

*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 February 15, 2026 - Transfiguration Sunday

Scriptures: Exodus 24:12-18; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

WE WELCOME GOD'S PRESENCE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Video: "The Way God Does Love" by 231 Worship

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 Air (from "D Major Suite") -J.S. Bach/Lorenz

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: It is good to be here in this sacred space,
All: in the shelter of God's love and hope.

Leader: It is good to be here with folks we know well, as well as with new friends,
All: joining with all of God's beloved ones, everywhere.

Leader: It is good to be here, where we can hear God's voice,
All: calling us to witness the Spirit's presence. Let us worship God!

***PRAISE SONG**

Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain #193



***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

O God, we confess that our judgment often becomes clouded by our foolishness,
and so we make all kinds of wrong choices.
We let fancy philosophies draw us away from Your grace.
Our fears can convince us that those around us are conspiring against us.
Have mercy on us.
Replace our foolishness with Your wise counsel.

(a time of silent prayer)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: On mountaintops and in valleys, God is with us, declaring we are the beloved!
The grace of God comes to us and transfigures our lives.
In Christ, we are forgiven.
All: Thanks be to God.

WE READ GOD'S WORD TOGETHER

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION OF SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURES

Exodus 24:12-18 Please open to Old Testament, pages 87-88

2 Peter 1:16-21 Please open to New Testament, page 287

CHOIR ANTHEM

A Place in the Valley -Don Besig

Matthew 17:1-9 Please open to New Testament, pages 22-23

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: We remember how Jesus taught us, "It is better to give than to receive."

Let us give our offerings to support the ministry of Christ's church.

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

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Shall We Gather at the River? -Lowry/Sewell

***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**

Lord, we pour out these our offerings that they might be used to transform all those who find themselves in the valleys of hunger, of loss, of loneliness, and of injustice. This we ask in the name of your Son, the Beloved. Amen.

WE GO OUT CARRYING GOD'S LOVE

BENEDICTION

Leader: God sends us from this experience of worship
All: to serve all those around us.

Leader: Jesus, the Beloved, invites us to join him
All: in everyday life, in everyday service.

Leader: Glory's Spirit takes us by the hand
All: to lead us down the path of humility.

Leader: We go in the loving power of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
All: Amen.

***PRAISE SONG**

Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud #11



POSTLUDE MUSIC

(Please remain seated to listen to the postlude)

Recessional in C -Wagner



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Service Prayers written by Thom M. Shuman. Permission granted at <https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com> adapted by Mark Ruzicka.

Contributions Received week of 2/8/2026

Regular Offering: \$1232 / Loose Change \$31 / Building Fund Donations: \$40
Regular Offerings Received by Mail: \$350

Sunday Worship Attendance on 2/8/2026

In-House: 28 / Online: 10



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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Website: www.graceuccgreencastle.com

YouTube Channel: Greencastle Grace UCC

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/GraceChurchGreencastle/

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 15, 2026

Greeters/Ushers: Lu Miller & Marg Stouffer

Scripture Reader: Lu Miller

Grace's Free Closet is open Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:30am–12:30pm, and on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month from 11:30am–2:30pm. Donations are accepted during open hours. If Greencastle Antrim School District is closed or delayed due to weather, the Closet will also be closed. We thank our volunteers for supporting the extra weekend hours.

Contribution Reports – If anyone else needs a copy of their 2025 contributions statements, please call Elaine in the church office.

2025 Annual Reports are now available. Please see our greeters to pick up your copy today.

February Birthday Celebrants: We extend our best wishes for a happy birthday to Erma Foley, Marg Stouffer and Kathy Fillman.

Blessing Baskets are available on the church steps for anyone in need. If inclement weather or freezing temperatures, the totes will be temporarily brought inside. If you would like to help support this ministry, please donate non-perishable food or personal care products in the collection tubs. A suggested donation list is on the hallway bulletin board. For monetary contributions, contact Marg Stouffer or drop off at the church office and we will purchase the items needed. Thank you for helping with this community outreach program!

Choir Rehearsals are held weekly on Wednesday evenings, beginning at 7:15pm in the sanctuary.

The next **Men's Breakfast & Fellowship** will be held on Saturday, March 7th, at 9am, at the Velvet Café in Waynesboro.

Next **First Saturday Free Meal** will be held on Saturday, March 7th, from 11-1pm, in the social hall. If you would like to volunteer with us, please contact Chet Nye or Lorna Thomas.

