

Grace Community Presbyterian Church
April 23, 2023



Welcome and Announcements**Call To Worship**

Psalm 3

L: I will praise the Lord at all times,

P: My soul makes its boast in the Lord!

L: O magnify the Lord with me,

P: And let us praise God's name together!*** Hymn of Praise**

Crown Him with Many Crowns

#45

Prayer of Confession

Remind us daily, O God of our Risen Lord Jesus the Christ, that we are now people of the resurrection, for we are likely to again seek the comfort of usual routines and familiar ways of living.

Forgive our slowness to see that the life which has broken the bonds of death means to renew the life of all creation, proving sin the loser, putting liars to shame, pointing to the righteous way through a crooked world.

Lord have mercy upon us; by your saving grace bring us to fullness of life in Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior; AMEN.

Assurance of Forgiveness

2 Corinthians 1:19-20

L: Jesus Christ is not "Yes and No,"

P: But in Him it is always "Yes;"

L: In Him every one of God's promises is a "Yes,"

ALL: So we can boldly say, "Yes, in Christ we are forgiven!"*** 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.

Anthem*Thine is the Glory* (Hughes)

Chancel choir

Now, now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept.

Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory.

Thine is the glory, Risen, conquering Son; Endless is the victory Thou o'er death has won! Angels in bright raiment Rolled the stone away, Kept the folded grave-clothes Where Thy body lay. Thine is the glory, Risen, conquering Son; Endless is the victory

Lo, Jesus meets us, Risen from the tomb! Lovingly He greets us, Scatters fear and gloom; Let His church with gladness, Hymns of triumph sing For the Lord now liveth; Death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glory, Risen, conquering Son; Endless is the victory.

Old Testament Scripture Psalm 116: 1-4 (page 530)

New Testament Scripture Luke 24:13-27 (page 920)

Sermon God of the In-Betweens

***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 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

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

*** Hymn of Response** Jesus Shall Reign #375

Call for Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* Schlosser

*** Doxology** #166

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*** Prayer of Dedication**

*** Hymn of Dedication** Rejoice, the Lord is King #370

*** Charge and Benediction**

*** Congregational Response** Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks (refrain) #359

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord;

Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to His name.

*** Postlude** *Festival Postlude on "Llanfair"* Travis

We welcome **Rev. Paul Milz** to the pulpit this morning. Rev. Milz retired in 2014 after 32 years of ministry. A native of New Kensington, he now volunteers as a court appointed Special Advocate for children in the custody of the Westmoreland County Children's Bureau.

***PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE**

Welcome to Grace Community Presbyterian Church

We are delighted that you have chosen to join us for worship. Terry Ludwig will be your greeter today. Please join us for Coffee Fellowship after worship today.



Help fill shoeboxes all year long! The **Operation Christmas Child** item for the month of April is **Stuffed Animals (after Easter deals are at Dollar General)**. Donations may be placed in the OCC box in the Narthex. Thank you!

In a fund-raising effort, the deacons are hosting a bake sale in conjunction with Christian Ed's rummage sale, Saturday, April 29, 2023. To make this sale a success we need the support of the congregation by way of donating baked goods. We ask that the baked goods be placed on or in disposable containers such as paper plates, or aluminum pans. Fudge, cookies or brownies may fit into small plastic sandwich bags. Deacons will be at the church Friday, April 28 from 3pm – 6pm to receive baked goods as well as Saturday morning April 29 at 7:00am. If you have any questions, you may ask any deacon listed on the back of the bulletin. The sign-up sheet for your contribution is on the bulletin board outside the office.



While Doug Marshall, Interim Pastor, is on his pilgrimage (4/17-30) here are pastors who can do pastoral care for an emergency (death, hospital). Pete Goetschius: Pastor @ Poke Run PC – 724-327-5563 (office), 724-454-2278 (cell). Skip Noftzer (if Pete isn't available): Executive Presbyter, 724-837-6737 (office)

Financial Secretary Needed The church needs a volunteer to serve in the role of Financial Secretary. The position is responsible for maintaining the member donation records, issuing the quarterly donation statements to members, and assisting the Treasurer in counting the Sunday offering as needed. The individual also serves as a back-up to the church Treasurer. Please contact John Napierski, Finance Committee Chair, or the church office if interested.

From Your Stewardship & Finance Committee:

March Year-to- Date Giving:	\$42,333
March Year- to- Date Spending:	\$58,907
Current deficit:	\$(16,574)

TODAY'S MUSIC: The Schübler Chorales belong to a small handful of works printed and published during Bach's lifetime. In 1747, late in the composer's life, Bach assembled a new set of six chorale preludes in which five of the six (Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6) were transcribed for organ from movements selected from five previously composed cantatas. Number 2 may be from one of his lost cantatas. The set was published in 1748 by Johann Georg Schübler (ca. 1720-1755). The five known cantatas originate from the years 1724, 1725, and 1731. The first of these should be quite familiar to early morning listeners of WQED – "Sleepers Wake."

"Ach, Bleib bei uns" comes from Bach's Cantata #6, "Bleib bei uns," composed for April 2, 1725, for the 2nd Day of Easter (Easter Monday). The title and opening chorus come from the invitation of the two disciples to the 'stranger' who had joined them on the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus. "**Stay with us, for it is nearly evening.** The day will soon be over" (Luke 24.29).

The chorale prelude is an exact transcription of the third movement, a soprano aria with violoncello obbligato and a bass line. The text for this solo combines two Lutheran hymns, the first by Philipp Melanchthon (Bleib bei uns/Stay with us) and the second a hymn by Nikolaus Selnecker, a student of Melanchthon at the University of Wittenberg.

*Oh, stay with us, Lord Jesus Christ,
For it has now become evening,
Let your divine word, that bright light,
Indeed not be extinguished from us.*

*In this recent time of affliction
Grant us Lord, steadfastness,
That we keep pure your word and sacrament
Until our own ending.*

This Week's Calendar

April 23 - 29

Sunday	Sunday School (all ages)	9:00am
	Worship	10:00am
	Youth Group	6:00pm
Tuesday	Bible Study	1:00pm
Wednesday	Cub Scouts Den Meeting	6:00pm
	Choir Rehearsal	7:00pm
CrossCurrents will be mailed out. To put anything in CrossCurrents, please get it to the office by Monday morning. It can also be emailed to: secretary@gracecommunitypresbyterian.org.		
Thursday	Men's Club	6:00pm
Friday	Arbor Day	
Saturday	Rummage Sale and Bake Sale	8:00 am-12:00 pm
	OCC fundraiser pick-up	2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Looking Ahead April 30 - May 6

April 30	Sunday School (all ages)	9:00am
	Worship	10:00am
	Youth Group	6:00pm
May 1	Session Meeting	6:30pm
May 2	Bible Study	1:00pm
May 3	Choir Rehearsal	7:00pm
	Cub Scouts Den Meeting	7:00pm
May 4	Ladies Club	6:00pm

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 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