



Celtic Evensong

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

9 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

Afton Water

Welcome

Opening Meditation

Love took George Herbert's hand and now takes mine,
The same quick eyes, the same wry, welcome smile,
The same spear-pierced and always-healing heart.
He turns to me and, taking bread and wine,
He spreads a table in the desert, while
I hesitate and draw back, stand apart,
Afraid, as always, of committed love.
But I have come too far to turn away,
Though Joy has vanished, she has led me here.
'So come', says Love, 'there's nothing left to prove,
And nothing that you need to do or say,
I am that perfect love that casts out fear,
Sit with George Herbert here, then taste and see
And find that all your loves are found in me.'

- Malcolm Guite

The Invitatory and Psalm

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

Psalm 98

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The Lord has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
5 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
6 Sing to the Lord with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.
7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.
8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.
9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
10 In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

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 5:1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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

Musical Response

O Carolan's Lament

The Second Reading

John 15:9-17

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

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

Emily Motherwell

Music for Meditation

Archibald McDonald of Keppoch

The Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

Evening Prayer

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and 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 broken 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

Shenandoah

Hymn during the Prayers

At break of day

At break of day three women came to find where Christ was laid.
With myrrh prepared to anoint his corpse, they wept and mourned the dead.
But now the stone is rolled away, they worship in full day,
Then run to take the good news back and share their holy joy.

O Mary, see your son again, in resurrection joy.
Shine, shine Jerusalem, for Christ is r'sen in majesty.
Lift up your eyes, look around and see, rejoicing, strong and free,
Your children come to find their home for all eternity.

Come celebrate the death of death! Come share eternal life!
Come leap and praise the living God who opens paradise!
For dawn is come all shining bright, to show salvation's might
To break the tomb, burst through the gloom, and flood the world with light.

Words: Janet Wootton Music: Kingsfold
Used with permission RiteSong

Final Meditation

Those who are willing to sacrifice
and be of service
have very little difficulty with people.
They know what they are all about.
People can't help but want to be near them.
They help them; they work with them.
That's what love is all about.
It starts with your heart and radiates out.

— Cesar Chavez

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

Planxty Connor

Worship Leaders

The Reverend Debbie Phillips
Ryan Patten, Debbie Phillips, Eric Wagner
Emily Motherwell

Officiant
Musicians
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
Bishop Suffragan
Rector
Director of Music
Property Stewards
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Peggy Carter
Ryan Patten
Joanne Moar

*Senior Warden
Junior Warden
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Laura Beasley-Topliffe, Andrew Bishop
Lisa Duffy, Katie LaBonte
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