

Prelude Noel, Daquin

Start Recording



If you are joining us for the first time, [Welcome to Grace Episcopal Church!](#)

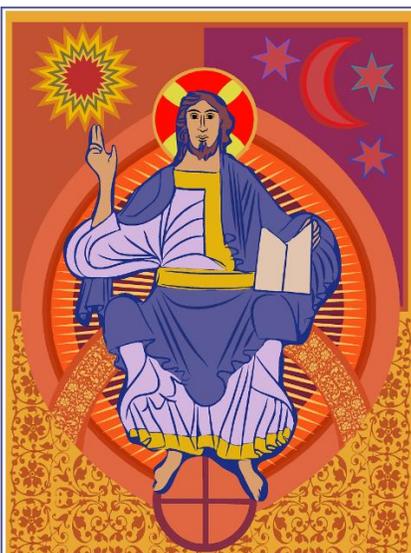
If you want to connect with us, please contact Barb Hanson at 508-930-0620.

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

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

Grace Episcopal Church

Third Sunday of Advent



Virtual & In Person Worship

Reverend Grant Barber

Dr. Bob Lambe, Musical Director

Bob Chappuis & Marge Cull, readers

12.12.21

3rd Sunday of our Advent Preparing: Joy

Knowing we prepare by recognizing the truth we live in at the present moment, claiming the promise of God repairing the breach between people, we bring our own joy in response to this season—a quiet joy that foreshadows the full-throated joy of Christmas.

Following the opening hymn:

Celebrant: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God... Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together. - Isaiah 40:3, 5

Reader: Sing loud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!

All: *The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more.*

Reader: On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak.

All: *The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing*

Reader: as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.

All: *I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth.*

Reader: At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord

Lighting the Candle

The first and second candle are lit.

Reader: Light of the world, in grace and beauty, mirror of God's eternal face, transparent flame of love's free duty,

All: *You bring salvation to our human race.*

Reader 1: Sacred Mystery, we light the third candle of Advent for faith and healing.

The third candle is lit.

Reader 2: We kindle it with faith. As mighty God and tender infant, you come. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you.

All: Sacred Mystery, look upon your world. Give us faith and courage so we can repair the breach created through injustice and oppression. Help us to heal your land and your people. This Advent, teach us, like you, to be tender and just. Amen.

Song of Praise Kyrie S91

The Collect

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

First Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

All: Thanks be to God

Canticle 9

Surely, it is God who saves me; *

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *

and he will be my Savior.

Refrain

You shall draw wa - ter with re -
joic - ing from the
springs of sal- va - tion.

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Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, *
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Refrain

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Refrain

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Refrain

Gospel Luke 3:7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you Lord Christ

HOMILY 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 – Reader

Please enter prayers and petitions into the chat if attending virtually.

Leader: We are invited to prepare, to discern what gives us true life.

People: Gracious God, in the midst of busy lives may we hear the invitation to reflection, quiet, and to know the true joy which satisfies our hopes and desires.

Leader: The cold arrives in this season. As we warm our homes, may our hearts be kindled with love for the dignity and well-being of all: peace in our homes, our streets, our towns, between friends, family members, for our parish and in the hearts of all who seek you.

People: Lord God, may our thoughts, and actions testify to the love we find in you.

Leader: During a holiday season life can be hard for the lonely, those who are sick, those who grieve. We pray now especially for those in any need, and especially those on our prayer list:

Ron, Ginny, Marilyn W., Carol HP., Muriel C., Richard T., David T. Sunrise T., Laura K., Art G., and Natalie W.

Dear Lord, we continue to lift up to you in prayer all those parishioners, family members, and friends who have been a part of our Prayers of the People. Their needs are many, and they remain in our hearts and minds. Lord, we pray that you will continue to heal them and nurture them. Amen.

Please let the office know (1) if you have any person in urgent need of prayer to be added to these prayers and (2) those with longer term, chronic needs, will be added to the Prayer Chain for long term prayer care.

Leader: We pray for those serving in the military, especially: Baron S., Zachary S., Christopher, & Joey

Leader: We give thanks for those whom we love but see no longer, especially Margot Pirnie, and those we now name silently or out loud. They stand before you and pray for us, as we now pray for them.

People: May light perpetual shine upon them.

Leader: Are there other intercessions or thanksgivings others wish to name?

*All are invited to speak out loud or enter in the chat and offer further prayer needs, including birthday or anniversary remembrances. **Leader or other person reads petitions entered into Zoom Chat.***

Celebrant: asks if there are any birthdays or anniversaries to be celebrated in the coming week, then prays for those named; if none come forward with birthdays or anniversaries, the Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Confession and Absolution

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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 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!

Anthem Star of Advent

Eucharistic Prayer B

Contained in the other document.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Sanctus

Creation Mass - Sanctus

Haugen

1

4

10 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord; God of

16 pow - er, God of might. Hea - ven and earth are full of your

22 glo - ry: Ho - san - na in the high - est!

28 Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord; Ho -

34 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the

high est!

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

The Fraction Anthem

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

To receive communion please come up the center aisle and return to your pew by turning to your left and going down that side aisle.

Communion Hymn LEVAS 14 Soon and very soon

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 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry H76

Postlude Trumpet Tune in D, Purcell

Announcements

- 12/12 Lunch takeout
- 12/15 Christmas flowers due
- 12/24 Christmas Eve- Friday 4:30



Sunday Lunch

Join us on Sunday, December 12th

Crispy barbecue chicken, mac & cheese, homemade coleslaw, salad and dessert

Pickup times

- Church members pick up right after church
- Or others between 11:30 am and 12:30 pm

Order by Thursday, December 9th

<https://www.gracechurchna.org/sundaylunch-2021>

or call 508-695-4751



Choir Practice

each Sunday following the service. Join if interested.



Grief Support Dec. 12th following the service



Christmas Flowers

To purchase please **contact Maureen** **Cost is \$15, due by December 15th.**

Dismissal

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

People: Thanks be to God/Alleluia, alleluia!

12/05/2021

