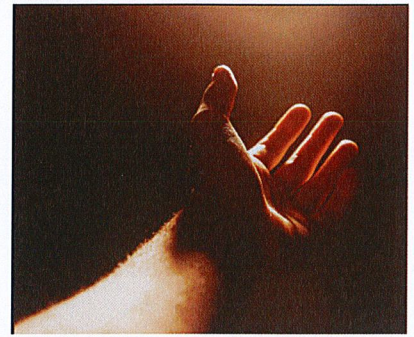


Grace Devotion

Week of August 16, 2026

²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶ He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷ She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment. (*Matthew 15:22-28 NRSVUE*)



Dear friends,

There are moments in life when we find ourselves crying out, "Lord, help me." Sometimes those words come from a place of deep pain. Other times they come when we are worried about someone we care about. Sometimes they come when we simply don't know where to turn. What makes this story of the Canaanite woman so powerful is that she refused to give up. She came to Jesus with faith, even when others saw her as someone who didn't belong. The disciples saw her as an interruption. They saw someone who was perceived as a problem and tried to send her away. But, Jesus saw something different. Jesus saw her faith. This story reminds us that God often sees what we miss. We may look at a person, a situation, or even ourselves, and we only see what is on the surface. God sees deeper. God sees the heart. God sees the faith, the courage, and the hope that others may overlook. The Canaanite woman trusted that even the smallest piece of Jesus's mercy was enough. Her faith helped to open the door to healing—not only for her daughter, but also for those around her that needed to see that God's love is bigger than their own expectations. May we pray for eyes that see as God sees. May we recognize God's grace in unexpected places and people. May we always remember that when we cry out, "Lord, help me," Jesus hears us.

Prayer:

Loving and healing God, There are so many times in our lives when situations cause us to call out, "Lord, Help me!" We come to You when our hearts are desperate and when they are full of hope. Even when the answers don't come quickly, give us faith that doesn't go away. Remind us that Your mercy is greater than we can imagine and that Your love is strong enough to bring healing and wholeness. Help us find courage to keep praying, and to trust that Your grace is enough to restore us and make us whole. In the name of Jesus Christ, who hears our cries, we pray. Amen

With Grace and Love,

Pastor Amy

Pastor Amy

August 16, 2026
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Westminster Chimes and Prelude
Welcome/Announcements

** Call to Worship

Lector: God sees beyond what we see.

Congregation: We come today, ready to see with eyes of faith.

Lector: God knows the hearts and stories that we cannot see.

Congregation: We come ready to receive God's grace

Lector: God is still changing us and shaping us along the way.

Congregation: We come to worship God who leads us forward

** Opening Prayer: (pray silently or aloud)
Loving God, You see what we cannot see and know what we cannot know. Open our hearts to Your presence. Open our minds to Your wisdom. Help us recognize Your grace at work among us. Amen

**o Hymn: "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" #97

** Sharing the Peace of Christ

**+"Old Church Choir" #40

Celebration of Our Gifts

** Offertory Response: "Give Thanks"
be on the screen

** Prayer of Dedication

Prayer of Confession/Silent Reflection/Assurance of Grace

Joys and Concerns
Praying for Others
Lord's Prayer

**o Hymn: "Amazing Grace"

#202

Scripture Reading:

Genesis 45:1-15
Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28

Time for the Young at Heart

Message: "Seeing Beyond What We See"
(Matthew 15:10-20)

