



Celtic Evensong

The First Sunday in Lent

21 February 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

Let all mortal flesh keep silence

Welcome

Opening Meditation

At the setting of the sun
in the darkness of the night
with the whiteness of the moon in its splendor
we move with the earth as it turns
we are carried by the hours in their passing
we enter the dark with our years
to seek shelter in night's sanctuary
to find strength for our souls
to know peace in our prayers and our resting.
At the setting of the sun
in the darkness of the night
with the whiteness of the moon in its splendor we seek peace.

- Celtic Benediction, J. Philip Newell

The Invitatory and Psalm

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;
His mercy endures forever.
Show our hearts your way,
and we shall follow.

Psalm 25:1-9

- 1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O LORD, *
and teach me your paths.

4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
 for you are the God of my salvation;
 in you have I trusted all the day long.

5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, *
 for they are from everlasting.

6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
 remember me according to your love
 and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; *
 therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

8 He guides the humble in doing right *
 and teaches his way to the lowly.

9 All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness *
 to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
 world without end. Amen.

The Lessons

Listen now to the Word of God

The First Reading

Genesis 9:8-17

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, “As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

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

Musical Response

O Waly Waly

The Second Reading

Mark 1:9-15

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

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

Joanna Troy

Music for Meditation

O Carolan's Welcome

The Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

Evening Prayer

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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.

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

Gartan Mother's Lullaby

Hymn during the Prayers

The glory of these forty days

The glory of these forty days we celebrate with songs of praise;
for Christ, by whom all things were made, himself has fasted and has prayed.

Alone and fasting Moses saw the loving God who gave the law;
And to Elijah, fasting, came the steeds and chariots of flame.

So Daniel trained his mystic sight, delivered from the lions' might;
And John, the Bridegroom's friend, became the herald of Messiah's name.

Then grant us, Lord, like them to be full oft in fast and prayer with thee;
Our spirits strengthen with thy grace, and give us joy to see thy face.

Final Meditation

We live in a time of struggle
between truth and lies,
between sincerity, which almost no one believes in still,
and hypocrisy and intrigue.
Let's not be afraid, brothers and sisters;
let's try to be sincere,
to love truth;
let's try to model ourselves
on Christ Jesus.
It is time for us to have a great sense of selection,
Of discernment.

- Oscar Romero

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

Lord, you beat in our hearts and thrive in every cell of our bodies.
All that we are leaps for delight.
Wherever we go, we know we shall find you there. 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

Lark in the morning

Worship Leaders

The Reverend Debbie Phillips
Ryan Patten, Eric Wagner, Debbie Phillips
Joanna Troy

Officiant
Musicians
Reflector

Permissions for livestreaming

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license A-401113, from St James Music Press with license number 7273, and from RiteSong. All other music used in this service is in the Public Domain.

Parish Prayer List

Barbara Strom, recovering from surgery
 Roberta, in hospice.
Kristin Gourley, on her cancer diagnosis, that she made find healing and find the inner peace she seeks.
 John and Emily, as they welcome their new baby into their lives.
 Family of Bill Morgan as they grieve
 Linda Whalen
 Bob Peterson
 Nancy Brown
 Brian Peterson
 Robert Squillaro
 Jenny
 Deb Papps
Derek Fuller and Family
 Mary Knutsen
 Jamie Knutsen
Salem Public Schools

If you have prayer requests, please email 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.

Walking the Way of Lent

This year during Lent we hope to focus our habits of praying and fasting in an intentional way with a focus on anti-racism work. Lent is a time for introspection, confession, fasting, listening, learning, and praying. Though we cannot physically be together during this time we can join each other in corporate worship, prayer, fasting, and listening. We continue to focus our intentions and attention to the work of dismantling white supremacy and learning more about the work of becoming anti-racist.

To that end we invite you to join us as we focus each week on a prompt to guide our thinking, praying, and listening. Each week, a particular fast, prayer, and action are suggested. We hope that you will take this opportunity to deepen your own spiritual life and the collective spiritual life of our parish.

We encourage you to use your Book of Common Prayer as individuals and families. Praying the daily office or the abbreviated version of daily devotions can be a great place to start. Paired with these resources here we can all commit together to a prayerful Lent. During Eastertide we will continue our antiracism work together as we embark on the next series of cottage meetings. We look forward in Hope.

Week One

How would your Christian identity be different today if you had been taught explicitly that Jesus was not white? How can you move toward that identity of loving and accepting Jesus as a person of color?

Prayer

Pray the Lord's Prayer

The Collect

Strengthen us, O Lord, by your grace, that in your might we may overcome all spiritual enemies, and with pure hearts serve you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Study

Mark 1:12-13: And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

What word is speaking to you this day? Why might that be?

