

***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 June 7th, 2026: Second Sunday after Pentecost

Scriptures: Hosea 5:15-6:6 / Psalm 50:7-15 / Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

WE WELCOME GOD'S PRESENCE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Concerto in A Minor -Vivaldi-Bach/Thompson

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive Readings)

The sinners, the saints, the broken, the whole:
we all come seeking the God who offers grace and hope.

The doubters, the devout, the wonderers, the wanderers:
we all seek to follow the God who works for justice and hope for all people.

The hesitant, the heroic, the grandparents, the little children:
we all listen for the songs of joy all creation sings to the God who gives life to all. Let us worship God!

***PRAISE SONG**

I Danced in the Morning #157



***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**O God, You are rich in mercy.
Lord Jesus, have mercy on us.
Forgive us for the ways that we fail to follow you.**

**Help us to offer others the bread of life and the cup of hope
that have come to us through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

(a time of silent prayer)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Here is the good news: God has not wavered in keeping His covenant of faithfulness.

By God's grace, we are forgiven;
by God's healing, we are made whole;
by God's constant love, we are restored to life.
All: Thanks be to God!

WE READ GOD'S WORD TOGETHER

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION OF SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURES

Hosea 5:15-6:6 Please open to Old Testament, pages 1027-1028

Psalms 50:7-15 Please open to Old Testament, page 639

Video: "Expand Me" by 231 Worship

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26 Please open to New Testament, pages 10 & 11

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 been given, let us freely give.

We will now receive this morning's offering.

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

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Whiter Than Snow -Fischer/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. Amen.**

***UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION FOR THE OFFERING**

**O God, giver of every good gift, bless us and these offerings that we may continue to follow
You and join You as You seek to bring hope to our world.
In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

Holy Communion Liturgy

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

***All:* And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

***All:* We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Leader: Holy God, we praise You for creation and the gift of life and for Your abiding love which brings us close to You. We thank You for revealing Your will for us in the giving of the law and in the preaching of the prophets.

We thank You especially that in the fullness of time, You sent Jesus, born of Mary, to live in our midst, to share in our suffering, and to accept the pain of death at the hands of those whom he loved.

We rejoice that in a perfect victory over the grave, You raised Christ with power to become Sovereign in Your realm.

We celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to gather Your church and by which Your work may be done in the world.

Through the Holy Spirit, we share the gift of eternal life.

So, knowing praise is the only response
which we can make to such love,
we join our voices with those in every time and place
who forever sing Your joy:

SANCTUS (All please sing together)

**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!**

Leader: Holy are You, God of Grace,
and blessed is Jesus Christ, Bringer of mercy.
He walked among us, calling us to follow
that we might know the way to Your heart.
Sitting with the outsiders, he fed them with that love which welcomed
and embraced them as siblings from different parents.

Following Your hopes, he went into the grave,
so he might take us by the hand and lead us into life forever with You.

We recall the mystery of our faith:

***All:* Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Leader: Pour out Your Spirit upon these simple,
yet so very precious, gifts of the bread and of the cup.
Bless us in our eating and drinking at this table, that our eyes may be opened and we may recognize the Risen
Christ in our midst, in each other, and in all for whom Christ died.

And when we are gathered
around the great Table in heaven,
seated beside Abraham and Sarah,
Paul and the psalmists, Jesus and Joanna,
we will lift our voices together,
praising You forever,
God in Community, Holy in One.

***All:* Amen.**

Distribution of the Elements

(We partake together at the cue of the pastor)

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Communion

Leader: Let us pray.

***All:* Thank You for this meal shared in the company of friends.
Having rested and been fed, may we go from this place committed to feeding any person who hungers for
love, offering the kind of blessings we ourselves have received here. Amen.**

WE GO OUT CARRYING GOD'S LOVE

BENEDICTION

Leader:

May God bless you and keep you.
May God's face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
May God look upon you with kindness and give you peace.

All: Amen.

*PRAISE SONG

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy! #305



POSTLUDE MUSIC

(Please be seated to listen to the postlude)

Trumpet Voluntary -Young



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Contributions Received 5/31/26

Regular Offering: \$387 / Loose Change Offering: \$10
Organ Fund Donation: \$300 / STC Offering: \$25
Mail-in Offering: \$200

Worship Attendance on 5/31/26

In-House: 26 / Online: 5

Tithes for the Month of May 2026:

\$6639



THE REVEREND RALPH S. GEIMAN, PASTOR, 1967-1995



GRACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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WEEK OF JUNE 7, 2026

Greeters/Ushers: Ron Shafer & Marg Stouffer

Communion Servers: Lu Miller & Cathy Keefer

Scripture Reader: Steven Miller

Church of the Apostles will host its first summer concert this evening, June 7, at 6:00 p.m., featuring Harmony Hymns. The concert will be held under the pavilion, or inside the church if the weather is poor. Everyone is invited to attend; please bring a lawn chairs.

