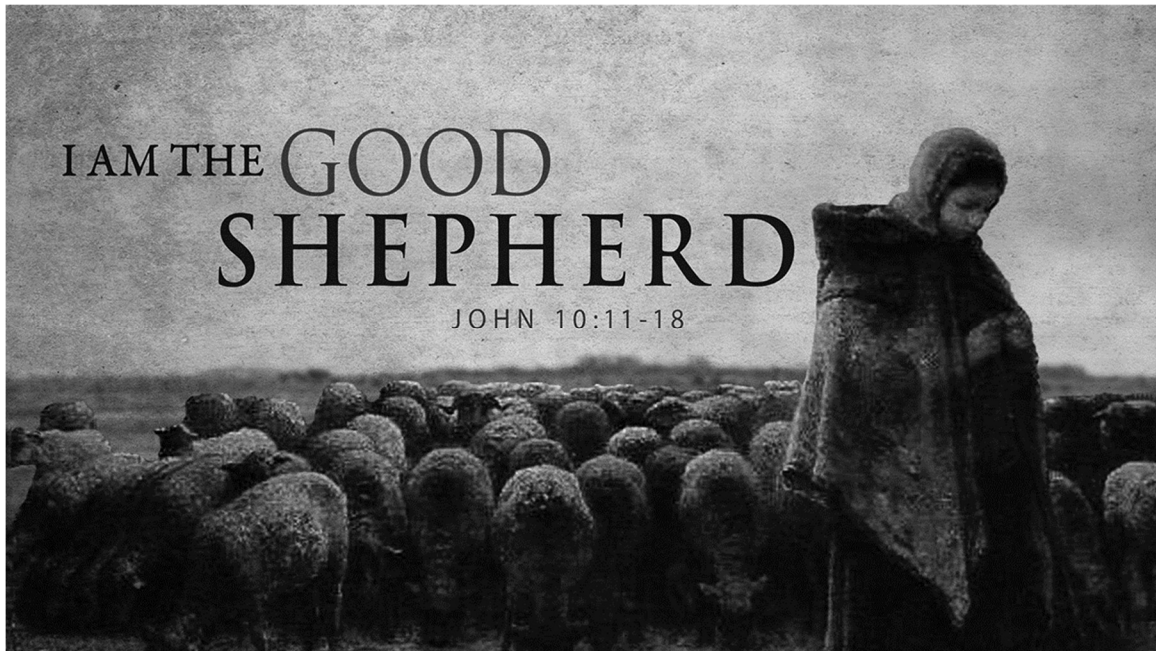


Grace Community Presbyterian Church
April 21, 2024



Thought for Meditation

This is His commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. Whoever keeps His commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us lives in us. 1 John 3:16–24

— GATHERING —

Prelude My Shepherd Will Supply My Need Martin/Hustad

Welcome and Announcements Owar Ojulu

Opening Payer

Call To Worship Psalm 19:1-4 Cathy Brady

L: We come to God, our Holy shepherd, as we come to a green meadow.

P: **God prepares a place for us, and we give glory in God's presence.**

L: How excellent is this dwelling place under the eyes of God's care.

P: **We turn to God in joy. Our good shepherd provides all our needs.**

All: Praise the Lord! Praise His Holy Name!

*** Hymn of Praise** Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation (V1-3) #403

Prayer of Confession Isaiah 58:1-4

L: If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk, and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed,

P: **Then our light will rise in the darkness, and our night will become like the noonday.**

All: Almighty God, you have called us to love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. You have laid down your life for us and commanded us to lay down our lives for one another. Still, O Lord, we offer empty thoughts and prayers when the world needs our hands and our feet. Still, O Lord, we fail to share our lives with the world, hiding behind a myth of independence. Forgive us, we pray, and by your forgiveness, raise us to new life in you. Amen

Silent Prayer of Confession...

Assurance of Forgiveness Acts 2:17, 21

L: I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, says the Lord, and everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. Grace Community, believe the good news of the gospel.

All: In Christ Jesus, we are forgiven, renewed, and sent. Amen!

*** Passing of the Peace**

L: Since we have been united with him in his death and resurrection and gave us peace, let us share peace between us. May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

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 to God** #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.

Scripture Reading Psalm 23 (page 23)

Anthem God Is Our Refuge Chancel Choir

God is our refuge and strength; a present help in time of trouble. Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though the waters roar and foam, we will not fear.

Come and behold the work of the Lord, the awesome acts of God. He is in the midst of his people in all the earth. He is the Word, we are his hands, he will lead us. He is the air, we are his song, we will celebrate his presence all the day long.

God is our refuge and strength; a present help in time of trouble. Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though the waters roar and foam, we will not fear.

Come and behold the work of the Lord, the awesome acts of God. He is in the midst of his people in all the earth. He is the rain, we are the stones, he will cleanse us. He is the air, we are his song, we will celebrate his presence all the day long.

God is our refuge and strength; a present help in time of trouble. Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though the waters roar and foam, we will not fear.

(words: Jay Johnson, based on Ps 46; music: Allen Pote)

— THE WORD —

Scripture John 10:11–18 (page 933)
Sermon The Good Shepherd
***Responding Hymn** My Shepherd Will Supply My Need (See Insert)

***Affirmation of Faith** *Adopted from the Confession of 1967, 9.22*
New life in Christ takes shape in a community. in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God’s grace. Amen

Prayers of the People and Lord’s Prayer (debts & debtors)

Call for Tithes and Offerings Exodus 25:2
“Tell the Israelites to bring me an offering. You are to receive the offering for me from everyone whose heart prompts them to give.”

