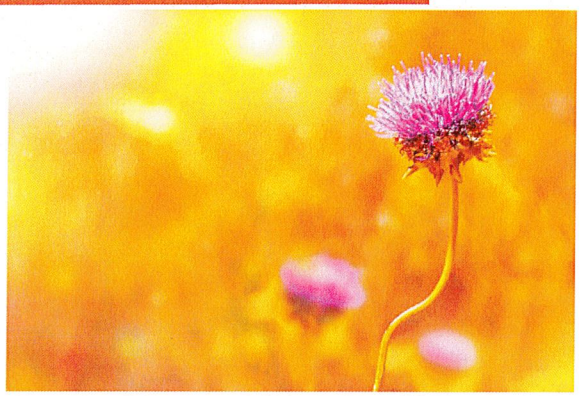
Grace Devotion

Week of October 11, 2026



4 Rejoice[b] in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.[c] 5 Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.— Philippians 4: 4-7

Dear friends,

I have to admit, there are days when the word *rejoice* doesn't feel like the easiest thing to live out. There are days when we have plenty to be thankful for, but there are also days when we are worried about someone we love, we are missing someone who is no longer with us, or we are simply tired. Yet, Paul says, "Rejoice in the Lord always." I don't think that Paul is telling us to pretend that everything is fine. He isn't saying that we should brush aside the very real things that we carry. Just a few verses later, he tells us what to do with those worries—bring them to God.

6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. In everything. Not just the big things, and not just in the things that we think are important enough to bring to God. Everything. We can bring God the worries that rest in the back of our minds. We can bring the name of someone that we can't stop thinking about. We can bring loneliness, uncertainty, and even the things that we aren't even sure how to put into words.

We can also bring our thanks. That's part of rejoicing anyway. We don't have to wait until everything is perfect for us to notice what is good. We can be in both places—worry and gratitude. There can be sadness and joy in our heart at the same time. We can miss someone deeply and also be thankful for the memories we hold. Paul reminds us to pay attention to what is true, honorable, just, pure, pleasing, and commendable. In other words, pay attention to the good that is still here.

Whatever today holds, God is with you in it. Rejoice anyway. Give thanks anyway. Pray anyway. May the peace of God, which is beyond our understanding, hold you today.

Prayer:

Loving God,

thank You for meeting us wherever we are today. When our hearts are worried, help us bring those worries to You. When we are discouraged, help us notice the good that is still around us. Give us grateful hearts and remind us that Your peace is with us, even when life is difficult.

Amen

With Peace and Love,

Pastor Amy

Pastor Amy

October 11, 2026
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Westminster Chimes and Prelude
Welcome/Announcements

+"Confidence" **#60

** Call to Worship
Lector: Some weeks we come into worship full of joy.
Congregation: And some weeks we come carrying more than we wish we were carrying.
Lector: Some weeks, our hearts are light and others we are already making lists of things that need done.
Congregation: Wherever we are today, God welcomes us here.
Lector: Let us bring our worries, our questions, our gratitude, and our hopes into this time of worship.
Congregation: Let us take a breath and remember that God is here.
Lector: So come, let us worship God with open hearts and grateful spirits.
Congregation: We come as we are, trusting that God meets us here.

** Opening Prayer: (pray silently or aloud)
Loving God, Meet us wherever we are today. Quiet our minds, open our hearts, and remind us that we do not have to carry everything alone. Help us notice the good, give thanks for what we have, and trust You with what we cannot control. Be with us as we worship and fill this time with Your peace. Amen

° Hymn: "Be Thou My Vision" **#382

** Sharing the Peace of Christ

Sacrament of Baptism ~ Miriam Shay Shearer

Joys and Concerns
Praying for Others
Lord's Prayer

Prayer of Confession/Silent Reflection/Assurance of Grace

Celebration of Our Gifts
** Offertory Response: "Doxology" **#625**
** Prayer of Dedication

