

Grace Community Presbyterian Church
July 17, 2022



Thought for Meditation:

Faith is a way of waiting – never quite knowing, never quite hearing or seeing, because in the darkness we are all but a little lost. There is doubt hard on the heels of every belief, fear hard on the heels of every hope... But faith waits even so, delivered at least from that final despair which gives up waiting altogether because it sees nothing left worth waiting for. *Frederick Buechner*

Prelude	Classical Prelude	Rebecca James
Welcome and Announceme		Doug Marshall
Call To Worship	Psalm 42:1-2, 5, 8	Henry Kedzierski
L: As the deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.		
P: My soul thirst for God, for the living God.		
L: Hope in God; for I shall again praise him.		
P: O God, you are my help and my God.		
L: By day the LORD commands his steadfast love,		
P: At night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.		
L: As deer, longing for water, let us worship the Lord our God!		

* **Hymn of Praise** As The Deer #548

Prayer of Confession

O gracious and gentle God, God of peace, Father of mercy, God of all comfort: we confess before you the evil of our hearts. We acknowledge that we are too inclined toward anger, jealousy, and revenge, to ambition and pride, which often give rise to discord and bitter feelings between others and us. Too often we have offended and grieved you, O long-suffering Father. Forgive us our sin and allow us to partake of the blessing you have promised to the peacemakers, who shall be called the children of God. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Silent Prayer of Confession...*

Assurance of Forgiveness Romans 8:1-3

L: Grace Church, hear the good news!

P: There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

L: The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set us free from the law of sin and death.

P: God sent his son, Jesus Christ, to deal with sin.

L: Brothers and sisters, live in the promise of God:

P: Through Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

ALL: Praise the Lord!

* **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.

Celebration of Ministry	Alice Atkinson	Terri Wilson
Solo	How Deep the Father's Love For Us	Aubrie Newcomb
Scripture	Mark 5:21-43 (page 871)	
Sermon	Journey Into Waiting	
* Hymn of Response	My Faith Looks Up To Thee	#539
*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 Spirit, 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 Spirit, 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		
Call for Tithes and Offerings		
Offertory	I Surrender All	Winfield Weeden & Judson Van de Venter (Arr. Lenny Seidel)
* Doxology		#815
	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.	
* Prayer of Dedication		
* Hymn of Dedication	The Solid Rock (v1-3)	#526
* Charge and Benediction		
* Congregational Response	The Solid Rock (v4)	#526
	When He shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in Him be found; Dressed in His righteousness alone, Faultless to stand before the throne. On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is singing sand, All other ground is sinking sand.	
* Postlude	The Heavens Declare the Glory	William Barnett

The Prayer of Confession is adapted and reprinted by permission from *The Worship Sourcebook, Second Edition*, © 2013, Faith Alive Christian Resources.

***PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE**

Welcome to Grace Community Presbyterian Church this morning. Lee and Linda Johnson are your greeters today. Please join us for Alice Atkinson's reception in Cana Hall after worship today.

New Member Class: July 24 @ 11:30 – 2:00 PM

If you are interested in becoming a member of Grace Church, you are invited to join Pastor Doug as he looks at what it means to be a Christian, at what the Presbyterian Church is all about, and what it means to be a member of the church. Lunch will be provided. If you are interested, please contact the church office or put your name on the sign-up sheet in the narthex. If you will need childcare, please let us know.

TODAY'S MUSIC: I Surrender All (today's Offertory): Michigan-born Judson Van de Venter wrote the text of this late 19th century hymn during "the pivotal hour" of his life. Following a lengthy struggle, he decided to give up a promising art career and become a full-time evangelist. His crusade associate, singer, song-leader and composer Winfield Weeden who composed this tune, was so impressed with Van de Venter's hymn that he had the title inscribed on his tombstone. Lenny Seidel, the arranger, demonstrates contrast between the "pensive" opening, "growing intensity," and quiet close, following the emotional route of the hymn's creators.

All to Jesus I surrender,
All to Him I freely give.
I will ever love and trust Him,
In His presence daily live.

Chorus: I surrender all, I surrender all.
All to Thee my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.

All to Jesus I surrender,
Make me, Savior, wholly Thine.
Let me feel Thy Holy Spirit,
Truly knowing that Thou art mine.

All to Jesus I surrender,
Now I feel the sacred flame.
Oh the joy of full salvation,
Glory, glory to his name.

Stuart Townend (b. 1963) is an English Christian worship leader and writer of hymns and contemporary worship music. "**How Deep the Father's Love for Us**" is, as he puts it, his "first hymn-like" song. One of the things he most likes about this song is that it appeals to Christians in both contemporary and traditional churches. He strives to write music and words that are not confined to just one "pocket" of the church.

As he explains the story behind the hymn, the melody came first, easily and spontaneously. As he listened and replayed the melody over a period of time, he started wondering what words might fit this tune. Why not just tell the story of Christ on the cross, but this time from the perspective of the Father, what it cost the Father?

*How deep the Father's love for us, How vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only Son To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss -The Father turns His face away,
As wounds which mar the Chosen One Bring many sons to glory.*

He continues the story from a personal perspective, while keeping the focus on Christ:

*Behold the man upon a cross, My sin upon His shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there Until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life - I know that it is finished.*

*I will not boast in anything, No gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer;
But this I know with all my heart - His wounds have paid my ransom.*

Townend's effort makes us identify with what Peter and Paul must have felt, as well as the emotions of others who witnessed Jesus' torture. "I'm Peter, thrice denying Jesus when I sing this. I'm Paul, whose guilty conscience won't let me forget the smirk I wore while watching Stephen get stoned. I'm in the crowd shrieking 'Crucify him!', and I feel the sting of Peter's message in Acts 2:37. I am also Jesus, feeling abandoned, desolate, at my flogging and at Golgotha."

How deep is God's love? Answer: How deep my sin is. It's too easy for us to trivialize our sin, to marginalize its gravity. Next to God's holiness, we're vile and rotting with sin. Our ancestors in Jerusalem were so ridden with and blinded by this sin, they killed the Healer. Sin doesn't get any lower than it was on 'Good' Friday. Unless, we know all this and still ignore Him. How deep is God's love? He's already answered...how do you and I respond?

**This Week's Calendar
July 17 - July 23**

Sunday	Deacons Meeting	9:00am
	Worship	10:00am
	Honoring Alice Atkinson	
Tuesday	Bible Study	1:00pm
Thursday	Ladies Club	6:30pm

**Looking Ahead
July 24 - July 33**

July 24	Adult Sunday School	9:00am
	Worship	10:00am
	New Membership Class	11:30am
July 26	Bible Study	1:00pm
July 28	Men's Club	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

Guest Pianist / Organist: Tanya Marshall

Ken McGeary is on vacation this week and we welcome Tanya Marshall as our guest pianist/organist. Tanya is the wife of interim pastor Doug Marshall. She works as a social worker at Arsenal Family and Children's Center in Pittsburgh. She is the Coordinator of Supervised Visitation and Parenting Programs there. Tanya has played the piano most of her life, having been taught by her mother, who was a music teacher and church organist. Tanya enjoys playing the piano for fun, and also enjoys dabbling in the organ occasionally.