

# Grace Community Presbyterian Church

August 24, 2025



**Gilgal:  
Stones of  
Restoration**

## Thought for Meditation

The Ark symbolized God's presence, and His covenant promises to Israel. As they confront the raging Jordan, Israel must trust God, who promises protection at Beth-Barah (House of Crossing Over). The Ark represents Jesus Christ, whom the Book of Hebrews (12:2) instructs us to keep our eyes fixed on as He is lifted on the cross. He guides, sustains, and gives us life, determining our direction and claiming victories in our lives. Crossing the Jordan represents our journey with God through life's crises. God does not hold us back; instead, He leads us through. As we reflect on how far He has brought us, we can trust that He will continue to keep and preserve us for His glory.

—GATHERING —

Prelude "Deep River" Spiritual

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

**\*Call To Worship** Psalm 71:1-6 Cheryl Landis

Leader: Grace church, let us turn our hearts to the Lord, our refuge and strength.

**All: We come with confidence, knowing that God hears our cries and saves us.**

Leader: "Be my strong refuge; You are my rock and my fortress."

**All: We find safety in His presence. In Him, we are never alone.**

Leader: "You are my hope, O Lord God; You have been my trust from my youth."

**All: We gather in the love and faithfulness of our Creator.**

Leader: Let us worship Him with all our hearts.

**All: Let's worship together! Amen.**

**\*Hymn of Praise** "Stand Up and Bless the Lord" (v. 1, 2, 4, 5) #65

**\*Prayer of Confession** John 1:9

*"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."* Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

**Almighty God,**  
**we come to You with humble hearts, recognizing our need for Your grace. Forgive us for wandering in doubt and straying from Your calling. Help us remember Your faithfulness and give us courage for new beginnings. May our hearts be circumcised in spirit, eager to follow Your path and fulfill Your purpose. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

*Silent Prayer of Confession...*

**\*Assurance of Forgiveness** Proverbs 28:13

*"As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him; for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust."*

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, world without end.  
Amen, Amen.

Solo "Great is Thy Faithfulness" Emilie Greiner Basile  
(Words: T. Chisholm; Tune: W. Runyan, arr. J. Schrader)

— THE WORD —

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Joshua 4:1-7

Sermon "Transformation of Gilgal"

**\*Hymn of Response** "On Jordan's Stormy Banks" (v. 1-2) #777

Sharing Joys and Concerns

## 2 Corinthians 8:12

"If you are really eager to give, then it isn't important how much you have to give. God wants you to give what you have, not what you haven't."

## Offertory

## “How Firm a Foundation”

## Chilids

### \*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**  
#68

“We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer” (v. 1-2)

### \*Charge and Benediction

### Numbers 26:22-26

*The LORD bless you and keep you;*

*the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;  
the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.” Amen.*

### \*Congregational Response

“We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer” (v. 3)

#68

## \*Postlude

“Rondeau”

Mouret

\*PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

**Today's Music:** We welcome **Emilie Greiner Basile** to our service today. Emilie has shared her musical gifts with us quite often. When she is not singing in church she is working in the Westmoreland County District Attorney's Office as a Victim Advocate.



## Ordination and Installation

On Sunday, August 31, 2025, Grace Church will be installing individuals to the offices of Elder and Deacons during the 10:00 AM worship service.

# 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 Coffee Fellowship in Cana Hall following today's worship service.



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! The Operation Christmas Child items for the month of August are school supplies (pens, pencils, crayons, scissors, glue sticks, markers). Donations may be placed in the OCC box in the Narthex. Thank you.

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

August 4 Randy Daughtry

August 1     Mike & Sue Pish

August 10 Beulah Brown

August 5 Michael & Darlene Cochenour

August 14 Rich Acre

August 5 Scott & Sharon Rupert

August 22 Quintin McGeary

August 16 Lee & Linda Johnson

August 23 Margie Bistline

August 25 Scott Rupert

**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**  
**August 24 - 30, 2025**

Today	Worship	10:00am
	Adult Sunday School	11:00am
	Coffee Fellowship	11:00am
Monday	Session Meeting	6:00pm
Tuesday	Bible Study	12:30pm***
Wednesday	Cross Currents Mailed	

**Looking Ahead**  
**August 31 - September 6, 2025**

August 31	Worship	10:00am
	Ordination/Installation of Officers	
	Coffee Fellowship	11:00am
	Adult Sunday School	11:00am
September 1	Labor Day - OFFICE CLOSED	
September 2	Bible Study	1:00pm
September 3	Choir Practice	7:00pm
September 4	Boy Scouts	6:00pm
	Ladies Group	6:30pm

\*\*\*Please note time change for Tuesday's Bible Study.  
This is for this week only.

Sermon Notes:

For Sunday \_\_/\_\_/\_\_

Scripture Reference \_\_\_\_\_

What spoke to my heart from today's sermon:

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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: Cathy Brady  
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  
Kellie Newcomb  
Marcia Sackett  
Rich Sackett  
Dee Shaffer  
Shirley Trinclisti