



GRACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
128 East Baltimore Street
Greencastle, PA 17225
(717) 597-2983

Pastor: Rev. Mark Ruzicka
Choir Director: Patty Stepler
Organist: Susan Alsip-Lawson
Ministers: All Those Present

Sunday, July 7, 2024 -- Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Scriptures: Psalm 123, 2 Corinthians 12:2-10 , Mark 6:1-13

WE WELCOME GOD'S PRESENCE

WELCOME

VIDEO

"There Is Freedom" by the Skit Guys

MISSION STATEMENT

Leader: Welcome to Grace Church where we are God's people.

**All: United through Jesus Christ on a journey to grow, to share our faith and
serve others in the Greencastle area and the world.**

PRELUDE MUSIC

Fantasia on "America" -Carey/Broughton

Call to Worship (Inspired by Psalm 48)

Leader: Great is the Holy One who sits sovereign and near!
All: The earth rejoices at the heights and depths of God's love.

Leader: Today, we gather, we observe, we recognize, we ponder the wonders of God's majesty!
All: May God's name and praise reach to the far ends of the earth.

Leader: God's mighty deeds of power astound and amaze.
We remember and recount them from generation to generation!
All: God is our Guide, who reigns forever and ever. Praise the Lord!

Prayer of Invocation

All: Powerful One, we come into this gathering humbled by Your presence among us, grateful for the companionship of Your people, and eager to worship Your name. As we tell Your story anew, may we know You more deeply and clearly. May we be transformed and transfixed by the mystery of You. Empower us, O God, to be Your people. Amen.

***PRAISE SONG** God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand #331



Prayer for Transformation and New Life (Please Pray Together)

Gracious and Loving God, have mercy on us. We confess our own forms of rebellion and stubbornness. We seek our own way and fail to wait for Your counsel, wisdom, and insight. We hold fast to hopes and dreams that do not include Your kingdom or our neighbors. Awaken in us a hunger and thirst for righteousness.

(a time of silent prayer)

Words of Assurance

Leader: Dearly beloved, the Holy One is with you and encourages you on your journey. God makes you a new creation in Christ. You have God's power to make things new in your heart, in your neighborhood, and in your community.
All: Thanks be to God.

WE READ GOD'S WORD TOGETHER

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION OF SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURES

Psalm 123 Please open to Old Testament, page 703

2 Corinthians 12:2-10 Please open to New Testament, page 226

Gospel of Mark 6:1-13 Please open to New Testament, page 49

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God!

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

SHARING OF PRAYERS, CONCERNS, JOYS & CELEBRATIONS

MOMENT OF SILENCE AND REFLECTION

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER (Please Pray Together)

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our debts
As we forgive our debtors
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil,
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory forever.
Amen.**

WE GIVE BACK TO GOD

Invitation to Generosity

Leader: In 1st Corinthians 12, the Apostle Paul writes, "I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me." Generosity does not measure the resources we have. Rather, it notes the capacity we have to give...and the trust we place in God's generosity to renew the gifts we bring. Let us give generously to meet the needs that confront our community and to demonstrate the power of our collective faithfulness.

*(Please sign the attendance pads found in the pews,
and pass the top sheet to be collected during offering.)*

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Some Day I'll Understand -DeCou

***WE SING A SONG OF THANKSGIVING TO GOD**
(Please Sing Together)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

**All: Creator, all we have emanates from You and Your creation. Receive these gifts we give with
thanksgiving and hope for a shared, better future.**

HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table (by the Pastor)

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to God.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God Most High

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Leader: Holy God, we praise and bless you...

With the faithful in every place and time, we praise Your holy name:

SANCTUS (All Please Sing – musical notations attached on back page)

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth
Heaven and earth are full,
are full of the majesty of thy glory,
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord,
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!**

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION (by the Pastor)

BREAKING BREAD & POURING THE CUP (by the Pastor)

Distribution of the Elements

(We partake together at the cue of the pastor)

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Communion

Leader: Let us pray.

All: We thank you, God , for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

WE GO OUT CARRYING GOD'S LOVE

Benediction

Leader: May the grace of God, deeper than our imagination;
The strength of Christ, stronger than our need;
And the communion of the Holy Spirit, richer than our togetherness,
guide and sustain us today and in all our tomorrows.

All: Amen.

*PRAISE SONG

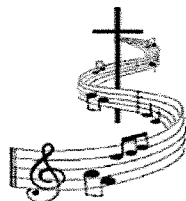
O Beautiful for Spacious Skies #338



*POSTLUDE MUSIC

This Is My Country

-Jacobs/Bock



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Deeds of Power: Service Prayers for the Seventh Sunday after Pentecost Year B was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay who serves as Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ. Adapted by the Rev. Mark Ruzicka.

Contributions Received 6/30/24:

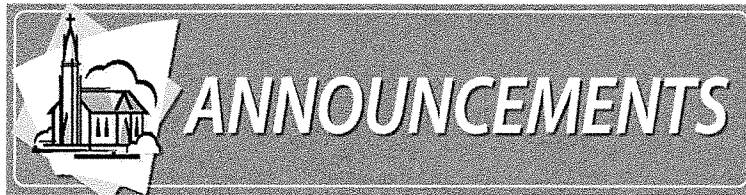
Regular Offering: \$662 / Organ Fund: \$25 / Loose Change Offering: \$15 / Building Fund: \$25
Communion Offering: \$10 / Boiler Donations: \$347 / Special Donation: \$100

Tithes for Month of June: \$5,257

Worship Attendance on 6/30/24: In-House: 38 / Online: 9



The Reverend Ralph S. Geiman, Pastor, 1967-1995



Grace United Church of Christ

128 E. Baltimore Street – PO Box 448 – Greencastle, PA 17225

Pastor: Rev. Mark Ruzicka

Pastor's Cell Phone & Email: (717) 504-2923 & markruzicka3349@gmail.com

Office Phone & Email: (717) 597-2983 & gucc128@outlook.com

Website: www.graceuccgreencastle.com

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/GraceChurchGreencastle/

Week of July 7, 2024

Greeters/Ushers: Nancy Myers & Jean Rice

Reader: Nancy Myers

Communion Servers: Nancy Myers & Jean Rice

Greeters & Ushers are needed for next **Sunday, July 14th**. Please sign-up today to help us out! There are several open dates where we still need your help. Thank you.

Member Sunday - We will receive New Members on Sunday, August 11. If you are interested in joining the church that day, please call the church office or let Pastor Mark know.

Pastor's Office Hours – Pastor Mark has office hours on Tuesday and Thursday, from 9am till 12noon. You are welcome to schedule a time to talk with him, or just stop by to say hello.

Chancel Choir – No rehearsals or anthems until the fall. Looking forward to next season.

Our **4th Annual Hidden Treasures Yard Sale** is being held this coming weekend, **July 12th and 13th**, in our social hall. **We need volunteers** on Monday & Tuesday, July 8th and 9th, to help clean, sort and organize the donations between 9am and 2pm. Please see the sign-up sheets or contact Marg if you can help volunteer to set up, or volunteer during the sale. If you haven't dropped off your donations, we will still accept them on Monday & Tuesday, July 8th & 9th, between 9am-12noon. Thank you!

Upper Room – The pocket size booklets for July/August have been placed in the front vestibule and elevator area. The large print sizes are behind in publishing. We will place them out as soon as they are received. We expect to receive them soon.

Live Streaming - If you're unable to attend service, or you're out of town, please watch our live stream from our Facebook page. Comment 'hello' so we know you are watching along with us!

Attendance Pads are located at the end of each pew. We ask everyone who attends worship to please sign and pass the top sheet to be collected during offering. If it's found that your booklet is out of sheets, our greeters/ushers can refill your booklet, as extra pads are located on the back ledge in the vestibule.

Grace United Church of Christ Facebook: Please like our Facebook page to keep updated on our church activities and connect with others in the community. Our weekly services are live streamed through our Facebook page.

Grace Church Website: The history of our church, Moller organ and updated book from Jack Webb about the German Reformed Cemetery and be found on our website! Plus, you can download our weekly worship programs, newsletters, or donate online.

Grace's Free Closet - Weekly hours are Monday and Wednesday from 9:30am to 12:30pm. Donations are accepted during their open hours. Please do not leave donations outside the doors or on the sidewalks when the closet is closed. Contact Nancy or Jean for further information.

Wi-Fi Password – If you need our Wi-Fi guest password to access the internet while at the church, please see any of our ushers and they will gladly provide you with the information.

Activities & Fundraising will not be holding a meeting in July. Contact Chet for any updates.

Grace Snyder Circle will not be meeting during the summer months.

First Saturday Free Meal will not be held in July due to it falling over a holiday weekend. The committee is planning a delicious meal for August 3rd. If you would like to volunteer with us, please contact Chet or Lorna for further information. Thank you.

Monthly Refreshments & Fellowship -Due to our upcoming yard sale, the date for refreshments has been changed to July 21st. Please be sure to update your calendars. Thank you.

Waynesboro Community and Human Services is hosting their back-to-school supplies distribution to income eligible families in the Waynesboro and Greencastle Antrim School Districts on July 29 through August 2nd. They are accepting contributions of school supplies, gently used clothing, shoes, and monetary donations to help purchase supplies for families struggling in our communities. If you would like more information, flyers have been placed in the front vestibule and elevator area.

July Birthday Wishes go out to Mary Frances Myers, Clarisse Hicks, Jan Shafer, **Bill Storms (He will be turning 90 years young on July 18th. Let's shower him with birthday cards!)**, Earl Bodes, Nancy Myers, Ethel Fisher, Faye Baker, Nancy Stine and DeBorah Alston. If you would like to send them birthday wishes or phone calls, their contact information is listed in our church directory. If you need an updated directory, please contact Elaine in the church office. Happy Birthday!

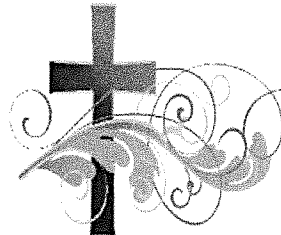
Congratulations! We reached our goal of \$62,000 for the organ project. We thank everyone for their donations to make the repairs possible. We anticipate the refurbishing to start in the beginning of 2025. Thank you everyone!

The Worship & Spiritual Life Committee will be meeting on July 18th, at 1pm, in the meeting room. If you would like more information about joining this committee, please contact Pastor Mark or Marg Stouffer.

The Consistory Board will not be meeting during the summer months.

Worship Volunteers for Sunday, July 14, 9:30am service:

Greeters/Ushers: (TBA – we need volunteers) **Reader:** Tim Bryan



Holy, Holy, Holy

SANCTUS

Isa. 6:3; Mark 11:9-10

Alonzo P. Howard, 1838-1902

p *mf* *f*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of Sa - ba - oth; Heav - en and earth are

full, are full of the ma - jes - ty of thy glo - ry, Ho - san - na, ho -

p

san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is he that com - eth in the

crescendo *f*

name of the Lord, Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est!