Confession

Confess the times you have made Jesus in your own image and ignored the presence of Christ in others.

Fasting

Remove from your home any images or icons that depict Jesus as white.

Action

Use a black icon or image of Jesus to guide you in your prayers and meditations. One will be shared on Facebook and Instagram.

Observing Lent Together: Hope

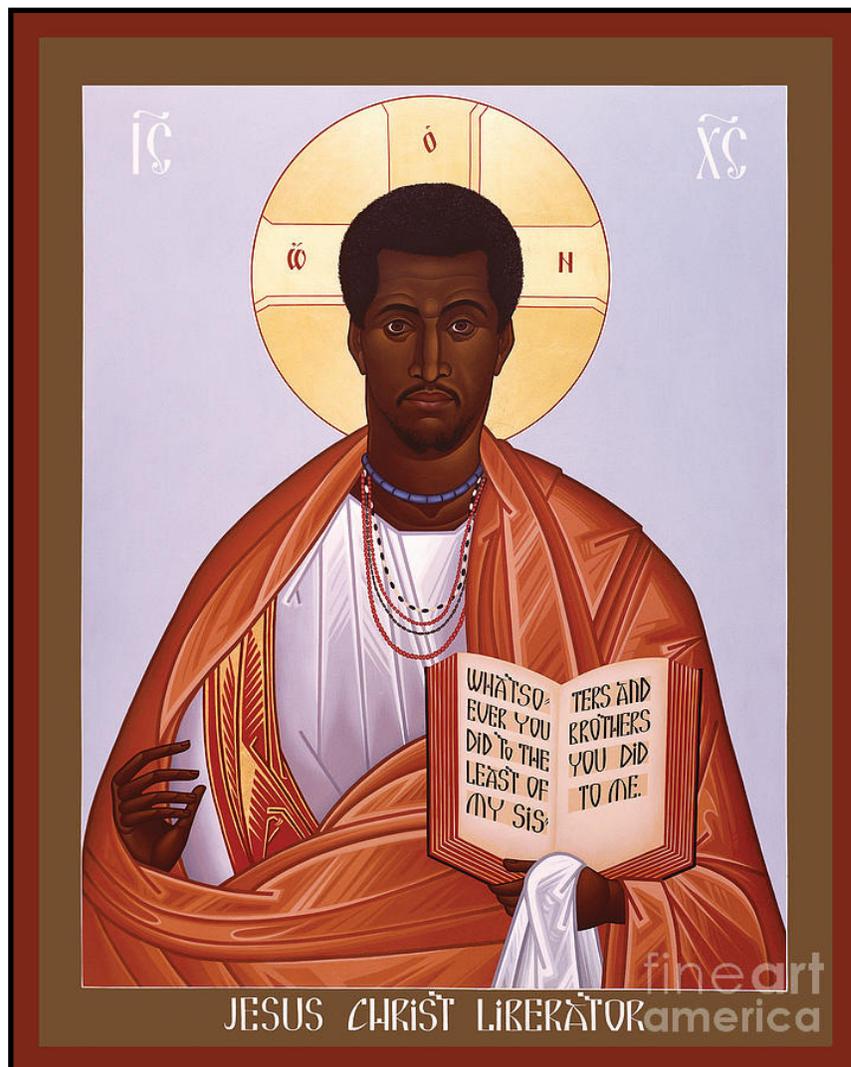
This Lent, we will be living into Christian hope together. Rather than a wish list, or a future dream, we believe hope is confidence. We are confident that there is newness and fullness of life. Hope is being certain that Christ will come again to make all things new. We are convinced that God's holy purpose for the world will be complete. If we begin our lives confident in the promises made and already fulfilled on our behalf, we approach life differently than others.

This Lent, we will refocus on hope. Each week, a member of the parish will offer a reflection on how hope relates to and impacts their lives and then we are invited to consider the same.

Let us take this time to grow together in our hope of God's love.

Results of Annual Meeting

Everyone went above and beyond with the pancake decorating contest. Everyone was a winner!!! The reports were received and the Budget and the slate of candidates were approved by unanimous vote. Thank you to everyone for your input during the discussion period and for all who serve God at Grace Church.



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
Vergers*

— Vestry —

Brian Fizer
Peggy Carter
Ryan Patten
Joanne Moar

*Senior Warden
Junior Warden
Clerk
Treasurer*

Laura Beasley-Topliffe, Andrew Bishop
Lisa Duffy, Katie LaBonte
Jane Stewart, Angela Williams

Members of Vestry