

Grace Community Presbyterian Church
March 20, 2022

APOSTLES' CREED

I Believe in Jesus Christ...

Conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of
the
Virgin Mary

Thought for Meditation:

Now, the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 1:18*

Prelude	More Love to Thee	Hamlin
Welcome and Announcements		Doug Marshall
Moment for Mission	Ukraine Support	Glenn Nordmark
Call To Worship	Psalm 35:27-28	Terri Wilson
L: May those who delight in God's righteousness shout for joy and gladness.		
P: Great is the Lord, who delights in the well-being of His people.		
L: My tongue will speak of God's righteousness,		
P: Our tongues will praise God all day long.		
L: Let us join our voices to sing of our great Redeemer's praise!		
* Hymn of Praise	O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing	#21

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that we have grown complacent in our response to you. You set before us a rich feast of blessing, but we are drawn to lesser things that cannot satisfy. You call us to attend to urgent needs of the world, but we indulge our own desires. Our ways are not your ways; our thoughts do not ascend to your thoughts. Forgive us when we fall short of your claim upon our lives. Disturb our complacency and quicken our desire for a more faithful life. Be patient, we pray, as we amend who we are, in the hope of becoming who you intend us to be. We ask this in the name of our Savior, your Son, Jesus Christ... *Silent Prayer of Confession*

Assurance of Forgiveness Psalm 51:7, 9

L: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
P: Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
L: Fill me with your joy and gladness.
P: Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.
L: Believe the Good News;
P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!
ALL: Thanks be to God for this great gift!

* 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
<p>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.</p>		
Special Music	Lead Me, Lord (Wesley)	Chancel Choir
Scripture	Luke 1:26-35 (Page 887) Philippians 2:12-13 (Page 1023)	
Sermon	Conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary	
*Affirmation of Faith	The Apostles' Creed	
<p>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.</p>		
* Hymn of Response	What a Friend We Have in Jesus	#630
Prayers of the People		
Call for Tithes and Offerings		
Offertory	Chant in Dorian Mode	Peeters
* Doxology		#815
<p>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.</p>		
* Prayer of Dedication		
* Hymn of Dedication	Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us	#688
* Charge and Benediction		
* Congregational Response	Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us	#688
<p>Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Though hast loved us, love us still Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Though hast loved us, love us still</p>		
* Postlude	Toccata on "Christ We Do All Adore Thee"	Young

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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 host will be Stephanie Tutka.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: Some of our favorite hymns are about the cross: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross," "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded," "Were You There?" "Beneath the Cross of Jesus," "The Old Rugged Cross." However, what difference did Jesus' death on the cross really make? Does Jesus' cross impact our lives? Join the Adult Sunday school class as Doug Marshall leads a discussion about the atonement – Jesus death on the cross. **Sunday mornings at 9:00am in the library, March 20, March 27, April 3 and April 10.**

GRACE CHURCH FOCUS GROUPS: Part of the Interim Process is getting feedback and comments from the members of the congregation. The Grace Profile Team has scheduled a number of small group gatherings for you to share your ideas and dreams for the future of Grace Community Presbyterian Church. We have scheduled a variety of times for the groups, so that as many people as possible can participate. These gatherings should take between 60 and 90 (max) minutes. Please sign up (in the Narthex) for one of the following Focus Groups:

- Sunday, March 20 @ 11:15ish (after worship), in Cana Lounge
- Tuesday, March 29 @ 6:30, in the library
- Thursday, March 31 @ 2:00 PM, in the library
- Sunday, April 3 @ 11:15ish (after worship), in Cana Lounge
- Tuesday, April 12 @ 6:30 PM, in the library
- Wednesday, April 13 @ 2:00 PM, in the library

DISASTER RELIEF FOR UKRAINE: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is collecting funds to support sibling churches and partners who are already providing basic items for survival to displaced people from Ukraine. Grace Church will take a special collection from now until Sunday, April 10th to send to PDA to support Ukraine. If donating by check, please indicate 'Ukraine' on the memo line; if donating with cash, please place in an offering envelope and write 'Ukraine' on the outside. Thank you!