A vertical rectangular poster with a black border. At the top, the text "JUNE 7" is written in a large, bold, red serif font. Below it, "HARMONY HYMNS" is written in a smaller, bold, black serif font. In the center is a photograph of four people (two men and two women) standing on the green steps of a church entrance. The two men are standing in the back, and the two women are sitting on the steps in front. They are all smiling. Below the photograph, there is a paragraph of text in a black serif font: "Old familiar hymns and folk songs uniquely arranged for vocals, banjo and guitar introduced with song histories and two Christian songs popularized by Allison Krause."

Educational Sunday will be held next Sunday, June 14th. During this service, we will recognize the students chosen for the scholarships. Loose change offerings collected next Sunday will be donated to our Educational Fund. Following service there will be a meet-and-greet with refreshments downstairs in the social hall.

Strengthen the Church Offering - The giving from our congregation helped to ensure congregations get the help they need from their conference and the national ministries of the UCC. Together we can answer the Spirit's call to be united in Christ for a just world for all. We thank you for your gifts of \$150 during the month of May.

Lost & Found: Baseball cap has been turned into the church office. If you are missing one, it has been placed on the bench in the elevator area.

Blessing Baskets have been temporarily removed from the steps, until we find a better way to protect the food items from sun exposure. Contact Marg Stouffer or the church office with any ideas or questions.

Upper Room Daily Devotional Brochures for July/August are now available. They have been placed on the front welcome table and in the elevator area. Please take home a copy today.

Men's Breakfast & Fellowship will not be meeting during the summer months of June, July & August.

Otterbein UB Church in Greencastle is sponsoring a bus trip to Sight & Sound Theater on Wednesday, August 26th, to see Joshua. Reservations and payment are due by the end of June. Reservation forms and additional details are available in the vestibule areas. Please take one if you are interested.

Social Seniors will not be gathering during the summer months of June, July or August. They will resume in the Fall.

Our next **Lunch Bunch** is scheduled for Tuesday, June 30th, 11:30am at the Parlor House in Waynesboro. We invite everyone to join us for food and fellowship.

June Birthday Wishes go out to Ron Myers, Stacy Schweitzer, Kate Kennedy, Barry Shoemaker, Lorna Thomas, Kermit Hicks, Kristen Vannoy, Deb Homer, Rashaw Alston, Joseph Koons and Ben Stouffer. May you enjoy your special day!

Grace's Free Closet is open Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:30am to 12:30pm, and the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month from 11:30am to 2:30pm. Donations are accepted anytime during open hours. Please contact Nancy Myers with any questions or needs. Thank you to all our Closet volunteers.

First Saturday Free Community Meal will not take place in July because it falls on a holiday weekend.

Our **6th Annual Hidden Treasures Yard Sale** is approaching in July. We will be accepting donations for any unwanted items towards the end of this month. Items need to be clean and in working conditions. We need volunteers for a lot of different areas. Details on back page.

Newsletter Deadline is approaching. Please submit any articles, photos, upcoming events or anything you would like to share with the congregation to the church office by Thursday, June 18th.

Note of Appreciation was received from Olivia Carey, one of the students who received the Katherine Didier Scholarship. It's posted on the bulletin board in the lower hallway for everyone to view.

Worship Volunteers for Sunday, June 14th, 9:30am:

Greeters/Ushers: Nancy Myers & Cathy Keefer

Scripture Reader: Patty Stepler

We are getting ready for our 6th Annual Hidden Treasures Yard Sale! It will be held on **Friday, July 10**, from 8 am to 4 pm, and **Saturday, July 11**, from 8 am to 2 pm. Donations will be accepted Monday through Thursday, from 9:30 am to noon, beginning the week of June 22 through July 3.

Donations can be dropped off in the social hall and placed in front of the stage.

Ideas of items to donate . . .

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Decorations | Linens/bedding |
| Seasonal items | Tablecloths/placemats |
| Kitchen items** | Children's toys |
| Bath items | Puzzles |
| Wall art | Purses/backpacks/luggage |
| Carpet runners | Sports items |
| Outdoor items (lawn games, camping) | Lamps/lighting |

Dishes and Glassware accepted in sets of 4 or more, **no odds and ends please

We are **not** accepting clothing, books, or large furniture pieces.
Small furniture, please check with Marg before dropping off.

PLEASE CLEAN AND MAKE SURE ITEMS ARE IN WORKING ORDER

We need helpers July 6th through July 9th to sort and organize donations. Sign-up sheets can be found on the front welcome table & elevator area.



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