

# WELCOME TO GRACE CHURCH

*A people gladly serving the Lord Jesus and neighbors near and far*

BECAUSE OF THE LORD'S GREAT LOVE, WE ARE NOT CONSUMED, FOR HIS COMPASSIONS NEVER FAIL. THEY ARE NEW EVERY MORNING; GREAT IS YOUR FAITHFULNESS.

**We worship our Savior on September 22, 2024 (9 a.m.)**

**(“Come as you are ... then go home different”)**

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216 S. Market Street, Mechanicsburg, Pa. 17055 ..... Church Phone: (717) 766-3282

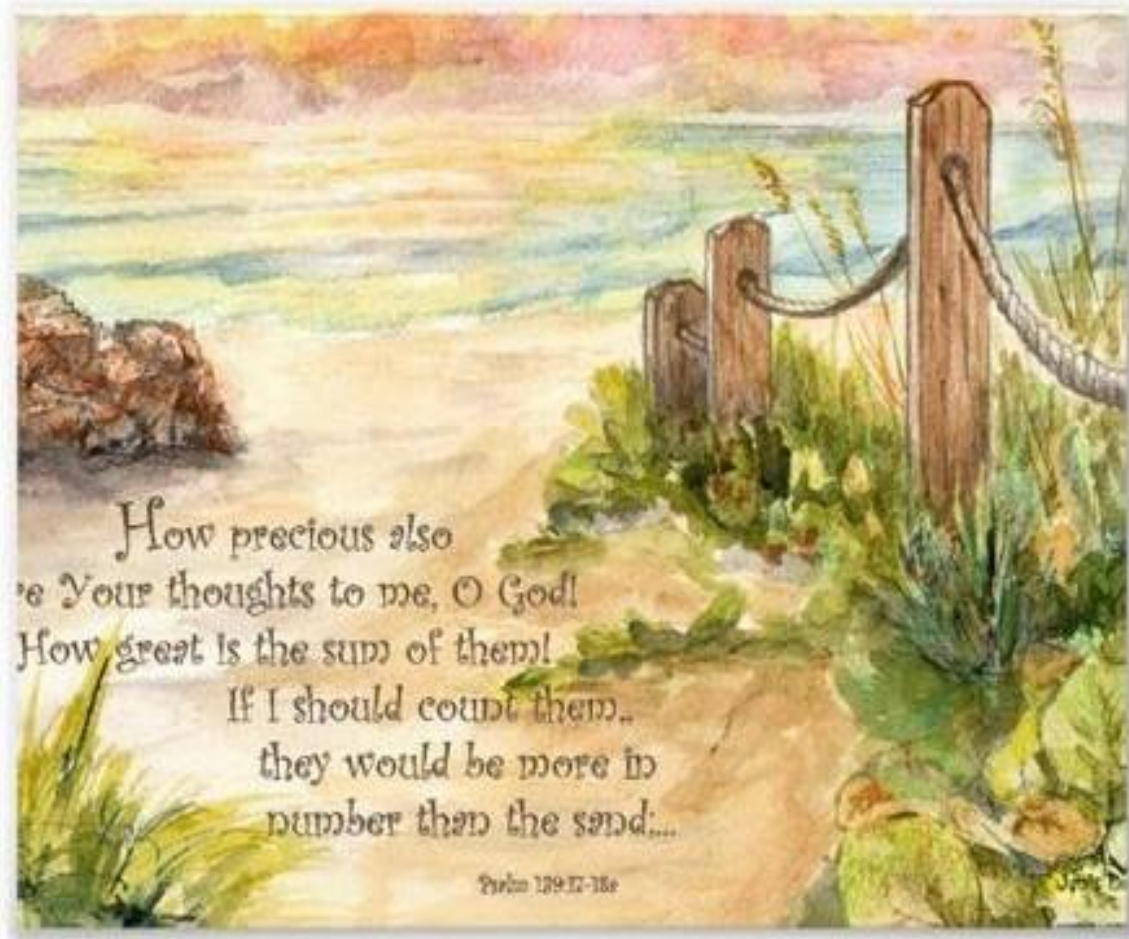
Email is [gracechurch216@gmail.com](mailto:gracechurch216@gmail.com) .... Website is <https://www.gracechurchmech.com/>

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**PASTOR: W. Michael Langford (Pastor's cell: 717-659-9613)**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Chris Peters (9 a.m.- 5 p.m. on Thursdays)**

**MINISTERS: All of us! (We are all ministers of God's grace and we're on-duty '24/7')**



How precious also  
are Your thoughts to me, O God!  
How great is the sum of them!  
If I should count them,  
they would be more in  
number than the sand...

Psalms 139:17-18a

BLESSING US WITH THEIR MUSIC...Chris Peters (piano), Linda Langford (organ)

**GATHERING SONG ..... “He Giveth More Grace”**

(1) He giveth more grace when the burdens grows greater,  
He sendeth more strength when the labors increase:  
To added affliction He addeth His mercy, To multiplied trials His multiplied peace.

