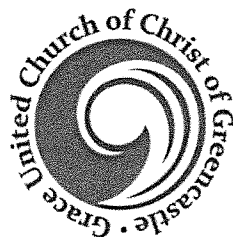


***No matter who you are,  
or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.***



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

Order of Worship for June 8, 2025: Pentecost Sunday  
**Scriptures:** Romans 8:14-17, Acts 2:1-21, Gospel of John 14:8-17

**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**

Children's Medley -Root, Bliss, and Bradbury/Hayes

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Spirit of the living God, visit us again on this day of Pentecost.  
**All: Come, Holy Spirit.**

Leader: Like a rushing wind that sweeps away all barriers,  
**All: come, Holy Spirit.**

Leader: Like tongues of fire that set our hearts aflame,  
**All: come, Holy Spirit.**

Leader: With love that overlaps the boundaries of race and nation,  
**All: come, Holy Spirit.**

Leader: With power from above to make our weakness strong,  
**All: come, Holy Spirit. Let us worship God!**

**\*PRAISE SONG**

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart #688



**Unison Prayer of Confession**

**Generous God, You send us the Spirit of courage, but we act afraid.  
You send us the Spirit of truth, but we cling to our illusions.  
You send us the Spirit of healing, but we cannot let go of our hurts.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord.  
Holy Spirit, help us to live in the way of Your justice and love.**

*(a time of silent prayer)*

**Words of Assurance**

Leader: All the promises of God find their “Yes” in Christ.  
It is God who has put his seal upon us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. In Christ, by the power of the Spirit, we are forgiven.  
**All: Thanks be to God!**

**WE READ GOD’S WORD TOGETHER**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION OF SCRIPTURE**

**SCRIPTURES**

Romans 8:14-17 Please open to New Testament, page 191

Acts 2:1-21 Please open to New Testament, pages 144-145

**Video:** “The Fellowship Of Believers: Pentecost” by the Skit Guys

Gospel of John 14:8-17 Please open to New Testament, page 133

**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 OFFERING

Leader: We have received freely, let us give freely as well.

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

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Just As I Am -Bradbury/Kohlmann

**\*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**

God, we give You thanks for all the gifts, great and small,  
that have been poured out upon Your children.  
Accept these gifts and helping us to be witnesses to Your love wherever we go. Amen.

**WE GO OUT CARRYING GOD'S LOVE**

**BENEDICTION**

Leader: Church, may the boldness of God's Spirit transform us,  
may the gentleness of God's Spirit lead us,  
may the gifts of God's Spirit equip us  
to serve the Lord in all the ways we are able.  
**All: Amen.**

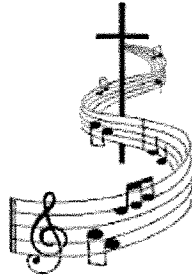
**\*PRAISE SONG** Spirit of the Living God #288



**POSTLUDE MUSIC**

(Please remain seated to listen to the postlude)

Living for Jesus  
-Lowden/Turner



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Prayers are taken from *The Worship Sourcebook*, published by Faith Alive Christian Resources, copyrighted in 2004. Adapted by the Rev. Mark Ruzicka.

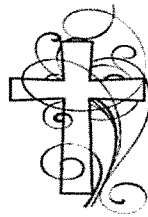
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**Contributions Received Week of 6/1:**

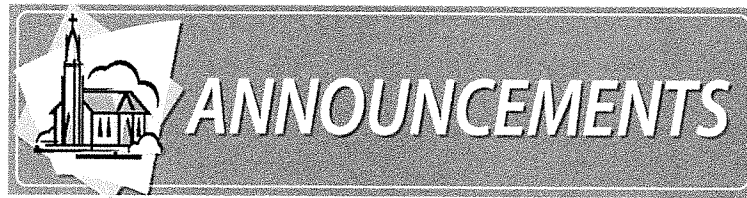
Regular Offering: \$956 / Loose Change Offering: \$195 (being donated to our scholarship fund)  
Building & Grounds: \$155 / Communion Offering: \$58 / Initial Offering: \$20  
Regular Offering received at office: \$75

**Sunday Worship Attendance on 6/1:**

In-House: 33 / Online: 3



*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](mailto:markruzicka3349@gmail.com)

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

Website: [www.graceuccgreencastle.com](http://www.graceuccgreencastle.com) Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/GraceChurchGreencastle/](http://www.facebook.com/GraceChurchGreencastle/)

### **Week of June 8, 2025**

**Greeters/Ushers:** Ron Shafer & Cathy Keefer

**Reader:** Patty Stepler

**Our Condolences** to Bill Storms for the passing of his beloved wife, Marquita Storms. Please keep him and the family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. The **altar flowers** are in honor and loving memory of Marquita, given by her family.

**Strengthen the Church Offering** is being received during today's worship. **STCO** is an offering that reflects a shared commitment across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. The funds raised will help to support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. Special offering envelopes can be found the the elevator area and on the welcome table in the front vestibule.

**Note of Gratitude** - Ethel Fisher would like to thank everyone for all their prayers, cards and visits while she was at the hospital and in rehab. She is home and welcomes any visitors.

**We extend our gratitude** for the generous loose change donations received last Sunday, totaling \$195. These funds have been donated to our scholarship fund.

**Restoration of our Organ** is currently underway. The process is expected to take about 4-5 more weeks to finish.

**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.

**Consistory & Committee Reports** are due to the church office by Monday, June 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Board Meeting** is scheduled for Sunday, June 15, at 8am, in the small meeting room.

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

**Social Senior** gatherings are not held during the summer months. They will resume in September.

**SPECIAL MUSIC SPONSORSHIP:** In the months when our choir isn't singing, it would be great to have some special music in worship (June, 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.

**1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Free Community Meal:** We appreciate our volunteers who served the meals this past Saturday. 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, please contact Chet Nye or Lorna Thomas.

The **Deadline** to submit articles for our July/August **Newsletter** is this Thursday, June 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Upcoming Fundraiser:** Our annual **Hidden Treasures Yard Sale** will be held on July 11<sup>th</sup> (from 8am to 4pm) and July 12<sup>th</sup> (from 8am to 2pm), during Greencastle Sidewalk Sales Days. Please start putting aside your treasures to donate to the yard sale. We will not be accepting donations of clothes, books, or large furniture. Please talk to Marg about smaller furniture items before you drop them off. Donations can be dropped off beginning the week of June 16<sup>th</sup> in front of the stage in the Social Hall (between 9am-12noon). Please check your calendars, as we need volunteers to help sort and set up on July 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> and/or help on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> for the Sales Days. Volunteer sign-up sheets for sorting items can be found on the front welcome table and in the elevator area. Any questions, see Marg Stouffer.

**Worship Volunteers for Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am service:**

**Greeters/Ushers:** Patty Stepler & Nancy Myers      **Reader:** Patty Stepler

**Guest Preacher:** Rev. Douglas Wagner

