

Grace Community Presbyterian Church

September 6, 2026



"I am your brother, Joseph..."

GOD SENT ME

before you to preserve life."

Genesis 45:4-5

Thoughts for Meditation

"THE STORY OF JOSEPH'S REUNION WITH HIS BROTHERS IS AMONG THE MOST TENDER IN THE SCRIPTURES. HIS OWN BROTHERS HATED HIM, (GENESIS 37:4), AND KIDNAPPED HIM, (GENESIS 37:23). THEY HAD EVEN PLANNED TO MURDER HIM, (GENESIS 37: 18FF). THEY "SETTLED" FOR SELLING HIM INTO SLAVERY, (GENESIS 37:28), A POSSIBLE IF NOT LIKELY DEATH SENTENCE. AND NOW, IN TODAY'S LESSON JOSEPH IS IN A POSITION TO GET REVENGE ON THEM. THEY NEED HIM. HE DOES NOT NEED THEM. THE FAMINE THAT HE PHARAOH HAS DREAMED ABOUT HAS COME TO PASS, (GENESIS 41:17FF); EGYPT HAS GRAIN IN ABUNDANCE BECAUSE OF JOSEPH'S INTERPRETATION OF THE PHARAOH'S DREAM AND THEIR MUTUAL STEWARDSHIP IN PREPARATION. (GENESIS 41:49). YET JOSEPH DOES NOT TAKE REVENGE ON HIS BROTHERS. HE PROVIDES FOR THEM AND THEIR FAMILIES. HE RECEIVES THEM AS HIS BROTHERS. HE EMBRACES AND FORGIVES THEM." *WIL GAFNEY*

—GATHERING —

Prelude

“I Lay My Sins on Jesus”

Parks

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Call To Worship

Psalm 133

Cathy Brady

L: How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

**P: It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard,
on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes.**

L: It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion.

P: For there the Lord ordained his blessing, life forevermore. Amen

* Hymn of Praise

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

#139

*Prayer of Confession

Proverbs 28:13 CTW-57

Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy. Grace Church, let us draw near to God and confess our sins.

**You are the Bread of Life, O God,
and You promise that we will never hunger again,
but we do hunger, O Lord, and often for the wrong things.
You feed us with grace, but we hunger for achievements.
You offer us peace, but we hunger for control.
You bless us with plenty to share,
but we are quick to hoard the gifts we call ours.
Forgive us, O Bread of Life, and by Your forgiveness
teach us to hunger for things that You do:
to hunger for justice, to long for equality,
to work for the common good
until none of Your children have to hunger for bread. Amen .**

Silent Prayer of Confession...

***Assurance of Forgiveness** *Hosea 14:4-9*

Hear these words from the Lord: I will heal their disloyalty; I will love them freely, for My anger has turned from them. I will be like the dew to them; they shall again live beneath My shadow; they shall flourish as a garden and blossom like the vine. Grace church, believe this good news of the gospel.

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

*** Passing of the Peace** *2 Corinthians 5:20*

L: We are Christ's ambassadors. God is using us to speak to the world, and through Christ himself, we plead with you: receive the love He offers you—
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.

*** Glory to God**

#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.

— THE WORD —

Scripture

Genesis 45:1-8

Sermon

“The Rough Road”

Reaffirmation of Faith

Greg Costanza, Krista Peterson

Call for Tithes and Offerings Romans 12:1

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God. Let us offer our lives and our tithes to the Lord.

Offertory “He Hideth My Soul” Kirkpatrick

*** 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**

Sharing Joys and Concerns

***Hymn of Reflection** “Nothing But the Blood” #337

Great Thanksgiving and the Lord’s Prayer (debts & debtors) *Responsively*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise. (Refer to Projection screen)

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People *John 6:41-51; Matt 26:28*

I am the bread of life.

Whoever comes to Me will never go hungry,

I am the vine.

Whoever believes in Me will never be thirsty.

Prayer after Communion (unison)

Almighty and ever-living God, we give You thanks for feeding us with the spiritual food of the body and blood of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Strengthen us by this holy meal to walk in righteousness, unite us with all Your faithful people, and bring us at last to the springs of living water; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

— SENDING —

* **Hymn of Dedication** “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy” (v.1-3) # 355

* **Charge and Benediction**

May Almighty God, who worked through Joseph’s trials to preserve life, grant you grace to forgive, faith to trust His sovereign providence, and peace to walk in His purpose. **Amen.**

* **Congregational Response** “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy” (v.4) #355

* **Postlude** “My Dear Redeemer and My Lord” Oliver

*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. Please join us for a reception to welcome our new member after worship in Cana Hall (downstairs). The Deacon greeting you after the service today is Terri Ludwig



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 for the month of September- games for Operation Christmas Child. Donations may be placed in the OCC box in the Narthex. Thank you.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Holiday Vendor/Craft Fair to benefit Operation Christmas Child- Saturday, November 7th from 10am-3pm. Details in Cross Currents, but we will be continuing the Basket Raffle and have added a Grab 'N Go Food for all you Grace Church bakers/cooks who would like to participate.

Today's Powerpoint clicker is Terri Ludwig. September 6- Terri Ludwig
September 13- MarJwok Ojha
September 20- Cathy Brady
September 27- Terri Ludwig

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

September 5- Shirley Trinclisti
-Woody Woodhall

September 8- Jeff Speer
-Paige Newcomb
-Kira Legters

September 16- Bob Brady

September 22- Andi Householder

September 30- Merle Brown
-Killian Matarrese

September 13- Steph and Tom Tutka

September 27- Beulah and Merle Brown

September 29- Rich and Darlene Artman

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

September 6, 2026- September 12, 2026

Today	Worship-Communion	10:00am
	New Member Reception- Cana Hall	11:00am
Tuesday	Garden Club	6:00pm
Wednesday	Cub Scouts	6:00pm

Looking Ahead

September 13, 2026- September 19, 2026

September 13	Choir Rehearsal- Cana Hall- Stage	9:00am
	Worship-Children's Message	10:00am
	Coffee Fellowship- Cana Hall	11:00am
September 16	Cub Scouts	6:00pm
September 17	Ladies Group	6:30pm

Sermon Notes:

For Sunday ___/___/___ **Scripture Reference** _____

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
Interim Organist:	Dane Skroupa/Lisa Clark
Treasurer:	Ray Zerjav
Custodian:	John Baron and Paul Zunich

Elders

Reitha Bieranoski
Cathy Brady
Dave Briscoe
Bonnie Carroll
Cathy Christoforetti
Valerie Lester
Sharon Rupert
Todd Taylor
Steph Tutka

Deacons

Margie Bistline
Sheri Cieslinski
Michael Cochenour
Kerri Colaianni
Melissa Gott
Heidi Hacker
Cindy Irvin
Linda Johnson
Terri Ludwig
June Cicola
Shirley Trinclisti