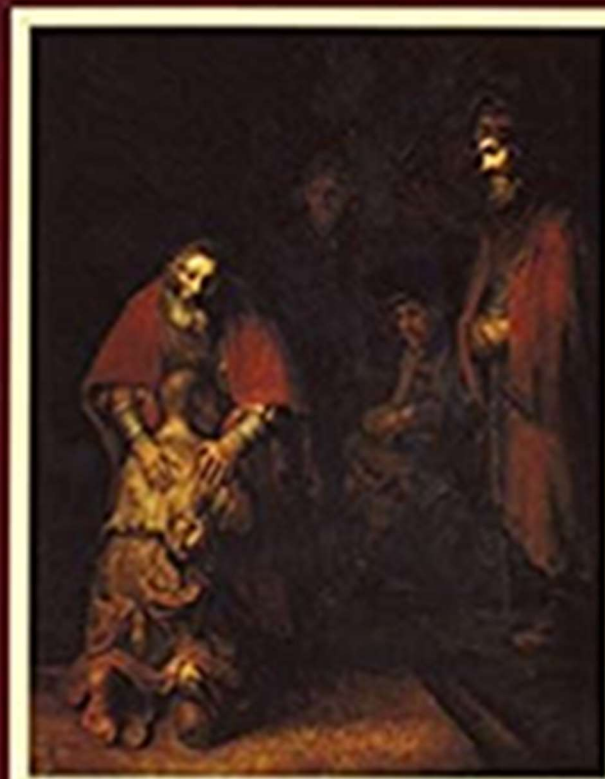


Grace Community Presbyterian Church
September 25, 2022

THE RETURN OF
THE PRODIGAL SON



A Story of Homecoming

HENRI J.M. NOUWEN

AUTHOR OF WOUNDED HEALER

Thought for Meditation:

Nobody deserves anything, good or bad. It's all grace. If you accepted that, you might be able to relax a little.

Robert Boughton to his prodigal son, Jack, in Home, by Marilynne Robinson

Prelude	Procession and Meditation on "Laudate Dominum"	Callahan
Welcome and Announcements		Doug Marshall
Moment for Ministry	Pastor Nominating Committee	Cathy Brady
Call To Worship	Psalm 148	Elsie Deem

L: Praise the LORD.
P: Praise the LORD from the heavens.
L: Let them praise the name of the LORD,
P: For he commanded and they were created.
L: Praise the LORD from the earth.
P: Let all creation praise the name of the LORD,
L: For his name alone is exalted.
ALL: Praise the LORD.

* **Hymn of Praise** Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him #82

Prayer of Confession (Psalm 32:1-3, 5)

Blessed is the man whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the woman whose sin the LORD does not count against her, and in whose spirit is no deceit. When I kept silent, and tried to hide my sin, my body fell apart and my heart was broken. When I acknowledged my sin and confessed to the LORD – You forgave the guilt of my sin. O LORD, hear my confession. *Silent Prayer of Confession...*

Assurance of Forgiveness

L: God's outrageous grace is greater than our sin.
P: God's extravagant mercy is stronger than our worst mistakes.
L: Jesus died for our sins, that we might be forgiven.
P: Jesus was raised to new life, that we might live as God's beloved children.
L: Let us rejoice and celebrate God's wondrous grace.
P: Hallelujah! 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.

Anthem	How Great Thou Art (Hine)	Chancel Choir
Scripture	Luke 15:11-32 (page 909)	
Sermon	A Parable in F	
* Hymn of Response	Softly and Tenderly	#479
*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 and Lord's Prayer		
Call for Tithes and Offerings		
Offertory	I Sing the Mighty Power of God	DeCou
* Doxology	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.	#815
* Prayer of Dedication		
* Hymn of Dedication	He Leadeth Me	#690
* Charge and Benediction		
* Congregational Response	He Leadeth Me (<i>Refrain</i>) He leadeth me, He leadeth me; By His own hand He leadeth me: His faithful follower I would be, For by His hand He leadeth me.	#690
* Postlude	Fughetta on "Laudate Dominum"	Callahan

***PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE**

Welcome to Grace Community Presbyterian Church.

