

Grace Community Presbyterian Church

March 8, 2026

THIRD SUNDAY IN  
LENT

Thought for Meditation

*Luke 9:51* marks a significant theological shift in Luke's narrative. Until now, Jesus' ministry has focused on teaching and miracles, but here He turns toward suffering, rejection, and glory. The phrase "set His face," resonating with Isaiah 50:7, signifies His determination and resilience. Jesus knowingly heads to Jerusalem, aware of the betrayal and crucifixion awaiting Him, yet He willingly embraces this path. His mission encompasses not just suffering but also resurrection and ascension, highlighting the ultimate glory that follows. This Challenges us: do we choose to follow Jesus only during smooth times, or do we remain steadfast even when the journey involves hardship?

—GATHERING —

**Prelude** “What a Savior Medley” Doran/Bliss

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Opening Prayer**

**\*Call To Worship** Psalm 95 Cathy Brady

L: Come, let us sing to the Lord!

Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving,  
Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation,  
Let us lift our voices in joyful praise through music and song.

**P: We have come to worship the Lord!**

**For we are His people, the sheep of His pasture.  
The Lord watches over us, the flock under His care.**

**\* Hymn of Praise** “Blessed Assurance” (vs. 1-2) #572

\*Prayer of Confession *1 John 2:1-2*

*“My dear children, I write this letter to you so you will not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have a helper in the presence of the Father—Jesus Christ, the One who does what is right. He died in our place to take away our sins, and not only our sins but the sins of all people.”*

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

**God, our Redeemer,**

**We confess that we are people of ashes and dust. We grumble and complain even when You have provided all we need. We continue to walk in darkness despite the light You have given to the world. Forgive us, God of grace. Help us to trust in You, so that we may not perish but may have eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

*Silent Prayer of Confession...*

\*Assurance of Forgiveness

*Psalm 103:8-12*

*“The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse us, nor will He harbor His anger forever; He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His love for those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.”*

Friends, 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, world without end.  
Amen, Amen

**Anthem**

“I Will Sing of My Redeemer”

Chancel Choir

**Children’s Message**

“Bring a Hat; Get a Cookie”

Michael Cochenour

— THE WORD —

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture**

Luke 9:57-62

**Sermon**

“Will You Follow?”



\* Postlude

“Steadfast in Faith”

Broughton

\*PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

## Welcome to Grace Community Presbyterian Church

**Today’s Music:** We welcome Lisa Clark to our service and thank her for serving our church during this difficult time.

We extend a warm welcome to all worshipping with us today and we hope that you will return. Please join us in coffee fellowship in Cana Hall (downstairs). Today’s Deacon greeter is Shirley Trinclisti.



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 wash cloths, toothbrushes for the month of March for Operation Christmas Child. Donations may be placed in the OCC box in the Narthex. Thank you.

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 2 - Alice Atkinson

March 5- Dave Highfield

March 11- Ann Bayruns

March 11- Katie Sevic (Ludwig)

March 13- Bonnie Carroll

March 18- Stephanie Tutka

March 30- Wendy Aurednik

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**

**March 8, 2026- March 14, 2026**

<b>Today</b>	<b>Worship- Children's Message</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
	<b>Coffee Fellowship (Cana Hall)</b>	<b>11:00am</b>
	<b>Adult Sunday School (Library)</b>	<b>11:00am</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Garden Club</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Cub Scouts- Den Meeting</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>

### **Looking Ahead**

**March 15, 2026- March 21, 2026**

<b>March 15</b>	<b>Deacons Meeting</b>	<b>9:00am</b>
	<b>Worship</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
	<b>Coffee Fellowship (Cana Hall)</b>	<b>11:00am</b>
	<b>Adult Sunday School (Library)</b>	<b>11:00am</b>
<b>March 16</b>	<b>Hoagie/Pie Orders Due</b>	
	<b>Easter Flower Orders Due</b>	
<b>March 18</b>	<b>Promise House Dinner Assembly</b>	
<b>March 19</b>	<b>Cub Scouts-Den Meeting</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>
	<b>Ladies Group</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>

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](http://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](mailto:secretary@gracecommunitypresbyterian.org)  
Christian Ed: Bill Ludwig  
Organist: Dane Skroupa/Lisa Clark  
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 Colaianni  
Lisa Edwards  
Heidi Hacker  
Cindy Irvin  
Linda Johnson  
Terri Ludwig  
Marcia Sackett  
Rich Sackett  
Dee Shaffer  
Shirley Trinclisti  
June Cicola