

# Grace Devotion

Week of May 10, 2026

## The Promise of the Holy Spirit

<sup>15</sup> “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup> This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

<sup>18</sup> “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup> In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup> On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup> They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.” (John 14:15-21 NRSVUE)

---

Dear friends,

This Sunday, we celebrate Mother’s Day, a day traditionally set aside to lift up our mothers. This day, though, holds so much more. There are those who grieve the loss of their mothers, those who grieve not being able to become mothers, those who grieve the loss of a child. Some play the role of the mother figure in the lives of those who share that space—as a mentor, a loved one, a neighbor, or a friend who offered care and presence when it was most needed. For some, this day may simply pass quietly, marked more by memory than celebration. Wherever you find yourself in this day, I want you to hear this clearly: you are not alone, and you are not forgotten.



In the reading from the Gospel of John Jesus speaks words that offer reassurance to his disciples. He knows they are anxious. He knows they are afraid of what life will look like when he is no longer physically with them. Into that fear, he speaks a promise: “I will not leave you orphaned.” That word, orphaned, holds a lot of weight. It feels like abandonment and being left without care. Yet, Jesus refuses that story for them. Instead, he promises the presence of the Holy Spirit, one who abides with us and within us.

For those days when you feel alone, or forgotten, or unsure of what comes next, this promise is for you too. God has not stepped away. God has not let go. Christ continues to meet you right where you are. Right here, and right now.

### Prayer:

God of love,

Thank You for this time to pause and offer thanks and praise for those in our lives who have been mother figures. We lift up those who have shaped us and guided us into the people we are today. While this day may weigh heavy on our hearts, give us space to hold the joy in memories and the emotions that come with them. Amen

With Grace and Love,

Pastor Amy

May 10, 2026  
Sixth Sunday of Easter

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

#625

Welcome/Announcements  
Westminster Chimes and Prelude

"When Giving Is All We Have" ~Alberto Rios

Joys and Concerns  
Praying for Others  
Lord's Prayer

\*\*+"Your Way's Better"  
#74

\*\* Call to Worship

Lector: In a world that can feel overwhelming and uncertain,  
we come seeking peace.

**Congregation: We come longing to know that we  
are not alone.**

Lector: Jesus says, "I will not leave you." Love comes to  
dwell among us.

**Congregation: We open our hearts to this love.**

Lector: For those who nurture, for those who long, for those  
who carry both joy and grief on this day--

**Congregation: God's love holds us all.**

Lector: Let us worship together the One who abides with us.  
**Congregation: We are here. We are held. We are  
not alone.**

\*\* Opening Prayer: (pray silently or aloud)  
**Loving God, Thank You for meeting us right where we  
are—in our joys and weariness, in our gratitude and  
longing. On this day, especially, remind us that no one is  
outside Your care. Meet us here. Quiet what is busy  
within us and open our hearts. As we worship today, may  
we feel drawn into Your love that stays with us.**  
Amen

\*\* Sharing the Peace of Christ

\*\*° Hymn: "They'll Know We Are Christians" #284

\*\*° Hymn: "Love Divine All Loves Excelling" #92  
Prayer of Confession/Silent Reflection/Assurance of Grace

Scripture Reading:  
**John 14:15-21**

Time for the Young at Heart

Message: "Love That Shows Up"

Holy Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Gracious God, We thank You for this holy meal and that  
You meet us with grace and mercy. May this time  
together in community remind us that we are held by You,  
and sent from this table to love one another. Amen**

\*\*+"My Lighthouse"

#42

\*\* Final Blessing  
\*\* "A Choral Benediction"

Postlude

\*\* Please stand, if you are able.

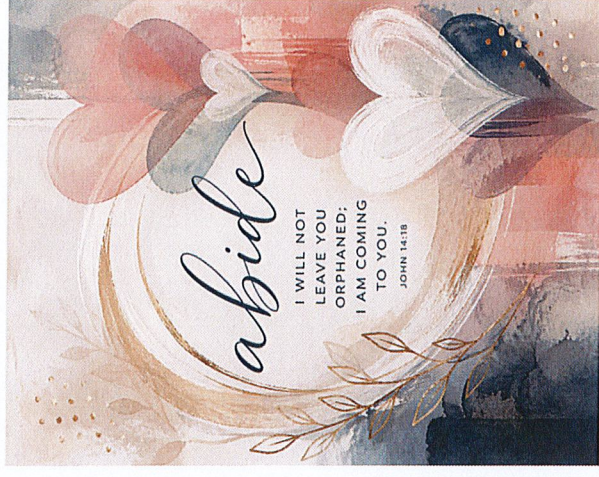
+ Black contemporary folder ° Blue hymnal

### Announcements

- Contact the church office or Leslie Grote for more information about our new widower's group that will meet monthly.
  - Consider joining the group that meets every Tuesday at 1pm. Enjoy games and fellowship in the Gathering Place.
  - The month of May is a special month at Grace UCC – INVITE – A - FRIEND MONTH! Your invitation could be the first step in someone else's journey of hope, love, and connection.
  - Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering, May 24<sup>th</sup>, reflects the shared commitment of people across the UCC to cooperatively build up the UCC. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. Envelopes will be available at entrances near the offering plates.
  - Sign-ups are open for VBS! June 22-26<sup>th</sup> at Trinity UCC Hanover. Open to ages 4-12. Log onto our website & select the Events tab to enroll
- ### Upcoming Events
- Bible Study and Movie May 13<sup>th</sup> @ 12:30 PM
  - Women's Ministry – **ZOOM** May 13<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 PM
  - Mark your calendars for the Grace Parking Lot Yard Sale on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. More details to come
  - Women's Ministry – **In Person** - May 27<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 PM

### Upcoming Meetings

- Consistory Meeting – May 11<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 PM
- Staff Meeting – May 18<sup>th</sup> @ 3:30
- Worship & Music – May 26<sup>th</sup> @ 3:30
- Faith Formation – May 26<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00 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 - Jenn Weaver

Organist and Music Director - Christian Keller

Head Usher – Chelsey Topper & Becky Boyer



# John 14

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

- BELIEVE
- MANY
- AGAIN
- KNOW
- GOEST
- COMETH
- FROM
- SHEW
- PHILIP
- WORKS
- FATHER
- THESE
- GLORIFIED
- NAME
- COMMANDMENTS
- EVER
- WORLD
- LEAVE
- WHILE
- SHALL
- HATH
- THYSELF
- SAID
- WORD
- HAVE
- WHATSOEVER
- WITH
- GREATER
- PASS
- HEREAFTER
- HENCE

THE WAY THE TRUTH  
*Jesus*  
 John 14:6  
 THE LIFE



# BIBLE MOTHERS

*Delve into the heart of biblical heritage with this word search, spotlighting the names of mothers whose faith and strength echo through generations.*

ABIGAIL  
BATHSHEBA  
BILHAH  
ELIZABETH  
EUNICE  
EVE  
GOMER  
HAGAR  
HANNAH  
JEZEBEL  
JOCHEBED  
JUDITH  
KETURAH  
LEAH  
LOIS  
MARY  
MILCAH

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



NAOMI  
PENINNAH  
RACHEL  
RAHAB  
REBEKAH

RUTH  
SARAH  
TAMAR  
ZILPAH  
ZIPPORAH