



Celtic Evensong

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

2 May 2021 4:00 pm

We are so happy you are here.

*We come from many places to be together for a little while.
Each of us brings our own experience and traditions to this gathering.
So here in this place, let us take time together to encounter the holy.*

Please remember to silence all devices

The Opening Rite

Musical Meditation

The Call

Welcome

Opening Meditation

And you, high eternal Trinity,
acted as if you were drunk with love,
infatuated with your creature.
When you saw that this tree could bear no fruit
but the fruit of death
because it was cut off from you who are life,
you came to its rescue
with the same love
with which you had created it:
you engrafted your divinity
into the dead tree of our humanity.
O sweet tender engrafting!
You, sweetness itself,
stooped to join yourself
with our bitterness.

- Catherine of Siena 1347-1380 The Prayers of Catherine of Siena, ed. Suzanne Noffke

The Invitatory and Psalm

Officiant Alleluia! Come to us, O risen Lord,
People **and enliven us with your eternal love. Alleluia!**

Psalm 22:24-30

24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: *

"May your heart live for ever!"

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- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- 27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; *
he rules over the nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.

Officiant and People

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.

The Lessons

Listen now to the Word of God

The First Reading

1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People Thanks be to God.

Musical Response

Arran Boat Song

The Second Reading

John 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

Lector For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us,
and for the Word of God within us,
People Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Paul Massari

Music for Meditation

Her Mantle So Green

The Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

Evening Prayer

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Suffrages

- V. Loving God, in our faith, we pray:
For reconciliation between the violated and the violent,
R. That we may rest in your peace.
- V. For generosity between rich and poor people everywhere,
R. That we may share the abundance of your creation.
- V. For the growth of love between broken peoples and nations,
R. That we may shape our common life as your kingdom.
- V. For mutual respect between immigrants and insiders,
R. That we may welcome your image in all who come to us.
- V. For protection for the weak and humility for the strong,
R. That we may serve others as you serve us in Christ.
- V. For all the joys and concerns of our hearts,
R. That we may live with gladness and trust.

Leader Jesus says, "Come to me you who are troubled and I will give you rest." So come, you who are broke in body or in spirit, you who are torn by relationships and doubt, you who feel deeply within yourselves the divisions of the world. Come, for Jesus invites us to bring our brokenness.

Light Prayers

*During the playing of the music, please continue to offer your prayers
either silently or in the comments or chat*

Music during Prayers

Cad E Sin Don Te Sin

Hymn during the Prayers

Now it is evening

Now it is evening: Lights of the city Bid us remember Christ is our Light.
Many are lonely, Who will be neighbor? Where there is caring Christ is our Light.

Now it is evening: Food on the table Bids us remember Christ is our Life.
Many are hungry, Who will be neighbor? Where there is sharing Christ is our Life.

Now it is evening: Little ones sleeping
Bid us remember Christ is our Peace.
Some are neglected, Who will be neighbor?
Where there is caring Christ is our Peace.

Now it is evening: Here in our meeting
May we remember Christ is our Friend.
Some may be strangers, Who will be neighbor?
Where there's a welcome Christ is our Friend.

Words: Fred Pratt Green
Music: Evening Hymn David Haas
Used with permission RiteSong

Final Meditation

O blessed spring,
where Word and sign embrace us
into Christ the Vine:
here Christ enjoins each one
to be a branch of this life-giving Tree.
Christ, holy Vine,
Christ, living Tree,
be praised for this blest mystery:
that Word and water thus revive
and join us to your Tree of Life.

— Susan Palo Cherwien (b. 1953)

Concluding Canticle

**Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake
we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.
Lord, you now have set your servant free *
to go in peace as you have promised;
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, *
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:
A Light to enlighten the nations, *
and the glory of your people Israel.
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.
Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake
we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.**

The Concluding Prayer

God, you sent your Son into the world that we might live through him: May we abide in his risen life so that we may love one another as he first loved us, and know the fullness of joy. **Amen.**

Concluding Blessing

Officiant

May the Light of the world guide us,
the Life of the world refresh us,
and the Hope of the world be our companion,
that we may be the reconciling power of Christ in the world.
And the blessing of the Holy Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be with you now and evermore. Amen.

