

Grace Devotion

Week of July 20, 2025

³⁸ Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him.^[a] ³⁹ She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's^[b] feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." ⁴¹ But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, ⁴² but few things are needed—indeed only one.^[c] Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her." **Luke 10:38-42 (NRSVUE)**

We live in a world that is busy and time is counted by the events we live—meals, tv shows, doctor's appointments, or the occasional visits with friends and family. Even when our days are quieter than they once were, our minds can still be noisy. We can feel distracted by the thoughts of the past—of what we used to do, what we wish we could still do, or what others seem busy doing. In today's scripture we see Martha, like many of us, trying to make sure that everything is just right. She's doing important things—but they are keeping her from simply being present with Jesus. Mary, on the other hand, chooses to just sit and listen. Jesus reminds Martha that while many things seem urgent and important, only one thing is truly matters: being with Him.

You may not be rushing around like Martha, but you might still carry that same feeling of being worried or pulled in different directions—by loneliness or uncertainty. The good news, my friends, is this: you can choose to sit in His presence, to listen, to pray, to rest in His love. And that, Jesus says, "will not be taken away." Today, may you find peace in knowing that even in the quiet of your space or the stillness of your routine, God is with you. You are not alone, and your presence matters.

Prayer: Loving God, Thank You for reminding us that we don't need to prove anything to be near You. Help us to sit with You, in our quiet moments. Fill our hearts with Your peace and our minds with Your presence. Amen

With Grace and Love,

Pastor Amy

July 20, 2025

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome/Announcements

Westminster Chimes and Prelude by Peyton Small

**+Song: “What an Awesome God”

#61

** Call to Worship

Lector: We live in a busy, nonstop world.

Congregation: There are always more things to do than time in the day.

Lector: We spend our time worrying about all of the things that we haven’t gotten to.

Congregation: Forgetting to be present in life.

Lector: Holy Spirit, fill us with purpose and direction to live in the moment.

Congregation: Help us to slow down, be present, and choose what truly matters

** Opening Prayer: (pray silently or aloud) Dear God, through all of the noise and busyness of our days, remind us to pause—to sit in the silence, to simply *be* in the moment, to be present and caring. Life moves at such a fast pace, but guide us into spirit of stillness, so we may notice what truly matters. Amen

Prayer of Confession

Silent Reflection

Assurance of Grace

** Sharing the Peace of Christ

** Hymn: “Oh for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

#76

Joy and Concerns

Praying for Others/Lord’s Prayer

Celebration of Our Gifts

** Offertory Response: Doxology

#625

** Prayer of Dedication

**UCC Statement of Faith

Hymn: “Take Time to be Holy” #

Scripture Readings:

Psalms 15

Luke 10:38-42

Time for the Young at Heart

Message: “Always On, Rarely Present”

**+Song: “Soul on Fire”

#4

** Final Blessing

** “A Choral Benediction”

Postlude: Baroque Trumpet (Gordan Young)

*On the screen

** Please stand, if you are able.

+ Black contemporary folder

Announcements

- Any questions, concerns, or suggestions regarding the By-Laws need to be in Susan Dienes's mailbox by the end of July
- We will be starting to collect supplies for New Hopes Back to School Collection. Please see the Billboard for items most needed and have them ready by the end of July

Upcoming Events

- Our Second Summer skills Swap will be held on Thursday July 24th at 4pm. Craig and Linda Bixler will lead us in making Christmas soup. While the pot simmers we will prepare a dessert from scratch! Between the meal prep and partaking in the delicious food we will pair up seasoned smartphone users with those who aren't as familiar to learn how to navigate.
Please join us! Share your kitchen skills or learn a new one. Share your technology wisdom or learn about an app you've always wondered about.
Our third Summer Skills Swap will be held on Tuesday August 19 at 1pm. We will create an art project and then learn how to digitally capture our creation and share with others.
- Calling all Ladies of Grace! Please join us for a Wednesday Night Women's Music Study - We meet for 30-40 minutes. We listen to a contemporary Christian song and then discuss the song. We share our thoughts and feelings about the song along with how it relates to being a Christian woman in today's world. This is open to all women, feel free to invite non-Grace females. Next one is July 23rd @ 7:30 pm

