

Grace Devotion

Week of June 28, 2026

40 “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. 41 Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous, 42 and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.” (*Matthew 10:40-42 NRSVUE*)

Dear friends,

Jesus speaks these words as he is sending His disciples out into the world. It isn’t an easy journey. He has been honest with them about what they may face—uncertainty, rejection, and the challenge of going without much to rely on. Then, in the midst of this unknown journey, He speaks about something that is beautifully simple. “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.” I love how often Jesus connects God’s presence to something as ordinary as welcome. It is in these quiet acts of opening a door, or making space, or offering hospitality. It doesn’t have to be grand or dramatic. In God’s kingdom, welcome isn’t just a social courtesy. It is sacred. When we receive another person with kindness, we are entering into something greater than ourselves. Jesus says that He is there in those moments. Then, He goes even further. Even the smallest gesture matters: a cup of cold water offered in love doesn’t go unnoticed.

This is a reminder that nothing offered in kindness is ever too small to matter to God. In a world that often measures worth by success, Jesus lifts up the quiet faithfulness of simple goodness. Most of us will not perform great acts that are remembered for generations. But, we will have countless opportunities to offer welcome—to make someone feel seen, to offer refreshments in a weary moment, and to extend the hospitality of Christ in ordinary ways. Jesus tells us, that is enough, and that is holy.

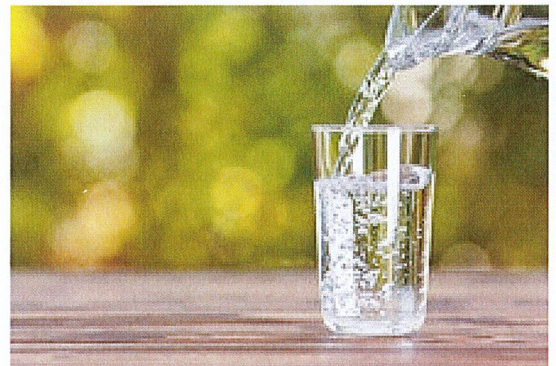
Prayer:

Loving and welcoming God, Be with us today. Help us open our hearts and hands in hospitality and welcome. Whether it is a friend from long ago, or a stranger we haven’t met yet, may we welcome them with Christ’s love. In the sharing of simple kindness, may we be open and receptive to the hospitality of others. In all things, may we reflect Your love and grace. Amen.

With Grace and Love,

Pastor Amy

Pastor Amy



June 28, 2026
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Westminster Chimes and Prelude
Welcome/Announcements

**+“The Truth”

#62

** Call to Worship

Lector: From generation to generation, God has been faithful.

Congregation: We come to remember and rejoice in God’s steadfast love.

Lector: God welcomes us into worship with grace and mercy.

Congregation: We come as we are, trusting in God..

Lector: Jesus reminds us that when we welcome one another, we welcome Him.

Congregation: May our hearts be open to Christ’s presence among us.

Lector: Let us worship a God whose love never fails.

Congregation: With joy and gratitude, we praise God together.

** Opening Prayer: (pray silently or aloud)
Loving and faithful God, You welcome us with grace and call us to share that grace with others. Open our hearts to Your Spirit. Help us to see Christ in one another and to reflect Your love through simple acts of kindness and welcome. Renew our faith, strengthen our hope, and fill us with Your joy. Amen

** Sharing the Peace of Christ

Celebration of Our Gifts

** Offertory Response: “Doxology”

** Prayer of Dedication

#625

**° Hymn: “To God Be the Glory”

#66

Joy and Concerns

Praying for Others

Lord’s Prayer

**° Hymn: “Take My Life”

#379

**New Creed (responsive)

Prayer of Confession/Silent Reflection/Assurance of Grace

Scripture Reading:

Psalms 89:1-4,15-18

Matthew 10:40-42

Time for the Young at Heart

Message: “The Grace of Welcome”

**+“That’s Who I Praise”

#73

** Final Blessing

** “A Choral Benediction”

Postlude

** Please stand, if you are able.

+ Black contemporary folder

° Blue hymnal

Announcements

- We welcome Grace Neilson as our summer pianist. Grace will be sharing her musical gifts with us all summer long
- July 5th we will collecting the Strengthen the Church offering

Upcoming Events

- Women's Ministry – ZOOM – July 8th @ 7:30 PM
- Monthly Movie – July 10th @ 3:00 PM
- PAL – Grace UCC Helpers – July 18th @ 9:00 AM
- Women's Ministry – In Person – July 22nd @ 7:30 PM

Upcoming Meetings

- Pastoral Relations Meeting – July 6th @ 5:30 PM
- Personnel Committee Meeting – July 13th @ 3:45 PM
- Consistory Meeting – July 13th @ 6:00 PM
- Search Committee Meeting – July 15th @ 3:45 PM
- Worship & Music Meeting – July 27th @ 4:45 PM
- Faith Formation Meeting – July 27th @ 6:00 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 -

Organist and Music Director -

Guest Pianist – Grace Neilson

Head Usher – Angie Boyers & Vickie Arnold

Psalm 89

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

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|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| • MAKE | • FACE | • FIRSTBORN | • BROUGHT |
| • VERY | • LIGHT | • STAND | • REPROACH |
| • HAVE | • RIGHTEOUSNESS | • DAYS | • HAST |
| • GENERATIONS | • HORN | • JUDGMENTS | • BATTLE |
| • SAINTS | • DEFENCE | • THEY | • THRONE |
| • COMPARED | • MIGHTY | • TRANSGRESSION | • SELAH |
| • ASSEMBLY | • SERVANT | • TAKE | • LONG |
| • ABOUT | • STRENGTHEN | • ALTER | • WHEREFORE |
| • STILLEST | • SHALL | • HOLINESS | • DELIVER |
| • THAT | • PLAGUE | • SEED | • FORMER |
| • THEM | • FAITHFULNESS | • HEAVEN | • PEOPLE |
| • REJOICE | • HAND | • ABHORRED | • REPROACHED |
| • RIGHT | • SALVATION | • GROUND | • EVERMORE |



4th of July



WORD SEARCH

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

PATRIOTIC

FLAG

PICNIC

HOLIDAY

FREEDOM

FIREWORKS

STRIPES

PARADE

AMERICA

CELEBRATE

STARS

SPARKLER

JULY

BLUE

RED

WHITE

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