

Grace Episcopal Church

Season after



If you are joining us for the first time, Welcome to Grace Episcopal Church!

If you want to connect with us, please contact Barb Hanson at 508-930-0620.

Also, you can visit our website: www.gracechurchna.org or

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gracepsopalchurchna>



7th Sunday after Pentecost

Reverend Grant Barber

Dr. Bob Lambe, Musical Director

Marge Cull, Voice of the people

Jim Hale & Marge Cull, readers

07.24.2022

Prelude **Dance of the Blessed Spirits, Gluck**

Opening **Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart H488**

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
all else be nought to me, save that thou art—
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father; thine own may I be;
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.*

Celebrant: Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and forever.

The Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Rejoice in the Lord Always

Philippians 4:4

by Evelyn Turner

1

Re- joyce in the Lord — al- ways, and a- gain I say, "Re- joyce!"

2

Re- joyce! Re- joyce! And a- gain I say, "Re- joyce!"

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The Collect

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

First reading Genesis 18:20-32

The LORD said to Abraham, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know."

So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake."

Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 138

- 1 I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; *
before the gods I will sing your praise.
- 2 I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your Name, *
because of your love and faithfulness;
- 3 For you have glorified your Name * and your word above all things.
- 4 When I called, you answered me; * you increased my strength within me.
- 5 All the kings of the earth will praise you, O LORD, *
when they have heard the words of your mouth.
- 6 They will sing of the ways of the LORD, * that great is the glory of the LORD.
- 7 Though the LORD be high, he cares for the lowly; * he perceives the haughty from afar.
- 8 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; *
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand shall save me.
- 9 The LORD will make good his purpose for me; *
O LORD, your love endures for ever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

Second Reading Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19)

As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.

And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

[Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.]

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Luke 11:1-13

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.
Give us each day our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.
And do not bring us to the time of trial."

And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you Lord Christ

Sermon Rev. Grant Barber

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

Prayers of the People Form VI

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

We pray for those serving in the military, especially:

Baron S., Zachary S., Christopher, Monique & Joey

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Justin the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Alan and Gayle our Bishops; and all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We pray now for those in any need, and especially those on our prayer list:

Muriel C., Richard T., David T., Sunrise T., Carole HP., Laura K., Natalie W., Lawrence H., Milo M., Marjorie S., Betty H., Kay S., Katie P., the White family, Richard M., Susan H., and Barb H.

We hear and join our own presence to those who have virtually requested prayers.

(appointed person reads any prayers in the Zoom chat box)

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
Silence. The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

The Celebrant invites all celebrating birthdays or anniversaries to come forward for a blessing which ends the prayers of the people.

If there are none, the Celebrant adds a concluding prayer.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence may be kept.*

Minister and People

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins
through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all
goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in
eternal life. Amen.



The Peace of the Lord be with you always!

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. *Amen*



Communion Hymn Thy kingdom come! H615

"Thy kingdom come!" on bended knee

the passing ages pray;

and faithful souls have yearned to see

on earth that kingdom's day.

But the slow watches of the night

not less to God belong;

and for the everlasting right

the silent stars are strong.

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray. *Celebrant and People*

Almighty and ever-loving God, we know we are the body of Christ in this world and commissioned to do your work.

With your guidance, help us to grow Grace Church in ways we cannot now imagine.

In your compassion, Lord, help us to be open to all possibilities,

In your love, Lord, help us to accept those things that we need to change, and not limit ourselves in moving forward.

In your wisdom, Lord, please show us the way to go as we become your hands, your heart, and your voice in the world.

This we pray in Jesus' name, Amen

Blessing

Closing Hymn Praise, my soul, the king of heaven H410

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;

to his feet thy tribute bring;

ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,

evermore his praises sing:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favor

to his people in distress;

praise him still the same as ever,

slow to chide, and swift to bless:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glorious in this faithfulness.

Postlude Entrée de la Suite de la Folie, Campra

Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us bless the Lord, Alleluia, alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God: Alleluia, alleluia!

Announcements



Everyone stay healthy and hydrated!
With increasing COVID and flu infections, and the hot weather, be careful.

We have much to be thankful for.

Take a look at the hallway as it gets a facelift.
A group will be working on the Rector's office and the library.

From St. John's

St. John's is hosting a **multi-family yard sale**
on Saturday, August 6th, from 9:00-2:00.
Take a ride over!

You are invited!

The congregation of St John's will host an
outdoor Eucharist and picnic on
Wednesday, Aug 10 at 6pm.



Collaboration Update

Thanks to all for your feedback and participation as we work with Rev. Kathy and St. John's.

A new option has been approved by the two Vestries:

Weeks 1 and 3 - at Grace on Saturday 5pm

Weeks 2 and 4 - at Grace on Sunday 10 am.

Please let us know your thoughts, concerns and/ or questions. It will help shape Kathy's ministry with Grace.

We met to review the Covenant, or contract, with Kathy and St. John's. We have been successful in our discussions and are moving forward. With her notice period and some vacation time, we expect her to start in September.

Grant's last Sunday will be August 28th. Join us afterward in celebration of his ministry with us.