

Grace Community Presbyterian Church

May 21, 2023



Thought for Meditation

Music was the first sound heard in the creation, when the morning stars sang together... It is the universal language, which appeals to the universal heart of humankind... Its thrill pervades all nature, in the hum of the tiniest insect, in the tops of the wind-smitten pines, in the solemn diapason of the ocean. *Sigma Alpha Iota*

Prelude

Siyahamba

Behnke

Welcome

Doug Marshall

Introit: God Is Our Strong Salvation

Mozart/Hopson

God is our strong salvation; we will not be afraid. God alone is my stronghold, our Savior, our lasting song. We go with joy to the wells of mercy. We draw the water, the Spring of Life. And on that day you will say to the faithful, "Thanks be to God, call on God's holy name." God's great deeds proclaim to all the earth. Rejoice and sing! Make known to the people, "The Lord is here!"
(Isaiah 12:2-6, para. Hopson)

Call to Worship

Ephesians 5:19-20

L: Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs.

P: Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord,

L: Always give thanks to God the Father for everything,

P: In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

L: Let us join our voices to sing God's praise.

ALL: Come, Christians, Join to Sing.

*** Hymn of Praise**

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

#225

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, you gave us voices to sing your praise yet too often we are silent. You gave us hearts to love our neighbors yet too often we refuse to share your love. You gave us hands to serve your people yet too often we look for how others can serve us.

Forgive us, O God, for the sake of Jesus Christ, who died for our sins. Forgive us not because we deserve it but because apart from you we have no hope. As you forgive us, transform us so that we may live for your glory. We pray this in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ...

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

L: From the beginning to the end, the Christian life is grace upon grace.

P: The message we proclaim is all about God's grace.

L: Jesus died on the cross for our sins.

P: Let us embrace the cross as the hope of our salvation.

ALL: Alleluia! Praise the Lord!

Choral Response: Embrace the Cross

Elliott

*Embrace the cross where Jesus suffered, though it will cost all you claim as yours.
Your sacrifice will seem small beside the treasure,
Eternity can't measure what Jesus holds in store.*

*Embrace the love the cross requires, cling to the One whose heart knew ev'ry pain.
Receive from Jesus fountains of compassion,
Only He can fashion your heart to move as His.*

*O wondrous cross, our desires rest in You,
O Lord Jesus, make us bolder to face with courage,
The shame and disgrace You bore upon Your shoulder.*

*Embrace the life that comes from dying,
Come trace the steps the Savior walked for you.
An empty tomb concludes Golgotha's sorrow,
Endure then till tomorrow your cross of suffering.
Embrace the cross, the cross of Jesus. (Elliott)*

Passing 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.

Message in Music

Scripture reading: Psalm 103:1-8 (Page 521)

10,000 Reasons

Myrin & Redman

(Chorus)

Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul; worship His holy name.

Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning, it's time to sing Your song again.

Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,

Let me be singing when the evening comes. (Chorus)

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger,

Your name is great and Your heart is kind.

For all Your goodness I will keep on singing;

10,000 reasons for my heart to find. (Chorus)

And on that day when my strength is failing,

The end draws near and my time has come;

Still my soul will sing Your praise unending 10,000 years and then forever more.

(Chorus)

(Myrin & Redman, based on Psalm 103)

Scripture reading: Matthew 11:28-30 (Page 845)

Gentle Voice

L. Dengler

*Far above the noise of life, there's a voice that is gently calling.**"Leave behind your cares and strife. Come to Me, I will give you rest.**"Bring your fear and bring your pain. Bring your anger, and bring your worry."**Do you hear the voice of Jesus, gently calling, "Come unto me"?**Gentle voice, so meek and mild; gentle words of understanding.**"You are my beloved child. Come to me. I will give you rest.**"Bring your fear and bring your pain.**Bring your heartaches and bring your sorrow."**Do you hear the voice of Jesus, gently calling, "Come unto me"?**Gentle voice, so full of love. Gentle words so rich in mercy.**"You are my beloved child. Come to me. I will give you rest."*

S. Dengler

Scripture reading:

