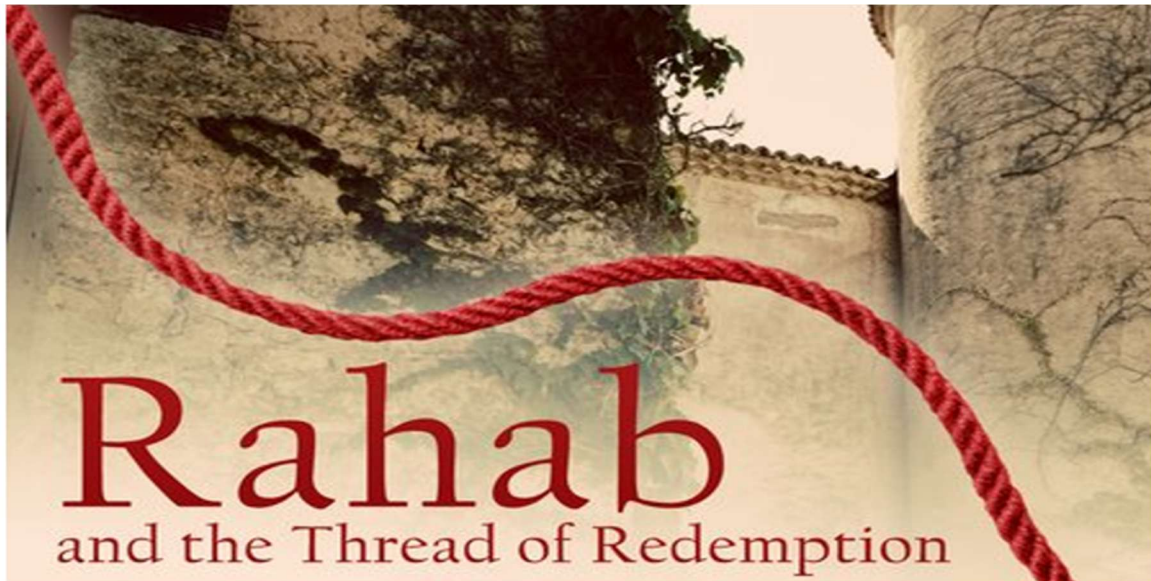


# Grace Community Presbyterian Church

August 10, 2025



## **Thought for Meditation**

“Rahab had heard of the miracles the Lord wrought for Israel. She believed that his promises would certainly be fulfilled, and his threatenings take effect; and that there was no way of escape but by submitting to him, and joining with his people. The conduct of Rahab proved that she had the real principle of Divine faith. Observe the promises the spies made to her. The goodness of God is often expressed by his kindness and truth, Ps 117:2; in both these we must be followers of him. Those who will be conscientious in keeping promises, are cautious in making them. The spies make needful conditions. The scarlet cord, like the blood upon the doorpost at the passover, recalls to remembrance the sinner's security under the atoning blood of Christ; and that we are to flee thereto for refuge from the wrath of a justly offended God. The same cord Rahab used for the saving of these Israelites, was to be used for her own safety. What we serve and honour God with, we may expect he will bless, and make useful to us.”

*Matthew Henry's Concise Commentary*

—GATHERING —

Prelude "Simple Gifts" (Lord of the Dance) Rogers

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

**\*Call To Worship** Psalm 34 LaVonne Pelisari

Leader: Give praise to the LORD and let us exalt His name together.

**People: We sought the Lord, and He answered us and delivered us from all our fears.**

Leader: O taste and see that the Lord is good!

**People: Happy are those who take refuge in God,  
let us worship the Lord our God.**

**\*Hymn of Praise** "All Praise to Our Redeeming Lord" #221

**Prayer of Confession** Proverbs 28:13

"Whoever conceals their sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and turns away from their sins will find compassion and mercy." Grace Church, let us confess our sins.

**God of grace,**

**You have called us to wear truth as a garment, but we are prone to lie and would rather wear a mask. You have called us to struggle against evil in this world, but instead, we struggle for success and power. You have called us to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, but we keep it to ourselves for fear of being judged. Hear our prayer, O God of grace. Clothe us in your strength, peace, and faith. Wash us in your mercy and make us imitators of your compassion. In Jesus name, amen.**

*Silent Prayer of Confession...*

**\*Assurance of Forgiveness** Isaiah 12:2-3

The LORD is our strength and our defense, and he has become our salvation. With joy we will draw water of mercy and forgiveness from the wells of salvation.

Friends believe the good news of the gospel.

**P: 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 give you peace at all times in every way." 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** "God of the Deep" Aubrie Newcomb  
(Words by Eileen Barry, music by Dan Forrest)

— THE WORD —

**Prayer for Illumination: (in unison)**

**Living God, help us to hear your holy Word that we may truly understand; that, understanding, we may believe, and, believing, we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience, seeking your honor and glory in all that we do; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Scripture** Joshua 2:8-16

Sermon“The Thread of REDEMPTION”

\*Hymn of Response“I Then Shall Live” (v. 1, 3)#604

Sharing Joys and Concerns and the Lord’s Prayer

Tithes and Offerings2 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“O Worship the King”DeCou

\*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“May the Mind of Christ, My Savior” (v. 1-2)#568

\*Charge and Benediction2 Peter 3:18

Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.  
To Him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

\*Congregational Response“May the Mind of Christ, My Savior” (v. 5)#568

\*Postlude“Little Prelude and Fugue in D Minor”Bach

\*PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

**Today’s Music:** “Simple Gifts” was written in 1848, for Shaker gatherings. Officially known as the United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Appearing, they expressed their joyful assurance of salvation and belief in the imminence of Christ’s second coming by rhythmic singing and ecstatic dancing, hence the name “Shakers.” The lyrics of

“Simple Gifts” contain nothing referencing Christianity (or indeed, any religion). It is not a song of praise, worship, or contemplation. Rather it gives instructions on how to dance when they gather together.

In 1963, Sidney Carter wrote new, Christian lyrics to this catchy tune. Carter described “Lord of the Dance” as a carol, “a dancing kind of song.” The words of the hymn take the form of a narrative of Christ’s ministry - dancing for the scribe, the Pharisee, for James and John, on the Sabbath, on [Good] Friday, and so on. The story is told with simplicity for all to hear and understand.

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 McGearry	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 10 - 16, 2025

Today	Reach Out Committee	9:00am
	Worship	10:00am
	Adult Sunday School	11:00am
	Coffee Fellowship	11:00am
Tuesday	Bible Study	1:00pm

Looking Ahead  
August 17 - 23, 2025

August 17	Deacons	9:00am
	Worship	10:00am
	Coffee Fellowship	11:00am
	Adult Sunday School	11:00am
August 19	Bible Study	1:00pm
	Sewing Group	7:00pm
August 21	Ladies Group	6:30pm
August 23	Knead Café	8:00am

# 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 <a href="mailto:pastorowar@gracecommunitypresbyterian.org">pastorowar@gracecommunitypresbyterian.org</a>
Secretary:	Cathy Brady <a href="mailto:secretary@gracecommunitypresbyterian.org">secretary@gracecommunitypresbyterian.org</a>
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