

Grace Community Presbyterian Church
June 22, 2025



— GATHERING —

Prelude “Procession & Meditation on ‘O Praise Ye the Lord’” Callahan

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer (in unison)

Dear Lord, we gather to worship You, for You alone are worthy of our worship and praise! Forgive us for not focusing on You and Your liberating power from death, the devil and disease. Renew us this day through Your gracious word so that we may be free! In Your dear name we pray, the name that is above all others, in the name of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: “So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.” (John 8:36)

***Call To Worship** *Psalm 84:1-12* Stephanie Tutka

L: Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;

P: He is our God, and we are the sheep of His pasture, the flock under His care.

L: Blessed are those whose strength is in Jehovah,

P: They go from strength to strength,

For the LORD God is a sun and shield;

He bestows favor and honor on those who love Him.

All: Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere.

Blessed are those who dwell in the house God, singing praises of the Lord.

***Hymn of Praise** “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” #43

Prayer of Confession: *James 5:16*

L: Therefore, confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. Friends, let us call on the name of the Lord.

P: Gracious God, though You always love us, we often fail to reciprocate that love. Our self-deceptions and justifications run deep. We often rely on our own abilities, disregarding our weaknesses. We feel vulnerable and easily influenced by the challenges and negativity around us. We struggle to find stability and purpose, often losing sight of what is good. We humbly ask for Your help in our time of need. Open our eyes to recognize You as our true focus and the source of all goodness in the world. Grant us the strength to release our jealousies, prejudices, betrayals, and lies, which bring pain and suffering to others. Transform us into reflections of Christ, so that we may embody His love and truth to those we encounter. Enable us to act as agents of Your love and fulfill the tasks You have assigned to us before we depart this world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Silent Prayer of Confession...

***Assurance of Forgiveness** *Matthew 6:17-18*

But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that your fasting will not be noticed by people but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you. Friends, believe this Good News of the Gospel!

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

*** Passing of the Peace** *2 Thessalonians 3:16*

L: Now may the Lord of peace Himself continually grant you peace in every circumstance. 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** “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

"A Vessel in Your Hands"
(Words & music by Larry Shackley)

Chancel Choir

Time with the Children

— THE WORD —

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Luke 8:26-39

Sermon

"For What Are You Thirsty?"

The Rev. Dean Byrom

*Hymn of Response

"As the Deer"

#548

*Affirmation of Faith – The Apostle’s Creed

Sharing Joys and Concerns and The Lord’s Prayer (debts and debtors)

Call for Tithes and Offerings

Let us remember the words of our Lord, who said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”

Offertory

"Trio on ‘Laudate Dominum’"

Callahan

*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

—SENDING —

*Hymn of Dedication

"Just a Closer Walk with Thee" (v. 1-2)

#564

*Charge and Benediction

*Congregational Response

"Just a Closer Walk with Thee" (refrain)

#564

*Postlude

"Postlude on ‘Laudate Dominum’"

Callahan

*PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

Today’s organ music is 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 “Sing Praise o the Lord,” a metrical version of Psalm 149.

“Sing Praise to the Lord” is pure praise throughout all of its stanzas.

Sing praise to the Lord! Praise God in the height;
Rejoice in his word, you angels of light;
O heavens, adore him by whom you were made,
And worship before him in brightness arrayed.

This 1st stanza is followed by, “Sing praise...all you of new birth,” then by “Sing praise...all things that give sound.” It culminates with:

Sing praise to the Lord! Thanksgiving and song
To him be outpoured all ages along;
For love in creation, for heaven restored,
For grace of salvation, sing praise to the Lord!

We welcome to Grace Church this morning The Reverend Dean Byrom. Pastor Dean Byrom is a retired United Methodist minister who is now part of an Episcopal congregation (St. Andrew's in Highland Park) who frequently leads worship and preaches in United Presbyterian churches. He and his wife, Dawna, are very happy to be with us in Lower Burrell this morning.



Welcome to Grace Community Presbyterian Church

We extend a warm welcome to all worshipping with us today and we hope that you will return. Please join us for our Strawberry Festival in Cana Hall following today’s worship service.



Rev. Dr. Ojulu (Pastor Owar) is currently traveling to Ethiopia and will be out of the office for the month of June. If you need pastoral assistance, please call the office at 724-339-9661.

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

JUNE BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

June 1	June Cicola	June 4	Kellie and Jim Newcomb
June 2	Michael Maddox Pish	June 6	Jackie and Chick Chickerella
June 17	Reitha Bieranoski	June 15	MaryAnn and Lou Walter
June 17	Melissa Gott	June 15	Ryan and Melissa Gott
June 20	Olga Howrelook	June 16	Duke and Debbie Pollick
June 20	Mary Ann Love	June 28	John and June Cicola (50 th)
June 27	Barb McGeary		
June 28	MaryAnn Walter		

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
June 22 - 28, 2025

Today	Worship	10:00am
	Strawberry Festival	11:00am
Thursday	Ladies' Group	6:30pm
Saturday	Knead Café	8:00am
	Legters Baby Shower	

Looking Ahead
June 29 - July 5, 2025

June 29	Worship	10:00am
	Coffee Fellowship	11:00am
July 1	Bible Study	1:00pm
July 3	Ladies' Group	6:30pm
	OFFICE CLOSED	

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

Elders

Reitha Bieranoski
Dave Briscoe
Michael Cochenour

Cheryl Landis
Glenn Nordmark
Sharon Rupert
Todd Taylor
Jack Trinclisti
Steph Tutka
Cathy Vitari

Deacons

Sheri Cieslinski
Kerri Colaianne
Elsie Deem
Lisa Edwards
Heidi Hacker
Linda Johnson
LaVonne Pelisari
Debbie Roskey
Marcia Sackett
Rich Sackett
Dee Shaffer
Shirley Trinclisti
Shirley Wilson