session, from the current fifteen (15) down to twelve (12). This would be done by electing four elders each year, which means that for next year Grace Church would have 14 members on session. The next year there would be 13 elders on session. The following year GCPC would be down to 12 elders on session.

Adult Sunday School: "I know in my head that Jesus died for my sins, but I just don't feel forgiven." "After what I've done, how could God ever forgive me?" "How does Jesus dying 2000 years ago make any difference in my life today?" If these are questions that you have ever asked, or tried to answer for someone else, but couldn't, then you are invited to join the Adult Sunday school class as Doug Marshall leads a discussion of the atonement. **Join us Sunday, March 20th at 9:00am in the library.**

Nomination Time: See insert to nominate church officers.

Easter Memorial Flowers: See insert form to place your flowers. Orders must be placed by Sunday, April 3rd.

TODAY'S MUSIC: "Restoration" by Heather Sorenson has its roots in an ancient Kievan chant of the Russian Orthodox Church. This chant was used as the basis for a communion anthem by Russian composer Pavel Tchesnokov in 1912. It was one of the last sacred works Tchesnokov composed before he was forced by the soviet government to write only secular music. He never had the opportunity to hear it performed. Nevertheless it was published outside of the Soviet Union in 1913, and its popularity led the publisher to produce several different versions in both Russian and English. Tchesnokov based his text on Ps 74:12 - "But God is my King from long ago; he brings salvation on the earth." Heather Sorenson incorporates the power of his music with the impact of a new text. Contemplative in nature, the cry for forgiveness and mercy rises like a prayer from the grand textures of the choral sonority.

Today's postlude is an arrangement by David Cherwien of the hymn tune "**Duke Street.**" That name probably doesn't ring a bell with many of us, but upon hearing the tune we would most likely think of the hymn "Jesus Shall Reign." Cherwien, however, chose Isaac Watts' hymn "**Give to Our God Immortal Praise**" as the subject of his organ reflection.

As a teenager Watts complained to his father (and pastor of the church) about the dull hymns. The "indifference, the negligent and thoughtless" looks on the faces of the congregation while singing would make anyone wonder whether they really believed what they were singing. His father, tired of hearing his complaining, told him to write something better – if he could. So he did! Over 600 hymns during his lifetime, and after 350 years many of them are still sung weekly by churches around the world.

His most published book was his *Psalms of David*, first published in 1719. Watts wrote "Give to Our God Immortal Praise," based on Psalm 136, for this collection. In his poetic paraphrases of the psalms, Watts adapted the psalms for use by the Church and made David speak "the language of a Christian." Watts explained his method,

. . . Where the Psalmist describes religion by the fear of God, I have often joined faith and love to it. Where he speaks of the pardon of sin through the mercies of God, I have added the merits of a Savior. Where he talks of sacrificing goats or bullocks, I rather choose to mention the sacrifice of Christ, the lamb of God . . . Where he promises abundance of wealth, honor, and long life, I have changed some of these typical blessings for grace, glory, and life eternal, which are brought to light by the Gospel, and promised in the New Testament.

This Week's Calendar

March 13	Reach Out Meeting	9:00am
	Sunday School (all ages)	9:00am
	Congregational Meeting	11:00am
	Youth Group (Jr & High School age)	6:00pm
March 14	Mission Meeting	6:30pm
March 15	Bible Study	1:00pm
March 16	CS Den Meeting	6:00pm
	Choir	7:00pm
March 17	CS Den Meeting	6:00pm
	Ladies Club	6:30pm

Looking Ahead

March 20	Sunday School (all ages)	9:00am
	Youth Group (Jr & High School age)	6:00pm
March 22	Bible Study	1:00pm
March 23	CS Den Meeting	6:00pm
	Choir	7:00pm
March 24	CS Den 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 (interim)
Organist: Kenneth McGeary
Treasurer: Ray Zerjav
Custodian: John Baron and Paul Zunich

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

EASTER MEMORIAL FLOWERS

Please check the flower(s) you would like, write in the dedication, and sign your name to the order. You can pay by cash or check. Your check should be made out to Grace Community Presbyterian Church and marked "EASTER FLOWERS". Please place your order in the envelopes that will be on the secretary's desk, and deposit in the specially marked basket in the office.

**DEADLINE FOR ORDERING FLOWERS IS
SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2022**

Daffodils	6" pot	<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow	\$7.00
Easter Lilies	4 to 6 flowers	<input type="checkbox"/> White	\$8.00
Florist Pot Mums	6-1/2" pot	<input type="checkbox"/> Assorted colors	\$7.50
Hyacinths	6" pot	<input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Blue <input type="checkbox"/> Pink	\$7.00
Hydrangea	8" pot	<input type="checkbox"/> Pink <input type="checkbox"/> Blue	\$12.95
Tulips	6" pot	<input type="checkbox"/> Red <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow <input type="checkbox"/> Pink	\$7.00

Dedication

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Your Name _____

NOMINATIONS FOR CHURCH OFFICERS

The strength and vitality of a Presbyterian church is greatly dependent on the dedication of its lay leadership. The elders serve on Session, the ruling body of our church and chair or serve on the committees of the church. The primary service of the Deacons is to keep in contact with our shut-ins and hospitalized members. You are encouraged to suggest names for the office of Elder and/or Deacons. These are the names of those currently serving:

Elders

<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
Dave Briscoe	Cathy Cristoforetti	Cathy Brady
Arch Carroll	Dave Highland	Dan Howard
Michael Cochenour	Lew McNay	John Irvin
Martha Gumbert	Stephanie Tutka	Henry Kedzierski
Glenn Nordmark	Cathy Vitari	Val Lester

Deacons

<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
Gary Barbiaux	Darlene Artman	Judy Barbiaux
Kitty Berkley	Rich Artman	Margie Bistline
Linda Johnson	Jackie Chickerella	Beulah Brown
Connie Markle	Lou Walter	Cindy Irvin
Judy Sulitz	Mary Ann Walter	Terri Ludwig

I suggest for Elder _____

I suggest for Deacon _____

If you prefer, you can contact anyone on the Nominating Committee: Reitha Bieranoski, Kathy Brady, Michael Cochenour, and Cheryl Landis.

The officers for the class of 2025 will be elected at the May Congregational meeting.