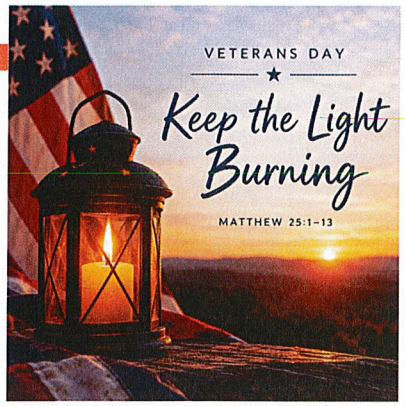
Grace Devotion



Week of November 8, 2026

[12] But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' [13] Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour..— Matthew 25:12-13 NRSVUE

Dear friends,

Have you ever had someone brighten your day with a phone call, a kind word, or a simple reminder that they were thinking about you? Sometimes the smallest things make the biggest difference. A little light can go a long way, especially on a difficult day.

In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus tells a story about ten bridesmaids waiting for the bridegroom. They brought lamps with them, but not all of them were prepared for the wait. Jesus uses this story to remind us to be watchful and ready.

As I think about keeping the light burning, I am reminded that faith isn't always about doing big things. Sometimes it is about trusting God through an uncertain day. Sometimes it is offering a prayer for someone we love, sharing a kind word, or letting another person know they are not forgotten.

There are days when our light seems to shine brightly, and there are days when we may feel tired, lonely, or discouraged. Our circumstances may change what we are able to do, but they do not change how deeply God loves us. Even when we feel our own light growing dim, God's love remains with us.

We don't have to keep that light burning all by ourselves. We need one another. A visit, a phone call, a prayer, or a message from someone in our church community can remind us that we belong and that we are still part of something bigger than ourselves.

As we remember those who have served our country this Veterans Day, we give thanks for the ways people have served others, often with courage and sacrifice. We also remember that each of us has opportunities, in big ways and small, to bring light into the lives of those around us.

May we keep the light of faith burning, not by trying to do everything on our own, but by trusting God's love and sharing that love wherever we can.

Prayer:

Loving God, thank You for being with us through every season of life. When we feel strong, help us share our light with others. When we feel tired or discouraged, remind us that Your love never leaves us. Help us find ways to encourage one another and bring hope to those who need it. May Your light continue to shine in us and through us. Amen.

With Peace and Love,

Pastor Amy

Pastor Amy

November 8, 2026
Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Westminster Chimes and Prelude
Welcome/Announcements

+"May the Peoples Praise You" **#50

** Call to Worship
Lector: We come together today with grateful hearts, remembering those who have served our country and those who continue to serve.

Congregation: We give thanks for their service and pray for peace in our world.

Lector: We come to celebrate new beginnings, as we welcome one into the waters of baptism and another into the life of this congregation.

Congregation: We remember that faith is not meant to be lived alone. We learn, grow, and serve God together.

Lector: We come to hear God's Word, to share in Christ's table, and to remember the grace that holds us all.

Congregation: Whatever brings us here today, we come as we are, ready to receive God's love and share it with others.

** Opening Prayer: (pray silently or aloud)
Loving God, Thank You for bringing us together today. We give thanks for those who have served our country and pray for peace in our world. Be with us as we worship. Help us hear Your Word, recognize Your love, and share that love with the people we meet. In Jesus's name, we pray. Amen.

** Sharing the Peace of Christ
Sacrament of Baptism ~

Joys and Concerns/Praying for Others/Lord's Prayer

° Hymn: "God of Grace and God of Glory" **#292

Prayer of Confession/Silent Reflection/Assurance of Grace

Celebration of Our Gifts
** Offertory Response: "Doxology" **#625**
** Prayer of Dedication

° Hymn: "Eternal Father, Strong to Save" **#575

Reception of New Members

Scripture Reading:
Psalm 78:1-7 and Matthew 25:1-13

Time for the Young at Heart

Message: "Keep the Light Burning"

Holy, Holy, Holy (Sanctus) (*on the screen*)

Holy Communion
**Prayer of Thanksgiving
Loving God, thank You for meeting us at this table and reminding us of Your love. Thank You for the bread and the cup, and for the grace that sustains us. Help us carry Your love with us into the week ahead, sharing it through the way we treat others, the kindness we offer, and the care we show. Amen.

+"Confidence" **#60
** Final Blessing
** "A Choral Benediction" Postlude

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

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.
- October 4th - November 22nd at Grace, Harvest Home collection. We'll be collecting donations to create "Meals That Stretch" kits—simple meals that can feed a family for more than one meal. Stay tuned for items to donate!
- Do you want to order Grace logo wear? Contact the church office or pick up an order form at the church. The sale will run Oct. 18th-Nov 8th!
- We need your help today after service we will be setting up the Manger. If you can, please lend a hand!

Upcoming Events

- November 8th – 1st Annual Gettysburg Assoc. Music Fest @ St Davids UCC @ 2:00 PM
- November 11th – Bible Study Group @ 12:30 PM & Movie at 3:00 PM
- November 13th – Monthly Movie @ 3:00 PM
- November 15th – Annual Meeting after Services
- November 21st – PAL – Grace UCC Helpers @ 9:00 AM
- November 22nd - Joint Thanksgiving at Trinity Hanover 3:00 PM
- November 29th – 5th Sundays are Special – 1st Sunday of Advent

Grace United Church Of Christ

Grace UCC Has a New Way to Donate

Zelle

Upcoming Meetings

- November 9th – Consistory Meeting @ 6:00 PM
- November 16th – Faith Formation Committee Meeting @ 5:00 PM
- November 23rd – Worship & Music Committee Meeting @ 3:30 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 – Jessica Walsh-Farag

Music Director – Grace Neilson

Head Usher – Craig Bixler & Becky Boyer

At Christ's table, all are welcome. Our bread and juice are always gluten-free so everyone may share in this meal.

Psalm 78

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

commandments
strength
people
works
faithful
believe
listen
god
children
hearts
teach
law

Give Me Oil In My Lamp



Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour. Matthew 25:13 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 25:1–13 (NIV)

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

FOOLISH
MIDNIGHT
BRIDEGROOM
DOOR
MEET
WEDDING
LAMPS
ASLEEP
DROWSY
TRIMMED
WISE
HEAVEN
VIRGINS
RANG
WATCH
OIL
BANQUET
KINGDOM
COME
WOKE