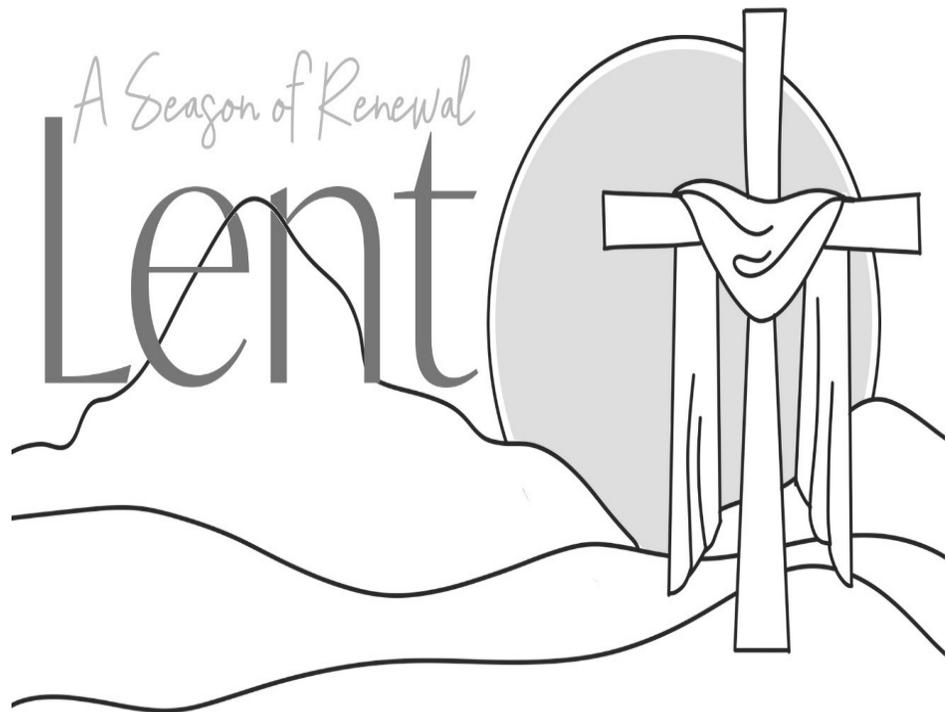


Grace Community Presbyterian Church  
February 22, 2026



Thought for Meditation

“The season of Lent has its historical underpinning as a “commemoration” of Jesus’ forty day jaunt in the wilderness where thrice tempted by Satan, he resisted. It is a forty day reminder of our own **vulnerability to temptation**, but unlike Jesus, we have succumbed to sin, not once but thrice, times some. It is also a forty day reminder of our bodily fragility. Biblical theology intimately ties our sin with physical decay and death. The gift of the grave is the gift that sin gladly keeps on giving. None of us are exempt. However, the Church has not viewed Lent as a morbid period, but an instructively sobering one, for ultimately the story does not allow sin and death the last word.”

*Thepastorsworkshop.com*

—GATHERING—

**Prelude**

“Prayer”

L. Boellmann

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Opening Prayer**

**\*Call To Worship**

Psalm 23

Michael

Cochenour

Leader: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

**People: "He makes us lie down in green pastures.**

Leader: He leads me beside still waters."

**People: He restores our soul and leads us in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.**

Leader: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

**People: And we shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

**All: Alleluia! Come, let us worship the Good Shepherd together!**

**\* Hymn of Praise**

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” (vs. 1, 3, 4)

#43

**Prayer of Confession**

*Isaiah 1:18 [TLB]*

*“Come, let’s talk this over, says the Lord; no matter how deep the stain of your sins, I can take it out and make you as clean as freshly fallen snow. Even if you are stained as red as crimson, I can make you white as wool.” Friends, let us seek God's forgiveness with confidence so that we may be cleansed and renewed.*

**O Lord,**

Like the people of Israel, we sometimes forget the great things You've done and take Your blessings for granted. We confess that we often prioritize rituals over relationships and seek to appease You with actions instead of embodying love and justice. Forgive us for acting unjustly and overlooking the needs of others.

Create in us clean hearts and renew a right spirit within us and help us to remember Your call—to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with You.  
Amen

*Silent Prayer of Confession...*

\*Assurance of Forgiveness *1 John 1:9*  
"You have been purified from sin; you have been dedicated to God; you have been put right with God by the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God." 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, a world without  
end.  
Amen, Amen.

**Anthem** "I Love to Tell the Story" Chancel  
Choir

**Children's Sermon** Linda  
Johnson

— THE WORD —

**Prayer for Illumination (unison)**  
Gracious God, our way in the wilderness, guide us by your Word through these forty days, and minister to us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may be reformed, restored, and renewed through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Scripture** Matthew 4:1-11

**Sermon** "Tempted but Not Defeated"

\***Hymn of Response** "Forty Days and Forty Nights" (v.1-2) Insert  
*Sharing Joys and Concerns and the Lord's Prayer*

**Tithes and Offerings** *Proverbs 3:9*  
*"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops."*

**Offertory** 'Reflection on Amazing Grace" arr. C.  
Callahan

\* **Doxology** #815  
Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all Creatures here below.  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

**Prayer of Dedication (unison)**

Thank you, gracious God, for giving us strength for the journey of these forty days. As we travel on through the wilderness, help us to share Your grace with others and draw us ever closer to You, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

— SENDING —

\* Hymn of Dedication "The Solid Rock" (vs. 1-2) #526

\* Charge and Benediction

\* Congregational Response "The Solid Rock" (vs. 4) #526

\* Postlude "Passacaglia in F Minor" A. Raison



\*PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

Welcome to Grace Community

Presbyterian Church

Today's Music: We welcome Dane Skroupa to our service.

We extend a warm welcome to all worshipping with us today and we hope that you will return. There is no coffee fellowship today because of the Chicken Pie Dinner at 5pm today. Today's Deacon greeters are Rich and Marsha Sackett.



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 girls fashion accessories, hair bows, hairbrushes for the month of February for Operation Christmas Child. Donations may be placed in the OCC box in the Narthex. Thank you.

FEBRUARY/MARCH BIRTHDAYS

February 25- Jodi Johnson

March 2 - Alice Atkinson

March 11- Ann Bayruns

March 13- Bonnie Carroll

March 30- Wendy Aurednik

March 5- Dave Highfield

March 11- Katie Sevic (Ludwig)

March 18- Stephanie Tutka

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

February 22, 2026- February 28, 2026

Today	Worship- Children's Sermon	10:00am
	Adult Sunday School	11:00am
	Chicken Pie Dinner	5:00pm
Tuesday	Cross Current articles due	
Wednesday	Cross Currents assembly & mailing	9:00am
Thursday	Boy Scouts- Den Meeting	6:00pm
Saturday	Knead Café	8am-12p

## Looking Ahead

March 1, 2026- March 7, 2026

March 1	Reach Out Meeting	9:00am
	Worship	10:00am
	Coffee Fellowship	11:00am
	Adult Sunday School	11:00am
March 2	Scout Committee Meeting	
March 5	Boy Scouts- Pack Meeting	6:00pm
	Ladies Group	6:30pm

### 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](mailto: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