Financial Information

General pledge: For Month of July 2025 - \$3,617.00

General pledge: For Month of July 2024 - \$4,071.00

YTD income: \$85,793.08

YTD expenses: \$131,496.49

YTD deficit: \$45,703.41

Up Coming Meetings

- July 23rd @ 5:30 PM, Pastoral Relations
- July 23rd @ 7:30 PM, Women's Ministry
- July 28th @ 4:00 PM, Worship & Music
- July 28th @ 5:30 PM, Faith Formation



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Grace United Church of Christ
100 Fourth Street

Hanover, Pennsylvania 17331

717-632-1146

Thank you for today's Worship Leaders:

Pastor - Amy Fawks

Lector -

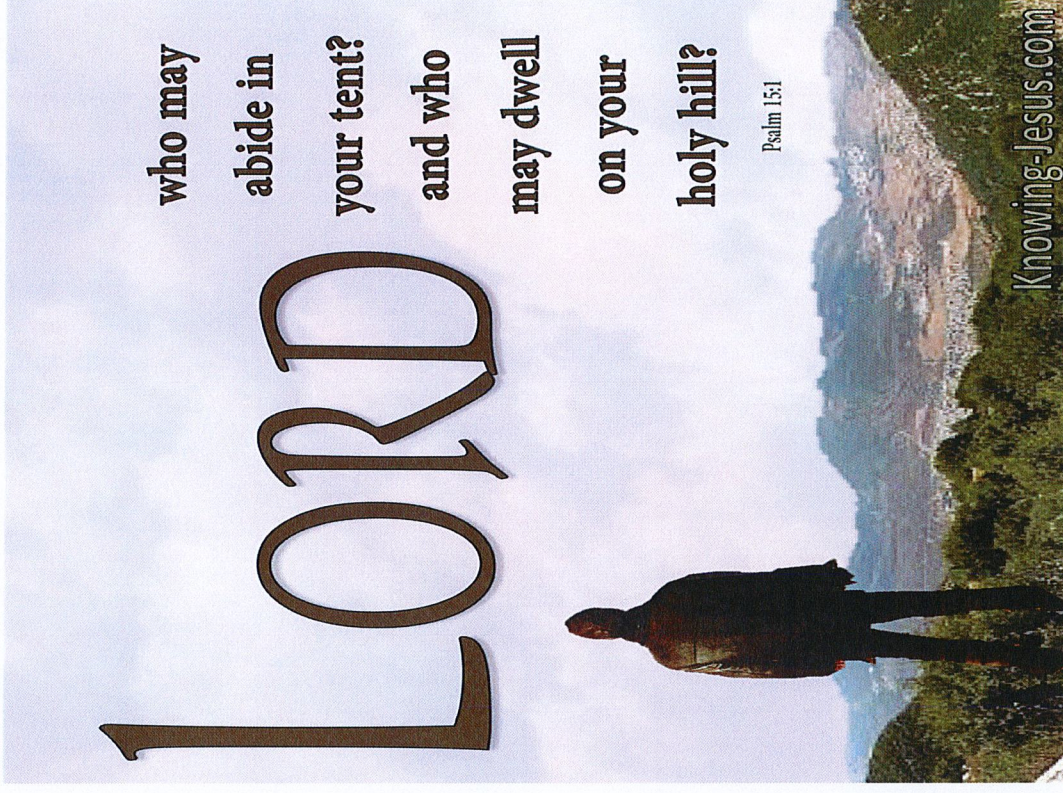
Organist and Music Director - Christian Keller

Head Usher – Vickie Arnold & Jenn Weaver

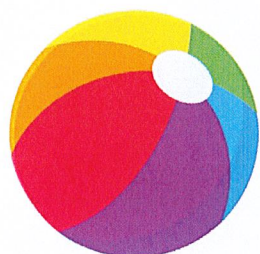
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i	d	w	e	l	l	m	y
n	e	i	k	z	a	i	p
f	j	h	i	l	l	r	s

Find these words
in the puzzle.

sojourn
tent
dwell
hill



summer
WORD SEARCH



JULY	SUITCASE	OCEAN	TRAVEL
SNORKEL	TRUNKS	BRIGHT	FLIP FLOPS
SNOW CONE	SWIMSUIT	BASEBALL	SURFING