° Hymn: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" **#43

Reception of New Members

Scripture Reading:
Philippians 4:1-9
Matthew 22:1-14

Time for the Young at Heart

Message: "Rejoice Anyway"

+"Your Grace Is Enough" **#2

** Final Blessing

** "A Choral Benediction"
Postlude
** Please stand, if you are able.
+ Black contemporary folder ° Blue hymnal

Announcements

- Please consider sharing your talents by hosting snacks in the Gathering Place on Sunday mornings or acting as Lector. Both sign-up sheets can be found in the Gathering Place on the bulletin board.
- Confirmation Sunday will be October 11th
- Bible Study Group has been canceled for October 14th
- Starting October 4th at Grace, we're beginning our Harvest Home collection. It's a way for us to remember that while we may not be able to solve someone's food insecurity, we can make sure a family has something good to put on the table. We'll be collecting donations to create "Meals That Stretch" kits—simple meals that can feed a family for more than one meal. Stay tuned for items to donate!
- Help us collect snacks and candy for Trick or Treat which will be held on October 27th.

Upcoming Events

Grace UCC Helpers – October 17th @ 9:00 AM
Trick or Treat – October 27th @ 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Upcoming Meetings

- Consistory Meeting – October 12th @ 6:00 PM
- Faith Formation Committee Meeting – October 19th @ 5:00 PM
- Worship & Music Committee Meeting – October 27th @ 3:30 PM



Grace United Church of Christ

100 Fourth Street

Hanover, Pennsylvania 17331

717-632-1146

Prayer Line: 717-632-1146 LINE 3

Thank you for today's Worship Leaders:

Pastor - Amy Fawks

Lector - Jessica Walsh-Farig

Music Director – Grace Neilson

Head Usher – Anita Kincaid & Susan Dienes

Philippians 4:1-9

P	M	W	H	O	L	E	N	E	S	S	R	U	I
P	I	R	L	D	D	T	E	P	P	O	W	N	T
N	I	L	S	R	E	M	T	P	S	E	P	D	L
S	H	A	L	O	M	E	H	A	V	L	R	E	S
P	P	E	A	C	E	U	P	U	E	D	V	R	L
R	I	F	U	L	L	L	I	L	O	O	U	S	E
A	R	R	P	P	H	P	W	R	L	E	R	T	T
C	E	C	P	P	R	A	E	I	E	A	S	A	T
T	A	E	I	M	E	O	A	I	T	D	U	N	E
I	L	E	D	Y	P	I	M	A	D	H	E	D	R
S	N	E	P	O	R	L	D	I	R	I	Y	I	U
E	I	L	G	L	V	L	T	F	S	R	O	N	E
N	V	U	L	E	A	E	L	H	H	E	U	G	W
P	T	L	S	O	E	L	S	T	S	O	R	R	S

PAUL
PEACE
PROMISE
LOVE
SHALOM
WHOLENESS
DOVE
PRACTISE
WITH
YOU
DEEP
FULL
UNDERSTANDING
LETTER

Be anxious for nothing,
but in everything by prayer and supplication,
with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.

PHILIPPIANS 4:6

Matthew 22:1-14

R U D N Q C O R N E R S E L C
Z N E I K P M P G U E S T S V
N X D O N O A E Z G T P N Z S
O Q P N D N L R C B J D E P E
B P Z G W T E T A O X V B U R
X A N R T I E R U B M S A G V
H I N A R E B W I K L E M R A
K R C Q R C A E N J C E T Q N
H Z U T U Z H D V L Q G S G T
E F S G T E W D I C Q M B F S
A T F L N S T I T S I Y M I T
V K L E K L L N E B E D R L P
E Z R K P S O G D X S R S L I
N D U T R E F U S E D Q L E J
N W A U D V I Z T N P J G D L

PARABLES	STREET	INVITED	BANQUET
GUESTS	HEAVEN	KINGDOM	CORNERS
SERVANTS	CATTLE	COME	OXEN
FILLED	REFUSED	WEDDING	DINNER