

Grace Community Presbyterian Church
August 7, 2022



Matthew 16:13-20

WHO do men
say that I AM?

Thought for Meditation:

There are days when we proclaim you a pest, prodding us to reach out to others. There are days when we say you are a fool, imagining we might take up crosses to follow you. So this day, let us start over and simply say you are our Hope, our Peace, our Comfort, our Guide, our Joy, our God in Community, Holy in One, whom we praise and worship and adore. (Thom M. Shuman)

Prelude Variations on "For the Beauty of the Earth" Brandon

Welcome and Announcements Paul Milz

* Call To Worship

L: Give thanks to God with all your hearts.

P: We will hold nothing back from our God.

L: Sing full-throated praises to our God,

P: Joining in the chorus of thanksgiving for God's abiding love.

L: Glorify God's presence and that Word we know as Jesus Christ.

P: We will worship our God with wonder and joy.

* **Hymn of Praise** Let All Things Now Living #794

Prayer For Forgiveness

We confess our struggle to be transformed into disciples, God of mystery. The desires of the world would shape us into people you would not recognize, pulling us away from your heart. We value the rich, powerful, and successful, but you are on the side of the weak, the poor, the outcast, and the oppressed.

Forgive us, Merciful God, for looking for you in all the wrong places.

Reawaken us with your voice that calls us to service; that we might boldly proclaim the gospel of Jesus, and go forth to serve your people, in Christ's name. *Silent Prayer of Confession...*

Assurance of Forgiveness

L: It is so easy to think like the world, but Paul reminds us that if we think like Christ, and live for others, we will find true freedom.

P: May God transform our hearts and spirits into the likeness of Christ, and faithful disciples. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

* 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

Hebrew Scripture Reading Psalm 124 (Page 537)

Duet Down to the River to Pray Wendy Aurednik, Aubrie Newcomb

Gospel Scripture Reading Matthew 16:13-20 (Page 850)

Sermon Our Piece of the Rock

***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.

Call for Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Let Us Break Bread Together Wood

*** 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 Preparation** Come, Share the Lord #462

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

*** Hymn of Dedication** The Church's One Foundation (v1-2) #401

*** Charge and Benediction**

*** Congregational Response** The Church's One Foundation (v4) #401

Yet she on earth hath union with God, the Three in One,
And mystic, sweet communion with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with Thee.

*** Postlude** Fanfare Lemmens

***PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE**

Welcome to Grace Community Presbyterian Church this morning. Lavonne Pelisari will be your greeter today. Please join us for Coffee Fellowship in Cana Hall after worship today. Sharon Rupert will be your host.



Interim Pastor Doug Marshall is on vacation from Thursday, August 4 – Wednesday, August 17. He will be back in the pulpit on Sunday, August 21

Special Congregational Meeting

In two weeks, Sunday, August 21, @ 11:15 (after worship) the session has called a congregational meeting to elect a Pastor Nominating Committee PNC. The following people have been nominated, by the Congregational Nominating Committee, to serve on the PNC: Cathy Brady, Doug Custer, Linda Johnson, Steve Lester, Kellie Newcomb, LaVonne Pelisari, Jack Trinclisti.

Guest Preacher: The Rev. Norma Prina Murphy's first career was as a musician, like her grandmother and great-grandmother before her, teaching privately and directing church choirs. Called to seminary, she was ordained in 1993, serving many congregations as an Intentional Interim Pastor, including 2 months in the fall of 1994 before Dick Seigler here at Grace Community! She was married to her high school love, Keith, who died in 2002 and has one son, Drew, married to Amy with grandchildren, Abigail and Keith Henry just born on June 16, a long-awaited sibling 'gift' for Abby's 9th birthday on June 25!!!

TODAY'S MUSIC: Bath, England is in the beautiful Avon Valley near the southern edge of the Cotswolds, a range of limestone hills. It is a resort, well-known for the only natural hot springs in England. Foliott S. Pierpont was born here in 1835 and lived here as a child and youth. He left Bath to attend Queen's College, Cambridge University. When he was 29, he returned to his native city, where he rediscovered the beauty of God's creation while sitting on a hilltop outside Bath, admiring the country view and the winding Avon River. Inspired by the view, thinking about God's gifts in creation and in the church, Pierpont wrote:

*For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies.
Lord of all, to thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.*

"For the Beauty of the Earth" first appeared in Orby Shipley's *Lyra Eucharistica* as a hymn for Holy Communion entitled 'The Sacrifice of Praise.' In the refrain, the phrase 'Lord of all, to Thee we raise' was originally 'Christ our God, to Thee we raise' The refrain echoes part of the post-communion prayer of the *Book of Common Prayer* (1662) 'O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy humble servants entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.' The original eight verses are now reduced to four or five in most hymnals. Biblical references in this hymn include Psalm 116:17, Psalm 148:3, 9, Ecclesiastes 3:11 and James 1:17.

This Week's Calendar
August 7 - 13

Sunday	Worship	10:00am
	Communion	
Tuesday	Bible Study	1:00pm

Looking Ahead
August 14 - 20

August 14	Adult Sunday School	9:00am
	Worship	10:00am
August 15	Finance Meeting	6:30pm
August 16	Bible Study	1:00pm
August 18	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*
Terri Ludwig
Lavonne Pelisari
Debbie Roskey
Mary Ann Walter
Lou Walter
Shirley Wilson

*Denotes Moderator