

Grace Devotion

Week of August 10, 2025

30 When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. 31 Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. 32 They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us[a] while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” 33 That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. 34 They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” 35 Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread. **Luke 24:30-35** (NRSVUE)

Greetings of peace and love!

The invitation to Holy Communion is one of love and one of being seen and known. In this beautiful story from Luke’s Gospel, two disciples walk along a dusty road, filled with their own grief and confusion after the crucifixion. They don’t recognize that Christ is walking beside them. But then, something happens that allows their eyes to be opened. Jesus breaks bread with them. In that sacred moment, they recognize Him—through that beautiful, blessed, shared meal.

Doesn’t it work like that in our own lives too? We come to the table with burdens, with questions, with joy, with exhaustion. We come in that sacred space but sometimes don’t realize just how close Christ really is. In that quiet moment of communion, in taking the bread and drinking the cup, we are reminded that Christ is here and made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

“Were not our hearts burning within us?” the disciples ask. May we ask the same question. May we come to the table and feel our hearts stirred by Jesus who meets us right where we are.

This week, as you reflect on the sacrament of Holy Communion, ask yourself:

- Where have I felt God’s presence lately, even if I didn’t recognize it in the moment?
- How might I make space at my table for other to encounter Jesus through welcome and love?

Prayer: Loving God,

You walk beside us even when we don't always recognize your presence. You speak to our hearts, even when we are too distracted to hear Your voice. In the breaking of the bread, You show us Your presence once more. Help us come to the table with open eyes and open hearts. May we carry the joy of the simple act of breaking bread and drinking the cup of blessing out into the world and offer grace to all we meet. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen

With Grace and Love,

Pastor Amy

If you would like me to stop by and visit with you and offer communion at home, please don't hesitate to call. I would be honored to share the Holy Meal with you.

Church Office: 717-632-1146

August 10, 2025
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome/Announcements
Westminster Chimes:

**+Song: “The Truth”

#62

** Call to Worship

Lector: We come today with questions, with hopes, and with faith.

Congregation: We are here, trusting that God is at work in us and around us.

Lector: God invites us to live by faith, to follow even when we don’t know exactly where the road leads.

Congregation: But, we step forward, believing and knowing that God goes with us.

Lector: Jesus tells us to not be afraid.

Congregation: So we come today, ready, our hearts open, waiting and watching for God’s presence.

Special Music: “10,000 Reasons” Kaleb Smith & Rebecca Williams

** Opening Prayer: (pray silently or aloud) Dear God, we know that you are with us, even when we can’t see the big picture you have in store for us. Help us, guide us, and restore our faith that You know where we are headed and walk with us through each of life’s journeys. Amen

** Sharing the Peace of Christ

** Hymn: “Amazing Grace”

#202

Joys and Concerns
Praying for Others/Lord’s Prayer

Hymn: “Soon and Very Soon”

#551

Celebration of Our Gifts

** Offertory Response:

“We Give Thee But Thine Own” (v1) #620

** Prayer of Dedication

Special Music: “In Christ Alone” Kaleb Smith and Rebecca Williams

Scripture Readings:

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Luke 12:32-40

Time for the Young at Heart

Message: “Faith Forward”

Prayer of Confession/Silent Reflection/Assurance of Grace

Holy Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving: **Gracious God, thank You for meeting us at this table—nourishing us with Your love and grace. We are united with Christ and with one another. Let this communion strengthen our faith and remind us that we are not alone—for You go with us now and always. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

**+Song: “May the Peoples Praise You”

** Final Blessing

** “A Choral Benediction”

#50

Postlude: “Majesty” arr. Eugene Thomas

*On the screen

** Please stand, if you are able.

+ Black contemporary folder

Announcements

- We will be collecting donations for four Sundays that will go to World Central Kitchen and will help the victims of the Central Texas Flooding. The collection will start July 27th and end on August 10th
- Join us on August 31st for our "Fifth Sundays are Special". Bring your lawn chair and join us for worship in the parking lot. Feel free to bring a continental breakfast potluck item to share. We will also offer blessings of the backpacks (and briefcases).

Upcoming Events

- 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
- **Women's Music Ministry**
During lent, we began a journey of listening, reflecting on a contemporary Christian song weekly via zoom. We decided to continue this after lent including 2-in-person events this summer. We will be taking the rest of the summer off and restarting this in September with the following cadence:
On the second Wednesday of every month we will meet via zoom. @ 7:30 pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81264532233?pwd=pu8cWl0LimwBWOXAPAQo1ZarupUyff.1>

The fourth Wednesday of every month we will meet in person @ 7:30 pm either outside in Franklin street lawn or in the gather place (weather pending)
Women of all ages are invited to participate in both.

Financial Information

General pledge for the month of August 2025: \$ 2,570.00 (1 week)
General pledge for the month of August 2024 \$ 1,560.00 (1 week)
General pledge for January – July 2025: \$44,265.00
General pledge for January – July 2024: \$46,635.25
YTD income: \$80,143.07
YTD expenses: \$158,996.87
YTD deficit: \$78,853.80

Upcoming Meetings

August 4th – Personnel Committee Meeting @ 3:45 pm
August 11th – Consistory Meeting @ 6:00 pm
August 25th - Finance Committee Meeting @ 1:30 pm
August 25th – Faith Formation Meeting @ 4:30 pm
August 25th – Worship & Music Meeting @ 6:00 pm



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 – Becky Boyer & Susan Dienes

Hebrews 11

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

- EVIDENCE
- ELDERS
- THAT
- WHICH
- BECAUSE
- PLEASE
- MOVED
- KNOWING
- TABERNACLES
- BUILDER

- BLESSED
- DEPARTING
- PARENTS
- PHARAOH
- SUFFER
- ESTEEMING
- ENDURED
- FAITH
- LAND
- COMPASSED

- HERSELF
- MANY
- PILGRIMS
- THEY
- BEEN
- HEAVENLY
- BEGOTTEN
- SHALL
- RECEIVED
- ISAAC

- PEACE
- WOULD
- SUBDUED
- WEAKNESS
- MIGHT
- SCOURGINGS
- GOATSKINS
- WORTHY
- REPORT
- SHOULD

Jesus Healed the Woman with a Crooked Back

Hidden Phrase Word Search

Find the words on the list that are hidden in the puzzle and circle them. The words can be right to left, up and down. Hidden between, or touching those words, are five more hidden words. Circle those five words in a different color and write them in the correct order at the bottom of the page to unscramble the hidden message.

DISABLED

HANDS

HEALED

MIRACLE

SABBATH

SYNAGOGUE

WOMAN

WORK

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

Hidden Message:
