

***No matter who you are,
or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.***



**GRACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
128 East Baltimore Street
Greencastle, PA 17225**

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

Order of Worship for July 13, 2025, the 5th Sunday after Pentecost
Scriptures: Psalm 25:1-10, Colossians 1:1-14, Gospel of Luke 10:25-37

WE WELCOME GOD'S PRESENCE

WELCOME

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

by Cumberland Valley School of Music Harpist – Anita Smith
Clair de lune with Precious Memories -Medley

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We come, bringing our souls to God.
All: God delights in us, just as God delights in every generation.

Leader: We come, bringing our hands to Jesus.
All: Jesus challenges us to see each person as our neighbor.

Leader: We come, bringing our hearts to the Spirit.
**All: The Spirit teaches all we need to know to be faithful in our lives.
Let us worship God!**

***PRAISE SONG** Come Sing, O Church, in Joy! #305



Unison Prayer of Confession

**Holy God, we're called to walk with the vulnerable,
but we like to run to catch up with the powerful.**

**We're challenged by Jesus to notice and to care for those tossed aside by the world,
but often we rush by, with our to-do list in our hands.**

Have mercy on us, O God who knows us and loves us completely.

Help us be more attentive and compassionate to others this week.

(a time of silent prayer)

Words of Assurance

Leader: God's heart remains open to us, pouring forgiveness and mercy into our spirits.
In Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God!

WE READ GOD'S WORD TOGETHER

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION OF SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURES

Psalms 25:1-10 Please open to Old Testament, page 618

Colossians 1:1-14 Please open to New Testament, pages 243-244

VIDEO: "Love Changes Everything" by Freebridge Media

Gospel of Luke 10:25-37 Please open to New Testament, page 87

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

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

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

OPEN SHARING OF PRAYERS, CONCERNS, JOYS AND 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 THE OFFERING

Leader: Freely we have received, let us give freely as well.
May we support the values of God's Kingdom with our whole selves.

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

OFFERTORY MUSIC

**by Cumberland Valley School of Music Harpist – Anita Smith
-It is Well With My Soul**

***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.
Amen.**

***UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Generous God, may the gifts we offer in these moments, in the name of Jesus,
be used for the good of our neighbors. Amen.**

WE GO OUT CARRYING GOD'S LOVE

BENEDICTION

Leader: We go now, as people of God.

All: To bring a word of love to those who need to hear it.

Leader: We go now, as followers of Jesus.

All: To be a word of justice to those from whom it has been taken away.

Leader: We go now, as companions of the Spirit.

All: To be a word of peace in all the places from which peace has disappeared.

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Amen.

***PRAISE SONG**

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

#738



POSTLUDE MUSIC

by Cumberland Valley School of Music Harpist – Anita Smith

(Please remain seated to listen to the postlude)

Pachelbel's Canon with Give Thanks – Medley



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Service Prayers written by Thom M Shuman (adapted by the Rev. Mark Ruzicka) and permission for use granted at <https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/>

Contributions Received Week of 7/6

Regular Offering: \$1375 / Loose Change Offering: \$16 / Communion Offering: \$53
Building & Grounds (HVAC and Roofing Projects): \$85
Mail-in Regular Offering: \$160

Sunday Worship Attendance on 7/6:

In-House: 31 / Online: 11



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



GRACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

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Week of July 13, 2025

Greeters/Ushers: Lu Miller & Nancy Myers

Reader: Tim Bryan

Special Music – Today's special musician, harpist Anita Smith, is sponsored by an anonymous donor in the congregation and is in honor of our excellent choir members (past and present), organist and choir director.

Special Birthday Wishes to Ethel Fisher! Ethel turns 102 years young on July 26th! Let's shower her with birthday cards, visits and phone calls. Her address is: 175 Orchard Circle, Greencastle.

Building Projects – Premier HVAC completed the installation of our new system on July 12th, ensuring effective cooling just in time for our annual yard sale. We appreciate their service, as all will benefit from comfortable temperatures throughout the summer. Thanks to Tim Bryan for leading the project and to everyone who contributed. Dependable Roofing will start our roof replacement in 2-3 months. We thank Barry Shoemaker for taking the lead on this project.

Our **5th Annual Hidden Treasures Yard Sale** was a great success! Thank you to all our volunteers and donors for supporting this church fundraiser. Special thank you to Marg Stouffer, Patty Stepler, Lorna Thomas, Kathy Fillman, Darlene Bitner, Sydnae Vanner, Lu Miller, Kate Kennedy, Chet Nye, Millie Minnich, Tammy Hockenberry, and Jance & Matthew (who volunteer at the Closet). Profit details will be shared once all yard sale donations are tallied.

Sunday Volunteers Needed – We have open spots in August for church volunteers. The sign-up sheet is on the welcome table in the front vestibule.

Restoration of our Organ is currently in progress. We expect the console to be completed soon, with installation to follow. We are hoping it will be ready by the beginning of August.

Grace's Free Closet is opened on Monday & Wednesday's, from 9:30am till 12:30pm. Contact Nancy Myers if you have any further questions.

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.

Church Bulletin Board – Please check the bulletin board weekly for updated information about upcoming events, fundraisers, community news and more! Also check out our updated Welcome Board with pictures of our members during various events.

Chancel Choir is on summer break. They will resume in the fall. If you have any questions, please contact Patty Stepler, our choir director.

SPECIAL MUSIC SPONSORSHIP: During the months when our choir isn't singing, it would be great to have some special music during worship (July and August). In the past, we have worked with the Cumberland Valley School of Music as a clearing house for musicians. We are offering the congregation the ability to sponsor Special Music in honor or memory of someone. This concept is well received for things like flowers at Christmas and Easter, so we thought it could be used for music too. Maybe it would be a way to celebrate a wedding anniversary or the birth of a grandchild. To sponsor a musician for a Sunday service, you can work with Pastor Mark as to what you would like (what kind of instruments or singers), when, and how much it would cost. Please express your interest to Pastor Mark or call Elaine at the church office so that we can get started on this exciting new initiative.

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. If the worship service needs to be cancelled due to inclement weather, it will be posted on our Facebook page.

1st Saturday Free Community Meal will be held on Saturday, August 2nd, from 11am to 1pm. This will be a picnic style meal which includes hot dogs, chips, granola bar and bottled water. If you would like to volunteer with us in August, please contact Chet Nye or Lorna Thomas.

Called to Care Committee is meeting on Tuesday, July 15th, at 1pm, in the small meeting room.

Church Trimming & Weeding - Thank you to Tim Bryan and Steven Miller for helping to maintain the weeds around the garages and cleaning out the flower beds in the front of the church.

Cemetery Lawncare – We thank Larry Stepler, Tim Bryan, Cathy Keefer and Marg Stoufer for handling the trimming and mowing at our German Reformed Cemetery over these hot summer days.

Worship Volunteers for Sunday, July 20, 9:30am service:

Greeters/Ushers: Darlene Bitner & Mark Stahl

Reader: Nancy Myers

