

Grace Community Presbyterian Church

January 25, 2026



THE KEYS OF THE *Kingdom* OF *Heaven*

Thought for Meditation

"The message of Jesus consisted of a command which was the consequence of a new situation. "Repent!" he said. "Turn from your own ways, and turn to God. Lift your eyes from earth and look to heaven. Reverse your direction, and stop walking away from God and begin walking towards God." That command had become urgently necessary because the reign of God was about to begin. Eternity had invaded time; God had invaded earth in Jesus Christ, and therefore it was of paramount importance that a man should choose the right side and the right direction."

William Barclay

—GATHERING —

Prelude

“All Glory Be to God on High”

Haan

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

***Call To Worship**

Psalm 27:1,4-9

Michael Cochenour

Leader: The Lord is our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear?

People: The Lord is the stronghold of our lives; of whom shall we be afraid of?

Leader: One thing we ask of the Lord, one thing we seek:

People: To dwell in the house of the Lord and seek Him in His temple.

Leader: Let us approach God with our hearts open to His presence.

All: We’ve come into His presence to worship the Lord together. Amen!

*** Hymn of Praise**

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” (v.1-2)

#210

***Prayer of Confession**

James 5:16

“Therefore, confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. “

Friends, let us seek forgiveness and restore our relationship with God.

Almighty God,

We come before You to confess our sins and seek Your forgiveness, as we long to turn toward Your truth and walk in your ways. Help us to heed the message of repentance and to live according to Your will, just as Jesus preached, and still preaching to us today. May we be channels of Your love, healing, and compassion in the world, proclaiming the Good News of Your Kingdom to this broken world. Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession...

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Romans 10:10

“For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.”

Grace church, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

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

*** Passing of the Peace** *Philippians 4:6-7*

L: May God's peace, which goes beyond anything we can imagine, guard your thoughts and emotions through Christ Jesus. The peace of 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.

*** Gloria Patri**

#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, a world without end.
Amen, Amen.

Anthem

"Be Still, My Soul"

Chancel Choir

Words by K Von Schlegel; Music by J. Koerts

Children's Sermon

Terri Ludwig

— THE WORD —

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Matthew 4:17, 23

Sermon

"The Kingdom of Heaven—What is it?"

***Hymn of Response**

"Sweet By and By" (vs. 1-2)

#778

Sharing Joys and Concerns and the Lord's Prayer

Tithes and Offerings

Proverbs 3:9

"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops."

Offertory

"Largo in A minor"

Corelli

*** Doxology**

#815

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him, all Creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

— SENDING —

*** Hymn of Dedication**

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" (v.3)

602

*** Charge and Benediction**

Philippians 4:7

May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Amen

*** Congregational Response**

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" (v.4)

602

*** Postlude**

"Rigaudon"

Campra

*PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

Welcome to Grace Community Presbyterian Church

We extend a warm welcome to all worshipping with us today and we hope that you will return. There will not be Coffee Fellowship today because of the Soup Luncheon. Come on down for a bowl of soup!! Deacon greeter today is June Cicola.



TODAY'S MUSIC: Be Still, My Soul, with original music by James Koerts, is today's anthem. Taking inspiration from Psalm 46:10-11, "*Be still, and know that I am God....The Lord of hosts is with us,*" Katharina von Schlegel (1696-c.1768) created a message of profound reassurance. In the Bible text, the words "be still" mean more than simply be quiet. They also carry the thought: "Relax!" or "Settle down!" One paraphrase of Psalm 46:10 is: "Stop working in your own strength and recognize that I am God." With compelling imagery, Katharina's hymn expresses complete confidence in God's guidance and care. The English translation came to us via Jane L. Borthwick (1813-1897), a member of the Free Church of Scotland. Her translation included five of the original six stanzas, appearing in *Hymns from the Land of Luther* (1855).

Little is known about Katharina von Schlegel. She may have come from an aristocratic family and was connected with a small court at Köthen, north of Halle, in Germany. This hymn appeared at the time of German pietism, similar in spirit in many ways to the Wesleyan revival in England of the same era. The German pietistic movement inspired a revival in German hymnody characterized by faithfulness to Scripture, personal experience, and deep emotional expression.

Incidentally, J.S. Bach (1685-1750) was employed by the court at Köthen from 1717-1723. And though Bach remained in the mainline Lutheran Church his personal library contained numerous books by Pietist authors and as a youth he attended Pietist schools.



Rev. Dr. Ojulu (Pastor Owar) 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.



Help fill shoeboxes all year long! Samaritan's Purse recommends hats, gloves, scarves for the month of January for Operation Christmas Child. Donations may be placed in the OCC box in the Narthex. Thank you.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS-ANNIVERSARIES

January 26- Barb Scott

January 26- Bill Ludwig

January 29- Ammani Ojha

January 31- Lovejoy Muder- Celebrating her 95th Birthday-(loves to receive cards)

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.

This Week's Calendar

January 25, 2026- January 31, 2026

Today	Worship -Children's Sermon	10:00am
	Soup Luncheon to benefit Knead Café	11:00am
	Adult Sunday School	11:00am
Monday	Session Meeting	6:30pm
Wednesday	Choir Practice	7:00pm
Thursday	Cross Currents Assembly-Mailed	9:00am
	Boy Scouts Pack Meeting	6:00pm

Looking Ahead

February 1, 2026– February 7, 2026

Feb. 1	Reach Out Meeting	9:00am
	Worship- Communion	10:00am
	Coffee Fellowship	11:00am
	Adult Sunday School	11:00am
Feb. 4	Choir Practice	7:00pm
Feb. 5	Boy Scout-Pinewood Derby Workshop	6:00pm
	Ladies Group	6:30pm

Sermon Notes:

For Sunday __/__/____

Scripture Reference _____

What spoke to my heart from today's sermon:

Prayer Concerns for this week:



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: Kellie Newcomb
secretary@gracecommunitypresbyterian.org
Christian Ed: Bill Ludwig
Organist: Kenneth McGeary
Treasurer: Ray Zerjav
Custodian: John Baron and Paul Zunich

Elders

Dave Briscoe
Bonnie Carroll
Cathy Christoforetti
Michael Cochenour
Henry Kedzierski
Valerie Lester
Glenn Nordmark
Todd Taylor
Jack Trinclisti
Steph Tutka

Deacons

Margie Bistline
Sheri Cieslinski
Kerri Colaianne
Lisa Edwards
Heidi Hacker
Cindy Irvin
Linda Johnson
Terri Ludwig
Marcia Sackett
Rich Sackett
Dee Shaffer
Shirley Trinclisti
June Cicola