TODAY'S MUSIC: Elizabeth Prentiss was a contented homemaker with a keen sense of humor, a gift for writing, and a peaceful life. Then a dark shadow descended upon her and her husband. Within a short space of time, two of their three children died. Elizabeth wrote in her diary of her “empty hands, worn-out, exhausted body, and unutterable longings to flee from a world that has so many sharp experiences.”

Yet it was during that time that this grieving mother wrote a poem entitled “**More Love to Thee**” (#634 in our hymnal). She did not think much of it. She did not even show it to her husband for some thirteen years. Then in 1869, it was printed and set to music. It has become a much-sung hymn, translated into many languages.

Unfortunately, a number of hymn book editors (ours included) have omitted her third stanza. It is startling in its boldness and depth of insight. With the Apostle Paul, Elizabeth Prentiss had come to understand that the Lord can do a great work in us through suffering (II Cor. 12:7-10). If faith can accept that God knows best, and a love for Christ can well up to fill the void, then tragic loss can be seen in a more positive light. As Prentiss’s astonishing prayer in the third stanza puts it,

*Let sorrow do its work, come grief or pain;
Sweet are Thy messengers, sweet their refrain,
When they can sing with me: More love, O Christ, to Thee;
More love to Thee, more love to Thee!*

Flor Peeters (composer of today’s offertory) was a renowned organist and composer from twentieth century Belgium, and a respected researcher of Renaissance Flemish music and Gregorian chant. He was in much demand as a teacher and gave master classes in addition to concerts throughout the world, including several teaching visits to Boys’ Town, Nebraska. He wrote primarily organ music and sacred choral works, using various styles and often incorporating elements of chant or Renaissance Flemish music within his music.

During World War II, Peeters’ character shone brightly in a way beyond music. When Germany attacked and occupied Belgium and the Netherlands in 1940, Peeters refused to perform for the German occupiers. As a result, his passport was confiscated. Nevertheless, he was permitted to travel regularly across the border between Belgium and the Netherlands in order to continue his teaching at Tilburg, Holland, and, in the course of doing this, he carried secret messages between the authorities of the cathedrals of these two countries.

This Week's Calendar

March 20 - 26

Sunday	Adult Sunday School	9:00am
	Sunday School (all ages)	9:00am
	Deacon's Meeting	9:00am
	Youth Group (Jr & High School age)	6:00pm
Tuesday	Bible Study	1:00pm
Wednesday	CS Den Meeting	6:00pm
	Choir	7:00pm
Thursday	CS Den Meeting	6:00pm

Looking Ahead

March 27	Adult Sunday School	9:00am
	Sunday School (all ages)	9:00am
	Youth Group (Jr & High School age)	6:00pm
	Session & Deacon's Meeting	11:00am
March 28	Session Meeting	7:00pm
March 29	Bible Study	1:00pm
March 30	CS Den Meeting	6:00pm
	Choir	7:00pm

CrossCurrents will be mailed out. If you have anything you would like to submit, please send an email to the office by Friday, March 25. secretary@gracecommunitypresbyterian.org

March 31	CS Den Meeting	6:00pm
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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

2022

Dave Briscoe
Arch Carroll
Michael Cochenour
Martha Gumbert
Glenn Nordmark

2023

Cathy Cristoforetti
Dave Highland
Lew McNay
Stephanie Tutka
Cathy Vitari

2024

Cathy Brady
Dan Howard
John Irvin
Henry Kedzierski
Val Lester

Deacons

2022

Gary Barbiaux
Kitty Berkley
Linda Johnson
Connie Markle
Judy Sulitz

2023

Darlene Artman
Rich Artman
Jackie Chickerella
Lou Walter
Mary Ann Walter

2024

Judy Barbiaux
Margie Bistline
Beulah Brown
Cindy Irvin
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.