Ash Wednesday – Join us on Wednesday, February 18th, 6pm, in the Chapel, for a short service and the Imposition of Ashes.

Our **Lenten Book Group** will be starting on Wednesday, February 18, following the Imposition of Ashes at 6pm in the Chapel. We will continue to meet from 6-7pm on Wednesday evenings through April 1st. The resource we are using this year is a book entitled *Unrevealed Until Its Season: A Lenten Journey with Hymns* by James C. Howell. The author believes in the power of song to teach spiritual truths. "Hymns embed faith into the marrow of the soul," he writes. In *Unrevealed Until Its Season*, Howell takes us on a 40-day journey through well-loved hymns. For those who requested us to purchase the books, they have been ordered and will be handed out when received. If you haven't signed up, you can still join us and purchase the book from Amazon. If you need help purchasing it, please let Pastor Mark or Elaine know.

Inclement Weather – If Worship Service needs to be cancelled due to inclement weather, it will be posted on our Facebook page, and we will send out an email message. If you don't have internet access, please contact any of the board members for updates before heading to service.

Lunch Bunch is meeting on Tuesday, February 24th, 11:30am, at Casa Agave, on N. Antrim Way in Greencastle. Everyone is invited to join them for some delicious Mexican cuisine.

Brochure from the Greencastle-Antrim Christian Women's Fellowship is on the church bulletin board in the lower hallway. Their programs take place at the Evangelical Lutheran Church's Memorial Fellowship Hall. GUCC ladies are welcome to attend any monthly fellowship program.

Member Updates: Our newest members, Darren and Kristen, are planning a private family wedding this weekend, Saturday, February 21st, with Pastor Mark officiating. We wish them blessings as they soon start their new lives together.

Easter Flower Orders – We are now accepting Easter flower orders in dedication and in honor of our loved ones. We are offering 6 1/2" potted tulips in choice of yellow or purple at \$13.25 each; and 6" potted white lilies at \$14.25 each. Orders will be accepted in the collection plate on Sunday, February 15, 22 or March 1. You can also drop off orders during the week at the church office. Payment is due at time of ordering. Order forms and envelopes have been placed in the front welcome table and in the elevator area. Deadline for submitting orders is Monday, March 2nd. Flowers will be placed on the altar for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday Worship. They can be picked up after Easter Sunday Service. Any questions, please contact Elaine in the church office. Thank you.

Spring Ham Sandwich & Soup Fundraiser will be held on Thursday, March 12th. Orders can be picked up between 11am-1pm or 4pm-6pm, at the side door entrance. Ham sandwiches are \$4.50 each and homemade soups (choice of chicken & rice or ham & bean) will be sold by the pint for \$4.50 or by the quart for \$9. Order forms are available on the welcome table in the vestibule or elevator area. Drop off your orders in the boxes provided or bring them to the church office during week. Payment is due at time of pick-up. Deadline to place orders is Sunday, March 8th. If you can help us to make the soups or sandwiches, please contact Cathy Keefer or Marg Stouffer. Thank you.

Scholarship Applications are now being accepted. Applications can be found in the blue folder placed in the elevator area. If you, or know of anyone who can benefit, please pick up an application. Contact Lorna for any questions. All applications need to be returned by April 1st. Below are the three scholarships we offer:

- Kathryn Didier Scholarship is open to members of GUCC who are pursuing higher education, and to Greencastle-Antrim High School seniors who plan on enrolling in college.
- Julie M. Bodes Scholarship is available to Greencastle-Antrim High School seniors or high school seniors who belong to GUCC who are planning on majoring in business education or computer science fields.
- Ralph S. Geiman Scholarship is available for anyone in the Christian Faith who will be enrolling full time in the Master of Divinity program at the Lancaster Theological Seminary in Lancaster (now part of the Moravian University).

Newsletter – If you would like to submit any news, photos or events to share with the church congregation in our next issue of Grace Notes, please drop off to the church office or send via email at: gucc128@outlook.com

Activities & Fundraising Committee is meeting on Tuesday, March 3rd, at 7pm, in the small meeting room. Everyone is welcome to join them and bring your fundraising ideas! We could use extra help for our upcoming ham sandwich and soup sale.

Worship Volunteers for Sunday, February 22, 9:30am service:

Greeters/Ushers: Barry & Jack Shoemaker

Scripture Reader: Tim Bryan