**+"Same Power"

** Final Blessing

** "A Choral Benediction"

Postlude

** Please stand, if you are able.
+ Black contemporary folder

o Blue hymnal

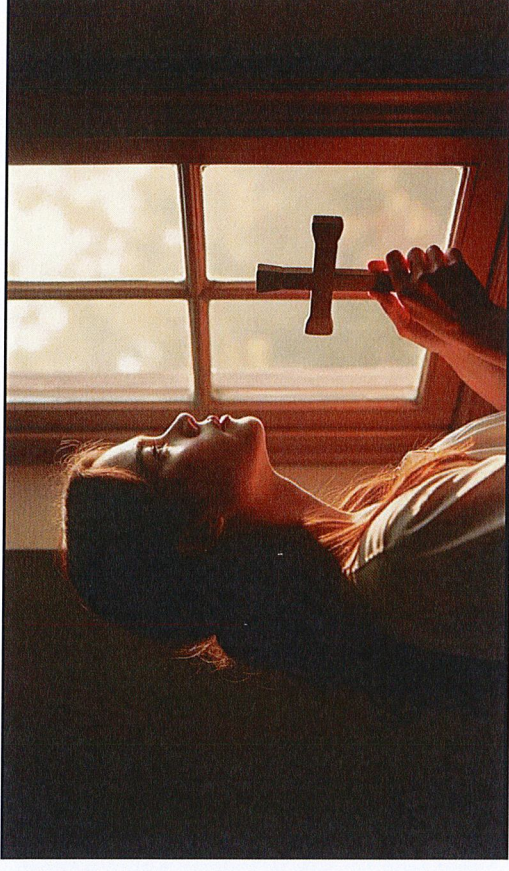
#3

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.
- **5th Sundays Are Special – August 30th!** Join us for a special outdoor worship service, Continental Breakfast Potluck and our Blessing of the Backpacks and Briefcases as we prepare for a new school year. Enjoy a morning of worship, fellowship, and community!
- Join us for Blessing of the Pets September 12th @ 1:00 PM
- Confirmation & Sunday School Kick off, September 13th @ 9:00 AM
- Congregational Meeting – After Services – August 16th
- Women's Ministry – In Person – August 26th @ 7:30 PM

Upcoming Meetings

- Worship & Music Meeting – August 24th @ 3:30 PM
- Faith Formation Meeting – August 24th @ 5:00 PM
- Finance Committee Meeting – August 25th @ 1:00 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

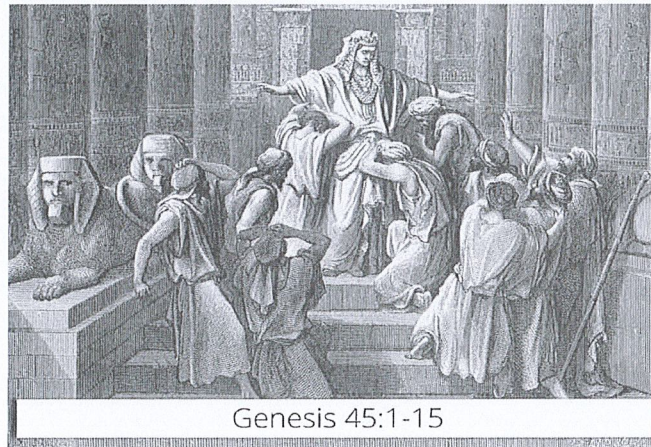
Lector - Andrea Neilson

Guest Pianist – Grace Neilson

Head Usher – Chelsey Topper & Vickie Arnold

Joseph Forgives

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



Genesis 45:1-15

Forgives	Brothers	Benjamin	Pharaoh
Twelve	Dreams	Famine	Simeon
Reuben	Canaan	Joseph	Egypt
Jacob	Corn		

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

- JERUSALEM
- THEIR
- TRANSGRESS
- HONOUR
- WHOSOEVER
- NONE
- SAYING
- LIPS
- THEY
- MULTITUDE
- THIS
- HEARD
- ROOTED
- INTO
- PARABLE
- WITHOUT
- MOUTH
- PROCEED
- HEART
- THESE
- SIDON
- THOU
- DISCIPLES
- ANSWERED
- HELP
- CHILDREN
- SAID
- UNTO
- MOUNTAIN
- DUMB
- WHOLE
- HAVE
- GREAT
- SAITH
- COMMANDED
- GAVE
- WERE
- BESIDE
- SENT

The Faith of the Canaanite Woman

But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs. And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table. Then Jesus answered and said to her, O woman, great is your faith: be it to you even as you will. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

Matthew 15:26-28