Psalm 147:1-7 (Page 545)

With Every Breath

Medema

*With every breath I take, O God, I will praise you.**With every word I speak, new hope I will sing.**When I lie down at night or when I greet the morning light,**Love of my heart, praises to you gladly I'll bring.**When I am weak, when I am strong, view the bright day, all the night long.**When there is hope, when hope is gone, with every breath I will sing on. (Medema)***Scripture reading:**

Psalm 51:1-2, 10-12 (Page 492)

Restoration

Chesnokov/Sorenson

*Forgive our sin, O Lord. Heal us and restore us, we pray.**Take our iniquities. Cleanse us from every evil. Restore the joy of Your salvation.**Heal all our brokenness. Mend the places marred by our sin.**Cover our stains with grace. Loosen the chains that bind us.**Redeem our weakness for Your glory.**Teach us to follow You. Give us the strength to walk in Your truth.**Lead us in pastures green. Give us the victory, Lord, for Your name!**Rebuild the shattered walls.**Gather Your children back to Your love; and by Your power we will conquer all!**Forgive our sin, O Lord. Heal us and restore us, we pray. Kyrie, Amen. (Sorenson)**** 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 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.*

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer (debts, debtors)

Offertory	Your Word, O Lord, Is Gentle Dew	Cherwien
* Doxology		
* Prayer of Dedication		
* Closing Hymn	I Will Sing of My Redeemer	#309
* Benediction		
* Benediction Response	I Will Sing of My Redeemer (Refrain) Sing, O sing of my Redeemer, With His blood He purchased me. On the cross He sealed my pardon, Paid the debt and made me free.	#309
* Postlude	Interpretation on "Duke Street"	Cherwien

Congregation Meeting

*PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

Welcome to Grace Community Presbyterian Church

We are delighted that you have chosen to join us for worship. Please join us for Coffee Fellowship in Cana Hall after the congregational meeting today. Dan and Teresa Howard will be your hosts.



Help fill shoeboxes all year long! The **Operation Christmas Child** items for the month of May is **Arts & Craft Supplies (colored pencils, crayons, watercolors, drawing paper, and sidewalk chalk)**. Donations may be placed in the OCC box in the Narthex. Thank you!

Celebrating High School & College Graduates

Anyone in your family graduating from high school or college this year? If so let us know.



➤ High School Graduates: name of high school & plans after graduation, including college (if that is the plan).

➤ College: name of college & major, along with future plans.

Please provide your information by calling 724-339-9661 or email secretary@gracecommunitypresbyterian.org.

Today Congregational Meeting @ 11:15AM

The purpose of the meeting is two-fold:

- To elect the following people:
 - ✓ Elders for the class of 2026: Paul Berggren, Michael Cochenour, Glenn Nordmark, Jack Trinclisti
 - ✓ Deacons for the class of 2026: Lisa Edwards, Marcia Sackett, Rich Sackett, Dee Shaffer
 - ✓ Congregational Nominating Committee Members: Linda Johnson, Cathy Vitari
- To change the By-laws of Grace Community Presbyterian Church.



May 3 Luke Ludwig

May 28 Marge Sheba



May 3 Jack & Shirley Trinclisti

May 24 Marcia & Rich Sackett

From Your Stewardship & Finance Committee

April year-to-date total giving: \$65,943

April year-to-date total spending: \$80,092

Deficit = \$(14,149)

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

**This Week's Calendar
May 21 - 27**

Sunday	Sunday School (all ages)	9:00am
	Deacons Meeting	9:15am
	Worship	10:00am
	Congregation Meeting	11:00ish
	Youth Group	6:00pm
Monday	Session Meeting	6:30pm
Tuesday	Bible Study	1:00pm
	Redstone Meeting	6:00pm
Wednesday	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.	
Saturday	Berggren/McCrea Wedding	2:30pm

**Looking Ahead
May 28 -June 3**

May 28	Sunday School (all ages)	9:00am
	Worship	10:00am
	Youth Group	6:00pm
May 29	Memorial Day - Office Closed	
May 30	Bible Study	1:00pm
June 1	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
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