

***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
(717) 597-2983**

Pastor: Rev. Mark Ruzicka
Guest Speaker: Jim Roberts
Liturgist: Patty Stepler
Choir Director: Patty Stepler
Organist: Susan Alsip-Lawson
Ministers: All Those Present

**Order of Worship for June 29, 2025: The Third Sunday after Pentecost
Scriptures: Psalm 16, Galatians 5:1, 13-25, Gospel: Luke 9:51-62**

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

We're Marching to Zion -Lowry/Hayes

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, bless the Lord, our refuge and safety.
All: You are our God; all the good things come from You alone.

Leader: Come, bless the Lord, our rich inheritance.
All: You are our God; our lives are in your hands.

Leader: Come, bless the Lord, our strength.
All: You are our God; we will not be shaken.
Let's worship God together!

***PRAISE SONG**

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine #837



Unison Prayer of Confession

Although we've been set free for freedom, we find ourselves weighed down by sin and fear.
Our addiction to winning at all costs keeps us from healthier relationships with our neighbors.

Guided by our baser passions, we make ourselves sick by overeating on the fruits of this world.
Forgive us, Holy God.

Call us to freedom, so we may serve others, and not focus on ourselves.
Set us free, so we may walk in Your ways, placing our feet in those invisible footprints of obedience and
faith created by Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Lead us into a more abundant life with You.

(a time of silent prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news: by God's grace, we are set free.
We can choose to follow Jesus and to live by the Spirit.
Guided by the Spirit, we can feast on that fruit which truly empowers us to live as God's children.
In Christ we are forgiven,
All: thanks be to God.

WE READ GOD'S WORD TOGETHER

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION OF SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURES

Psalm 16 Please open to Old Testament, page 610

Galatians 5:1, 13-25 Please open to New Testament, page 232

Video "Finding Love" by The Skit Guys

Gospel of Luke 9:51-62 Please open to New Testament, pages 85-86

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

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

All: Thanks be to God!

MISSION SPEAKER

Jim Roberts

"Night to Shine" Leader

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: As Christ's disciples, let us offer our gifts to his ministry.

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

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Count Your Blessings

-Excell/Lynch

***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**

Risen Savior, responding to Your love and grace, we offer our gifts of time, talent and service. May our offerings be used to feed the hungry, clothe the poor, quench the thirsty, and shelter the vulnerable.

Amen.

WE GO OUT CARRYING GOD'S LOVE

BENEDICTION

Leader: Go now to where you find friends and neighbors, as well as family and strangers.

All: We will share that never-ending love of God, the Healer of All.

Leader: Go now, with that faith which dares to touch the outcast, with hearts that break for the pain of others.

All: We will share the compassion of Jesus, the Friend of All.

Leader: Go now, carrying God's Word and holy wonder to our weary world.

All: We will follow the Spirit who can dry our tears, whatever we face.

Leader: Go in peace and in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

***PRAISE SONG**

I've Got Peace like a River #623



Copyright 2004-2025 Skit Guys, permission granted to watch and download videos for sermon illustrations, announcements, and teaching for use in church, small groups, or events. All rights reserved.

Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal. Copyright 2025-2026, CCLI License #2992794. Permissions granted to reproduce or adapt praise songs for use in service or church education. All publishing rights reserved.

Copyright 2025-2026, CCLI Streaming License #21816597. Permissions granted to project, live-stream or upload recordings of worship service, including the music, to website or social media channels for archived or limited distribution to those unable to attend in person. All rights reserved.

Prayers written by Thom M Shuman and permission granted at www.lectionarylitanies.blogspot.com Adapted by the Rev. Mark Ruzicka.

Contributions Received Week of 6/22:

Regular Offering: \$638 / Loose Change Offering: \$5

Mail-in Regular Offering: \$300

Sunday Worship Attendance on 6/22:

House: 37 / Online: 4



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 June 29, 2025

Guest Speaker: Jim Roberts **Liturgist:** Patty Stepler

Greeters/Ushers: Barry & Carolyn Shoemaker **Reader:** Tim Bryan

We welcome Jim Roberts as our guest speaker during today's service. Jim is a long-time leader in the local "Night to Shine" events. "Night to Shine" is a prom-style event for our friends with special needs.

Special Congregational Meeting will be held following today's service to vote on the approval of our building projects. Please plan on staying.

Our **5th Annual Hidden Treasures Yard Sale** is being held on Friday, July 11th (from 8am to 4pm) and Saturday, July 12th (from 8am to 2pm), during Greencastle Sidewalk Sale Days. We are accepting donations this week on Monday, June 30th and Tuesday, July 1st, from 9am-12noon. Items can be brought to the social hall and placed in front of the stage. We will not be accepting donations of clothes, books, or large furniture items. Please contact Marg about smaller pieces of furniture before you drop them off. We are seeking volunteers to assist with sorting, cleaning and setting up items in preparation for the sale. The preparations will take place on Monday, July 7th, and Tuesday, July 8th, from 9am to 2pm. If you can volunteer for an hour or more, the sign-up sheets are in the front vestibule and elevator area or contact Marg Stouffer.

Sunday Volunteers Needed – Thank you to our volunteers for getting July schedule completed. We now need volunteers for August. The sign-up sheet is on the welcome table in the front vestibule.

Restoration of our Organ is currently in progress. The prep work for the organ has been completed at the church. We expect the console to be completed soon, with installation to follow in July.

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: In the months when our choir isn't singing, it would be great to have some special music in worship (July and August). In the past, we have worked with the Cumberland Valley School of Music as a clearing house for musicians. The Worship and Spiritual Life Committee has decided to offer 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: No meals will be held in July, as it falls on a holiday weekend. We will be back in August. If you would like to volunteer with us in August, please contact Chet Nye or Lorna Thomas.

The Pastor's office and church office will be closed on Thursday, July 3rd, for Independence Day.

Men's Breakfast & Fellowship will be held on Saturday, July 5th, at 9am, at the Velvet Café in Waynesboro.

July Birthday Wishes go out to Mary Frances Myers, Clarisse Hicks, Bill Storms, Earl Bodes, Nancy Myers, Ethel Fisher, Faye Baker, Nancy Stine and DeBorah Alston. Happy Birthday!

Activities & Fundraising will not be holding their regular monthly meeting in July. Contact Chet or Marg if you have any questions about volunteering during our Hidden Treasures Yard Sale.

Worship Volunteers for Sunday, July 6, 9:30am service:

Greeters/Ushers: Lu Miller & Patty Stepler **Reader:** Steve Miller

Communion Servers: Nancy Myers & Patty Stepler

