

Grace Community Presbyterian Church

April 17, 2025



Thought for Meditation

"The point is this. It was the custom that before people went to a feast they bathed themselves. When they came to the house of their host, they did not need to be bathed again; all they needed was to have their feet washed. The washing of the feet was the ceremony which preceded entry into the house where they were to be guests. It was what we might call the washing of entry into the house. So Jesus says to Peter: "It is not the bathing of your body that you require. That you can do for yourself. What you need is the washing which marks entry into the household of the faith." This explains another thing. Peter at first is going to refuse to allow Jesus to wash his feet. Jesus says that if he does, he will have no part of him. It is as if Jesus said: "Peter, are you going to be too proud to let me do this for you? If you are, you will lose everything."

William Barclay's Daily Study Bible

GATHERING

Prelude “Adagio” Barber

Welcome and Announcements

We welcome you and pray that you experience the power of God’s love during worship today.

Opening Prayer

*Call to Worship: (responsively) Cathy Brady

L: Jesus Christ is Lord and Host, inviting us to come and share in the feast he has prepared.

All: We lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

L: Jesus Christ is Master and Servant, kneeling before us in humility, washing our feet in love.

All: As he has loved us, Let us love one another, Let us worship the Lord!

*Hymn of Praise “Lamb of God” (v. 1-2) #302

*Invitation to Confession Romans 5:8; Hebrews. 4:16

The proof of God’s amazing love is this: while we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence. In faith and penitence, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

*Prayer of Confession: (in unison) Adapted: CTW 57-digital

O God, in the breaking of the bread and the pouring of the wine, we become aware of the depth of Your self-giving love; we see our own failures to live as people fed by you. In a world hungry for food and thirsty for compassion, we are often stingy and hard-hearted. We make our tables exclusive and share only with those we like. Forgive our selfishness and have mercy upon us. Give us glad and generous hearts, so that we may give freely following the example of Jesus. Amen.

(Silent prayer of confession)

*Assurance of Forgiveness: (responsively)

May the God of mercy, who forgives you all your sins, restore and strengthen you in all goodness. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace: (responsively) John 14:27

“Peace, I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. 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.

Hymn of Reflection “God Will Take Care of You” #692

Celebration of the Last Supper

Luke 22:14-23 The Last Supper Rev. Dr. Owar Ojulu

Hymn of Preparation “In Remembrance” #461

Breaking Bread and Sharing Christ’s Cup

The Passion of the Lord Jesus Christ

Luke 22:39-46 The Second Light Extinguished	Jesus Prays on the Mount of Olive	Rev. Paul Milz
Hymn	“I Will Sing of My Redeemer” (v. 1- 3)	#309
Luke 22:47-65 The Third Light Extinguished	Jesus is Arrested	Cheryl Landis
*Hymn	“Beneath the Cross of Jesus” (v. 1-3)	#320
Luke 22: 66-23:25 The Fourth Light Extinguished	Jesus’ Trial	Terri Ludwig
Hymn	“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”	#316
Luke 23:26-43 The Fifth Light Extinguished	Jesus’ Crucifixion	Michael Cochenour
Anthem	“What Love is This?” (Words by Susan Dengler; Music by Lee Dengler)	Chancel Choir

What love is this, that bears a cross, that says, “Your will, not mine be done; Father, forgive, they know not what they do”? This is the love of Jesus, love from the heart of God.

What grace is this, bestowed to all? It is our sins that weigh Him down. It is for us that He suffers on the cross. This is the grace of Jesus, grace from the heart of God.

What wondrous love is this, O my soul! That caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul. *(American folk hymn)*

What love is this; what grace divine. No greater gift will ever be. Our blessed Savior died that we might live. This gift so freely given: love, love from the heart of God.

Luke 23:44-49	The Death of Jesus	Henry Kedzierski
Isaiah 53:1-12 The Sixth Light Extinguished	By His Wounds We Are Healed	Rev. Dr. Owar Ojulu
*Hymn The Seventh Light Extinguished	“Go to Dark Gethsemane” (v. 1-3)	Insert

Dismissal
Go in peace, surrender to Christ, and share God's love with others. Amen!

Silent Reflection

TOLLING OF THE BELLS

Feel free to stay in the sanctuary to meditate on the cross of Christ in silence.

Please maintain silence when you leave until outside the building

**PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE*

Please join us Sunday, April 20 for worship as we celebrate the resurrection.

We will be holding two Easter worship services. Our sunrise service will begin at 6:30 am and will be held rain, snow, or shine at the top of Greenwood Cemetery. Please dress appropriately for the weather and bring a lawn chair if you choose. Our 10:00am service is housed in the sanctuary .



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@gracecommunitypresbyterianchurch.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
Cathy Brady
Dave Briscoe
Michael Cochenour (clerk)

Henry Kedzierski
Cheryl Landis
Val Lester
Glenn Nordmark
Sharon Rupert
Jack Trinclisti

Deacons

Gary Barbiaux
Judy Barbiaux
Margie Bistline
Beulah Brown
Elsie Deem
Lisa Edwards
Cindy Irvin (moderator)
Terri Ludwig
Lavonne Pelisari
Debbie Roskey
Marcia Sackett
Rich Sackett
Dee Shaffer
Shirley Wilson

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