

Grace Devotion

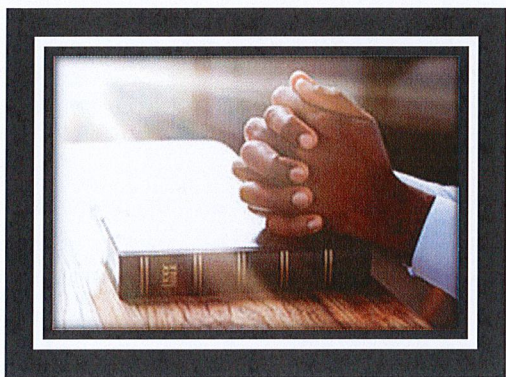
Week of May 17, 2026

⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. (*John 17:9-10 NRSVUE*)

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Dear friends,

There is something deeply comforting about knowing that someone is praying for you. Their prayers for you are intentional—prayed from by name and with great care. There is power in prayer. In this moment in John’s Gospel, Jesus is praying for his disciples. He knows what is ahead for them and for himself. He knows that he will soon ascend into Heaven and he knows the uncertainty that they will face. He knows the unanswered questions they will hold and the ways that their world will change. He doesn’t pray for easy answers or for clarity. He prays that they would be held. “They are yours,” he says. It’s a simple reminder, but one that I think we need to hear over and over again. We belong to God and we are beloved. We belong to God in spite of not having everything figured out or because we aren’t ready for what’s to come next. We are already held. What an invitation for each of us—an invitation to pause and not rush past the waiting. An invitation to rest in the truth that we don’t walk our journey alone. Jesus is still praying and God is still holding us. We, my friends, are all held together in love.



## Prayer:

Loving God, Thank you for the reminder that we belong to You. In the midst of our daily struggles and worries, help us to trust that we are held in Your care. Amen

With Grace and Love,

Handwritten signature of Pastor Amy in blue ink.

Pastor Amy

May 17, 2026  
Seventh Sunday of Easter

\*\* Offertory Response: "Doxology #625  
\*\* Prayer of Dedication

Welcome/Announcements  
Westminster Chimes and Prelude

Joys and Concerns  
Praying for Others  
Lord's Prayer

\*\*° Hymn: "Crown Him with Many Crowns" #234

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

\*\* Call to Worship

Lector: In the in-between space, when answers feel distant and the path is unclear, God calls us together.

**Congregation: We come as we are, held in love and met with grace.**

Lector: Jesus prays that we may be one and that we may know that we belong.

**Congregation: We are not alone. We are held in God's care.**

Lector: We wait and we trust. We lift our hearts in hope.

**Congregation: With one voice and one spirit, we come to worship God.**

\*\* Opening Prayer: (pray silently or aloud)  
**Gracious God, We come to You in this in-between moment with both hope and uncertainty. Remind us that we are held in Your love and gathered together as one. Be with us in this time together. Amen**

\*\* Sharing the Peace of Christ

\*\*+"Greater" #43

Celebration of Our Gifts

Prayer of Confession/Silent Reflection/Assurance of Grace

Scripture Reading:

**Acts 1:6-14**

**John 17:1-11**

Time for the Young at Heart

Message: "God Holds Us Here"

\*\*+"Confidence" #60

\*\* Final Blessing

\*\* "A Choral Benediction"

Postlude

\*\* Please stand, if you are able.

+ Black contemporary folder ° Blue hymnal

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## Announcements

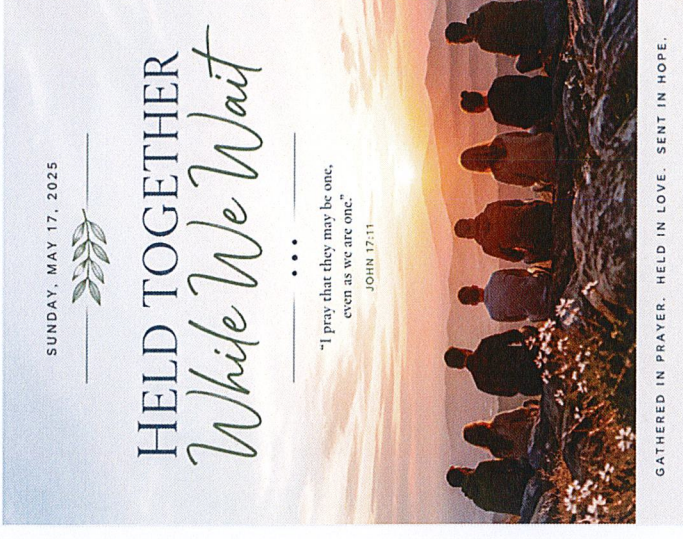
- Contact the church office or Leslie Grote for more information about our new widower's group that will meet monthly.
- Consider joining the group that meets every Tuesday at 1pm. Enjoy games and fellowship in the Gathering Place.
- The month of May is a special month at Grace UCC – INVITE – A - FRIEND MONTH! Your invitation could be the first step in someone else's journey of hope, love, and connection.
- Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering, May 24<sup>th</sup>, reflects the shared commitment of people across the UCC to cooperatively build up the UCC. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. Envelopes will be available at entrances near the offering plates.
- Sign-ups are open for VBS! June 22-26<sup>th</sup> at Trinity UCC Hanover. Open to ages 4-12. Log onto our website & select the Events tab to enroll
- Thanks to the Praise Band for leading the contemporary songs today

## Upcoming Events

- Mark your calendars for the Grace Parking Lot Yard Sale on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. More details to come
- Women's Ministry – **In Person** - May 27<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 PM

## Upcoming Meetings

- Staff Meeting – May 18<sup>th</sup> @ 3:30
- Worship & Music – May 26<sup>th</sup> @ 3:30
- Faith Formation – May 26<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00 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 - Chris O'Donnell

Organist and Music Director - Christian Keller

Head Usher – Chelsey Topper & Becky Boyer

# ACTS 1:6-14

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



THAT  
 COMMANDMENTS  
 SHEWED  
 PROMISE  
 SHALL  
 KINGDOM  
 FATHER  
 WITNESSES  
 BEHELD

THEY  
 MANNER  
 SABBATH  
 ANDREW  
 MOTHER  
 PETER  
 JESUS  
 OBTAINED  
 MIDST

PROPER  
 WRITTEN  
 THESE  
 BAPTISM  
 JOSEPH  
 HAST  
 MINISTRY  
 ELEVEN



# JESUS PRAYS

JOHN 17

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

- GLORIFY
- GIVEN
- CHRIST
- FINISHED
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- NAME
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- THEM
- THINE
- THESE
- PERDITION
- WORLD
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- EVEN
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- GAVEST
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