Dismissal

Officiant The Lord almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end.
All Thanks be to God.

Concluding Musical Meditation *Ye banks and braes*

Worship Leaders

The Reverend Debbie Phillips *Officiant*
Ryan Patten, Debbie Phillips, Eric Wagner *Musicians*
Paul Massari *Reflection*

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Parish Prayer List

Barbara and Loretta who are recovering from surgery.
Kristin Gourley, on her cancer diagnosis, that she made find healing and find the inner peace she seeks.
Linda Whalen, Bob Peterson, Nancy Brown, Brian Peterson, Robert Squillaro, Jenny, Loretta and Kris, Deb Papps, Derek Fuller and Family, Kathy Southern, Becky, the Quartarone Family, Scott Tucker, and the Salem Public Schools. For an end to racism, gun violence and oppression. Thanksgiving for Jon Papps and Helen Watson-Felt, in whose memory the flowers at the Easter Altar are given. If you have prayer requests, please email regathering@gracechurchsalem.org by Tuesday at noon for publication in that week's e-news. Your request will remain on the list until Easter unless you ask to have it removed.

Anti-Racism News

Our antiracism team met this week and we have some information to share with you.

Virtual cottage meetings will resume in the middle of May. Look for information soon on how to sign up. Each person on the committee will facilitate as we dig deeper into our own experiences living in a culture and country steeped in white supremacy. We earnestly hope that every member will do their best to attend one of these cottage meetings. We truly feel they are a place to hone our listening skills as well as our chance to share our experiences openly and honestly.

We also decided to do something for Juneteenth this year. A few ideas were shared and we hope to share more information with you soon. Here is an article about Juneteenth: Juneteenth.

Finally, look for a list of readings and videos that you can access to grow your knowledge about racism and anti-racism work.

We believe firmly that it is the responsibility of all white folks to do due diligence in learning how to anti racists. Please reach out to me if you have any questions or would like to be a part of our work together. Pray for our work. Pray that we may be the Body of Christ and recognize Christ in all persons.

Brian Fizer and the Grace Antiracism Taskforce

**"The beauty of anti-racism is that you don't have to pretend to be free of racism to be an anti-racist. Anti-racism is the commitment to fight racism wherever you find it, including in yourself. And that's the only way forward."
- Ijeoma Oluo**

Plant Sale and Workshop on May 22

This year's plant sale will have two components: A plant walk, much like our cookie walk, and a wonderful workshop by Brian Fizer that teaches us how to put together and care for a container garden filled with native plants. The workshops will be offered at 10 and 11 and you can purchase your ticket through ticketleap here: <https://grace-church.ticketleap.com/> beginning this weekend.

We are still looking for donations of all kinds of plants and monies. Please contact fundraising@gracechurchsaalem.org if you wish to help.



PLANT SALE & CONTAINER PLANTING WORKSHOP

*Take a stroll in plant heaven...
hundreds of plants to choose from
Join us for the workshop
“A Native Plant Container”*

**SATURDAY MAY 22
9 - 12
GRACE CHURCH SALEM
385 ESSEX STREET**

Tickets for workshop available at
<https://grace-church.ticketleap.com/>

LOVING LIBERATING LIFE GIVING *the Jesus Movement*

— Grace Episcopal Church —

A parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

The Most Reverend Michael B. Curry
The Right Reverend Alan M. Gates
The Right Reverend Gayle E. Harris
The Reverend Deborah A. Phillips
Larry Kamp
Tom and Karen Tucker
Hugh MacKay and Joanne Moar

*Presiding Bishop
Bishop Diocesan
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