**(REFRAIN) His love has no limit, His grace has no measure,  
His power has no boundary known unto men;  
For out of His infinite riches in Jesus...He giveth and giveth and giveth again!**

(2) Fear not that thy need shall exceed His provision,  
Our God ever yearns His resources to share;  
Lean hard on the arm everlasting, availing; The Father both thee and thy load will upbear **(R)**

(3) When we have exhausted our store of endurance,  
When our strength has failed ere the day is half done,  
When we reach the end of our hoarded resources, Our Father’s full giving is only begun! **(R)**

A WELCOME from our liturgist: Missy Yost

**A CALL TO WORSHIP ..... Psalms 130**

Out of the depths I cry to You, Lord. I seek a remedy for my guilt and my sorrows.  
**O Lord, please hear my voice. Let Your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.**

If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins like people do...O Lord, who could stand?  
**But with You there is forgiveness; therefore, You are feared.**

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His Word I put my hope.

**My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning...**

Put your hope in the Lord, for with Him is unfailing love and with Him is full redemption.  
**He Himself will redeem us from our sin; He will bring us a marvelous new life.**

Let us devote ourselves to Him in our worship. Come and praise our Faithful God!

**Here we are! May the Lord use Grace Church to proclaim His mercy and grace.**

**OPENING HYMN (U.M. # 98) ..... “To God Be The Glory”**

(1) To God be the glory, great things he hath done! So loved he the world that he gave us  
His Son, who yielded his life an atonement for sin, and opened the life-gate that all may go  
in

**(REFRAIN) Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father  
Through Jesus the Son, and give him the glory, great things he hath done!**

**(2)** *O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood, to every believer the promise of God;  
The vilest offender who truly believes, that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. (REF.)*

**(3)** *Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,  
And great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;  
But purer, and higher, and greater will be our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. (R)*

**INVITATION OF GOD’S PRESENCE**

Offer your own “GOD IS GOOD” greeting to those seated nearby!

**PRAISE SONG ..... “Joy In My Heart”**

**(C) There’s joy, there’s joy in my heart today. For all my sins have been washed away!  
And now...I have...a new song to sing...Of praises unto Jesus the King**

*(verse) Joy...is the song that I sing,  
Joy...yes, His joy is my strength,  
Joy...keeps on flooding my soul,  
And that’s why I sing everywhere that I go! (CHORUS)*

**PRAISE SONG ..... “Come, Worship The Lord”**

**(CHORUS) Come worship the Lord, for we are His people, the flock that He shepherds.**

**Alleluia!**

**(1) Come, let us sing to the Lord, and shout with joy to the Rock who saves us.  
Let us come with thanksgiving, and sing joyful songs to the Lord! (Chorus)**

**(2) Come, let us bow down and worship, bending the knee before the Lord, our Maker.  
For we are His people, we are the flock that He shepherds! (Chorus)**

**BODY BUILDING ..... Joys, Announcements and testimonies of God’s grace**

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

**PRAYER SONG ..... “Faithful One”**

**(verse) Faithful One, so unchanging...Ageless One, You’re my rock of peace...  
Lord of All, I depend on You...**

*I call out to You again and again...I call out to You again and again*

**(CHORUS) You are my rock in time of trouble...**

**You lift me up when I fall down**

**All through the storm Your love is the anchor...**

**My hope is in You alone**

**PRAYER**

**--- WE HEAR THE WORD ---**

**THE GOOD NEWS**

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

***“We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you,  
and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.”***

TODAY'S MESSAGE ..... Pastor Mike

Langford

***“The Hardy Believer”***

**CLOSING HYMN (# 451) ..... “Be Thou My Vision”**

- (1) Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art. Thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*
- (2) Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord; Thou and thou only, first in my heart, great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.*
- (3) Great God of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven’s joys, O bright heaven’s Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

**A BENEDICTION**

*We thank you for presenting your tithes and offerings in the plates found at the exits.*

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*This worship service is over. NOW BEGINS our Christian service in Jesus’ Name!*

~~167~~

*We are **not** on a “167-hour vacation from faith” after this worship ends. We show the grace daily!*

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**MINISTRY CHALLENGE**...“Maybe God can use me”. No maybe about it: God calls! *Begin to pray about the specific service God desires for you to SHARE. What talents (musical, too!) do you have which can serve God here at Grace and your neighbors?*

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**LAST WEEK**...Our friend George Elliott spoke to us during Pastor Mike’s vacation. The focus was on Ruth, who lived in the period of the judges. She married the son of an Israelite family while they were living in Moab, but then her father-in-law, husband, and husband’s only brother all passed away. So, Ruth had a choice whether to remain in her home of Moab or to go with Naomi, her mother-in-law, to Judah, a place she had never known. Ruth could not endure to part from Naomi or from the God of Israel that she had come to know. She said the well-known words, “Whither thou goest, I will go”. Ruth and Naomi made the voyage back to Judah to the city of Bethlehem. Ruth’s testimony spread, and Boaz heard of her faith. Ruth acknowledges that she does not deserve Boaz’s favor because she is a stranger. Boaz blesses her with his favor and protection. Ruth is rewarded for her dedication. Boaz acts as a redeemer. Jesus will later be known as the redeemer of all who come in faith. Ruth showed remarkable faith for such a young believer: she believed God had a purpose for her and would provide for her and loved ones. Ruth was the great-grandmother of King David...and ancestor of Jesus. Big things are “on the way”. Our lives can be redeemed! No matter what we’ve been through or where we have come from.

*God has a plan for you, far surpassing it all. Let's be faithful, like Ruth! (Ruth 1-4)*

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