

# Grace Community Presbyterian Church

## October 12, 2025



### **Thought for Meditation**

“God had before directed that He would appoint six cities of refuge in Israel (Numbers 35:9), and now that Israel is settled in the land these cities are to be designated. They were to be places of safety for anyone who had accidentally or unintentionally killed another person (v.3). For a near relative of the victim might desire to avenge this wrong by killing the guilty party, but if the person fled to a city of refuge, he would be safe from the avenger...All the meanings of these cities are wonderfully consistent with the perfect refuge that is provided for confessed sinners saved through the blood of Jesus. The sanctuary (Kadesh) is the presence of God, a place of perfect safety. Then Shechem (shoulder) reminds us of the Lord Jesus carrying the sheep that was lost on His shoulders, the place of strength, of certainty, or security. Hebron then (communion) gives the added sweetness of fellowship with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ (1 John 1:3).” [www.bibliaplus.org](http://www.bibliaplus.org)

— GATHERING —

**Prelude**

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

Colvin

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Opening Prayer**

**\*Call To Worship**

*Psalm 122: 1-9*

*Rev. Paul Milz*

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord our God; He is a strength for the helpless.

**People: Our God is a defense for the needy in the distress, a refuge from the storm and a shade from the heat.**

Leader: The Lord is God; He is mighty to save and gracious to show mercy.

**People: He is our refuge and fortress; in Him we trust and worship with joy!**

Leader: Let us come together with hearts full of praise,

**People: For our God is good, and His love endures forever!**

***ALL: Come, let us worship the Lord together! Amen!***

**\* Hymn of Praise**

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

#139

**\*Prayer of Confession:**

Ephesians 6: 12-13

It is only by the power of God that we are able to stand against evil. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

**O Lord, you are the maker of justice and the source of righteousness, the one who hears the cries of the suffering and who fills the hunger of the poor. Forgive us, O God, when we fail to reflect your just love: when we have food and food left over, yet we do not share with any in need; when we have power for good and power for change, yet we use it only for our own self-preservation; when we have the words of the prophets before us, yet we cover our ears lest they make us uncomfortable. Forgive us, O Lord, and teach us to follow in your way. And lead us to the refuge of Your presence, where we find healing and hope. Amen.**

*Silent Prayer of Confession...*

**\*Assurance of Forgiveness**      Psalm 32:1-2

L: Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit. Friends, believe this Good News of the Gospel!

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed and sent!**

**\* Passing of the Peace**      *Colossians 3:15*

L: Let the peace of heart that comes from Christ be always present in your hearts and lives, for this is your responsibility and privilege as members of his body. And always be thankful. 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**

— THE WORD —

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture**

Joshua 20: 1-9

**Sermon**

“The Perfect City of Refuge”

**\*Responding Hymn**

“How Firm a Foundation”  
(vs 1-3)

#408

## Sharing Joys and Concerns and the Lord's Prayer (debts & debtors)

### **Call for Tithes and Offerings**

Acts 20:35

"In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

### **Offertory**

"Why Have You Chosen Me?"

Strader

### **\* 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.  
The rest, O God, is in Your hand.

### **\* Prayer of Dedication**

— SENDING —

### **\* Hymn of Dedication**

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" (v. 1-2)

#210

### **\* Charge and Benediction**

2 Cor. 13:13

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **Amen**

### **\* Congregational Response**

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" (v.3)

#210

### **\* Postlude**

"Song for a Feast Day"

Livingston

\*PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

**Today's Music:** We welcome Lisa Clark to our service. Lisa is organist for First Baptist Church in Upper Burrell.

## **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 October are small toys (yo-yos, puzzles, coloring books, etc). Donations may be placed in the OCC box in the Narthex. Thank you.

## **OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

October 16 Chris Legters  
October 18 Brandon Daughtry  
Zoe Householder  
October 19 Cindy Daughtry  
October 25 Paul Berggren  
October 27 Apay Ojulu

October 5 Carl & Kathy Dolan  
October 8 Bill & Terri Ludwig  
October 12 Steve & Valerie Lester

**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.**

## Sermon Notes:

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

Scripture Reference

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What spoke to my heart from today's sermon:

Prayer Concerns for this week:



**This Week's Calendar**  
**October 12- October 18, 2025**

|                  |                            |                |
|------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Today</b>     | <b>Reach Out Meeting</b>   | <b>9:00am</b>  |
|                  | <b>Worship</b>             | <b>10:00am</b> |
|                  | <b>Adult Sunday School</b> | <b>11:00am</b> |
|                  | <b>Coffee Fellowship</b>   | <b>11:00am</b> |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>Bible Study</b>         | <b>1:00pm</b>  |
|                  | <b>Garden Club</b>         | <b>6:00pm</b>  |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>Choir Practice</b>      | <b>7:00pm</b>  |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | <b>Meals for Children</b>  | <b>1:00pm</b>  |
|                  | <b>Boy Scouts</b>          | <b>6:00pm</b>  |
|                  | <b>Ladies Group</b>        | <b>6:30pm</b>  |

**Looking Ahead**

**October 19- October 25, 2025**

|                   |                                         |                |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>October 19</b> | <b>Worship</b>                          | <b>10:00am</b> |
|                   | <b>Coffee Fellowship</b>                | <b>11:00am</b> |
|                   | <b>Deacons Meeting</b>                  | <b>11:00am</b> |
|                   | <b>Adult Sunday School</b>              | <b>11:00am</b> |
| <b>October 20</b> | <b>Sewing Group</b>                     | <b>1:00pm</b>  |
| <b>October 21</b> | <b>Bible Study</b>                      | <b>1:00pm</b>  |
| <b>October 22</b> | <b>Choir Practice</b>                   | <b>7:00pm</b>  |
| <b>October 23</b> | <b>Boy Scouts</b>                       | <b>6:00pm</b>  |
| <b>October 25</b> | <b>Knead Café'</b>                      | <b>8:00am</b>  |
|                   | <b>Operation Christmas Child Dinner</b> | <b>4:00pm</b>  |

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: 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  
Marcia Sackett  
Rich Sackett  
Dee Shaffer  
Shirley Trinclisti