We are delighted that you have chosen to join us for worship. Terri Ludwig & Lavonne Pelisari will be your greeters today. Please join us for Coffee Fellowship in Cana Hall after worship today. Lee & Linda Johnson will be your host.

Adult Sunday School: Holy Habits @ 9:00 AM in the Library

This week we are looking at the Habit (spiritual discipline) of **Fasting**. I love to eat! I don't enjoy fasting. Food is one of my favorite idols, so fasting is a challenging, but good spiritual practice (habit). As Tish Harrison Warren says,

Ascetic practices [fasting] reveal the way we use creature comforts, however good in themselves, compulsively. We deny ourselves some small pleasure, some perceived need, and we find what slaves we have become to the things we use to console ourselves.



Town Hall Meeting

On October 9, immediately after worship, the session invites you to stay after worship for a Town Hall Meeting, to hear a report on our church, especially caring for the property and facilities, which will have significant financial impact on the budget. Please stick around so that you know what is happening and how we as a church can and are responding to this situation.

TODAY'S MUSIC: Today's prelude and postlude are based on the hymn tune "**Laudate Dominum.**" The tune was written by C. Hubert Parry; the organ arrangement is by Charles Callahan. The tune is commonly used for the hymn "Give Praise to the Lord" (or "O Praise Ye the Lord"), a metrical version of Psalm 149.

Imagine a hymn that traveled thousands of miles, was translated into at least 4 languages, printed in several hymnals and a Russian magazine, and reprinted in a 4-page leaflet before coming to the attention of George Beverly Shea in 1954. Since that time it has become a favorite around the world. "**How Great Thou Art**" was written in Sweden in 1885 by Rev. Carl Boberg, a preacher, religious editor, and senator in the Swedish parliament. In 1907 it was translated into German by Mahnfred von Glehn, a resident of Estonia.

In 1912, Rev. Ivan S. Prokhanoff included the hymn, in Russian, in his hymnal *Cymbals*. In 1922, several of Prokhanoff's hymnals were combined in *The Songs of a Christian* and published (in Russian) in New York City by the American Bible Society. From this book "How Great Thou Art" came to the attention of an English missionary couple, Mr. & Mrs. Stuart K. Hine, who used it for many years in their evangelistic work in Ukraine.

Eventually Mr. Hine translated it into English – the version we know – and it was printed in 1949 in a Russian gospel magazine. At this point its popularity really began to spread. Missionaries all over the world requested reprints. 1954 saw the final two paths to world-wide popularity. One of the magazine reprints was given to Mr. Shea before a Billy Graham crusade in London in 1954. Also in 1954, Dr. J. Edwin Orr had heard Naga tribes people from Assam, India sing "How Great Thou Art," and introduced it to a college-age conference in California. Ever since, Christians have sung of the wonder of creation, the sacrifice of Christ, and our joy when he returns.

**This Week's Calendar
September 24 - October 1**

Sunday	Sunday School (all ages)	9:00am
	Worship	10:00am
	Youth Group	6:00pm
	PNC Meeting	1:30pm
Monday	Session Meeting	7:00pm
Tuesday	Bible Study	1:00pm
	Redstone Presbytery @ Westmont PC, Johnstown	6:00pm
Wednesday	Cub Scouts Den Meeting	6:00pm
	Choir Rehearsal	7:00pm

CrossCurrents will be mailed out. If you have something to add to our October CrossCurrents please have it into the office by Monday, September 26.

secretary@gracecommunitypresbyterian.org

Thursday	Rabbits Foot Resident Meeting	6:00pm
	Cub Scouts Den Meeting	6:00pm

Looking Ahead

October 2 - 8

October 2	Sunday School (all ages)	9:00am
	Worship	10:00am
	Youth Group	6:00pm
	PNC Meeting	1:30pm
October 4	Bible Study	1:00pm
October 5	Cub Scouts Den Meeting	6:00pm
	Choir Rehearsal	7:00pm
October 6	Cub Scouts Den Meeting	6:00pm
	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