Offertory All My Hope on God is Founded Rawsthorne

*** Doxology** O Bless the Gifts #817
O bless the gifts our hands have brought;
And bless the work our hearts have planned.
Ours is the faith, the will, the thought;
The rest, O God, is in Your hand.

*** Prayer of Dedication** Isaiah 58:6-7
All: You have shown us, O God, the sacrifice that you desire. Now use these gifts— and use our lives— to liberate the oppressed, to break the bonds of injustice, to feed the hungry, welcome the poor, and unite the human family; all in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

— SENDING —

*** Hymn of Dedication** All My Hope on God is Founded (See Insert)

*** Charge and Benediction** 2 Corinthians 13:11
Finally, brothers and sisters rejoice!
Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace.
And the God of love and peace will be with you now and forevermore. Amen

***Benediction Response** The Solid Rock (refrain) #526
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand,

***Postlude** In Thee Is Gladness Bach

*PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

Welcome to Grace Community Presbyterian Church

We extend a warm welcome to all worshipping with us today and hope you will return. Terri Ludwig will be your greeter today. Please join us for Coffee Fellowship in Cana Hall right after worship today. Stephanie Tutka will be your host.



April 02 Jackie Chickerella
April 04 Rich Artman
April 05 BeenyJwok Ojulu
April 08 Grant Claypool
April 09 Joe Bieranoski
April 22 Michele Claypool
April 25 Terri Ludwig

If your name does not appear, or if the listed information is incorrect, please contact the church office so that the records can be updated.



Help fill shoeboxes all year long! The Operation Christmas Child items for the month of April are games/puzzles. Donations may be placed in the OCC box in the Narthex. Thank you.



We are collecting items for the next spring rummage sale (Date TBD). Please help by bringing in your unwanted items for the next sale. Your items can be placed inside the upper-level door by the old sanctuary.

NO ELECTRONICS OR LARGE FURNITRE

REMINDER – THERE WILL BE NO CHOIR REHEARSAL THIS WEEK

Rev. Dr. Ojulu is available anytime if you have any concerns, want to schedule a meeting, or if you need a prayer. You can contact him at the office @ 724-339-9661 or his cell 507-304-5958.

TODAY'S MUSIC: Isaac Watts (1674-1748) is rightfully considered the father of English hymnody. Psalm 23 is the best known and best loved of all the psalms. And **RESIGNATION**, a nineteenth-century tune from southern Appalachia, is one of the most hauntingly beautiful melodies ever composed. All three—poet, psalm, and music—unite in this hymn to give us a new vision of the providence of God. **RESIGNATION** is the basis for today's prelude and the tune for today's second hymn, "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need."

"**My Shepherd Will Supply My Need**" dates from Watts's 1719 collection, *Psalms of David*, and concludes with his remarkable interpretation of the psalm's last verse: "No more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home."

The tune **RESIGNATION**, by an unknown composer, first appeared in the 1835 hymnbook *Southern Harmony*, a collection of church music from the rural American south. The melody is a disarmingly simple and eloquent piece of music. It is the perfect vehicle to carry Watts's paraphrase straight to the heart.

"**All My Hope on God is Founded**" was written by Joachim Neander (1650-1680). Neander, known as the "Paul Gerhardt of the Calvinists," was greatly influenced by the Christian lifestyle of two important Pietists, Philipp Jacob Spener and Johann J. Schütz.

In his younger years, however, Neander seems to have been as riotous and as fond of questionable pleasures as most of his fellow students at the Academic Gymnasium of Bremen. In 1670, Theodore Under-Eyck came to Bremen as pastor of St. Martin's Church. Under-Eyck had a reputation as a staunch Pietist. Neander, with two friends, went to a service there in order to criticize and find some amusement. But the earnest words of Under-Eyck touched his heart. This, with his subsequent conversations with Under-Eyck, proved the turning-point of his spiritual life.

Today's offertory uses the hymn tune (also composed by Neander) that will be used for our closing hymn - "**All My Hope on God is Founded.**"

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

Sunday	Sunday School	9:00am
	Worship	10:00am
	Deacons Meeting	11:00am
	Youth Group	6:00pm
Tuesday	Bible Study	1:00pm
Wednesday	NO Choir Rehearsal	7:00pm
Thursday	Cub Scouts Den Meeting	7:00pm

**Looking Ahead
April 28 - May 4**

April 28	Sunday School	9:00am
	Worship	10:00am
April 29	Session Meeting	6:30am
April 30	Bible Study	1:00pm
May 1	Choir Rehearsal	7:00pm
	<i>CrossCurrents will be mailed out. To put anything in CrossCurrents, please get it to the office by Monday morning. You can leave a copy on Wendy's desk or send it to her by email:secretary@gracecommunitypresbyterian.org</i>	
May 2	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: Rev. Dr. Owar O. Ojulu
pastorowar@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
Dave Briscoe
Michael Cochenour (clerk)
Dan Howard
Henry Kedzierski
Cheryl Landis
Val Lester
Glenn Nordmark
Sharon Rupert
Jack Trinclisti

Deacons

Gary Barbiaux
Judy Barbiaux
Margie Bistline
Beulah Brown
Elsie Deem
Lisa Edwards
Cindy Irvin (moderator)
Terri Ludwig
Lavonne Pelisari
Debbie Roskey
Marcia Sackett
Rich Sackett
Dee Shaffer
Shirley Wilson