



Celtic Evensong

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

16 August 2026 4:00 pm

*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

Opening Musical Meditation

Opening Meditation

It doesn't have to be
the blue iris, it could be
weeds in a vacant lot, or a few
small stones, just
pay attention, then patch
a few words together and don't try
to make them elaborate, this isn't
a contest but a doorway
into thanks, and a silence in which
another voice may speak.

—Mary Oliver

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant Alleluia! Come to us, O risen Lord,

People and enliven us with your eternal love. Alleluia!

Officiant Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping;

People that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

All Glory to the Holy Trinity, as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

Song to the Light

The musical score is written on seven staves of five-line music staves. The melody is written in a single voice part using a treble clef. The notes are mostly eighth and quarter notes, with some half notes. The lyrics are written below the staves, aligned with the notes. The lyrics are: "I will kin - dle my fire in the morn of the day, in the pres - ence of ho - ly an - gels. With - out mal - ice or jeal - ous - y, en - vy or fear, with - out ter - ror of an - y - one un - der the sun, but the Ho - ly Be - lov - ed to shield me. O Ho - ly one, kin - dle thou here in my heart, a flame of pure love to my neigh - bor, to my foe, to my friend, to my kin - dred all, to the brave, to the knave, to the thrall. O child of the love - li - est Ma - ry, from the low - li - est thing, to the Ho - ly Name, the be - lov - ed of all."

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low - li - est thing, to the Ho - ly Name, the be - lov - ed of all.

Words: *Carmine Gadelica*, alt.

Music: Mary Truly Erney © 1998 St. Hildegard's Community. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Psalm 67

- 1 May God be merciful to us and bless us, *
show us the light of his countenance and come to us.
- 2 Let your ways be known upon earth, *
your saving health among all nations.
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, *
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations upon earth.

5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

6 The earth has brought forth her increase; *
may God, our own God, give us his blessing.

7 May God give us his blessing, *
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.

Glory to the Holy Trinity, as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.

The Lessons and Reflection

Listen now to the Word of God

The First Lesson

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

Thus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant--these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

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

Thanks be to God.

Musical Response

The Second Lesson

Matthew 15:21-28

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us, and for the Word of God within us,

Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Music after the Reflection

The Prayers

Prayers for Ourselves and Others

Leader: I open my heart to Christ in the stranger,
People: **To Christ in the face of colleague and friend.**
Leader: I open my heart to the one who is wounded,
People: **To Christ in the hungry, the lonely, the homeless.**
Leader: I open my heart to the one who has hurt me,
People: **To Christ in the faces of sinner and foe.**
Leader: I open my heart to those who are outcast,
People: **To Christ in the broken, the prisoner, the poor.**
Leader: I open my heart to all who are searching,
People: **To Christ in the world God's generous gift.**

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Rest

Gracious God, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in your mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. **Amen.**

A Collect for Jeremy Taylor

O God, whose days are without end, and whose mercies cannot be numbered: Make us, like your servant Jeremy Taylor, deeply aware of the shortness and uncertainty of human life; and let your Holy Spirit lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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.

*From now until the end of the service, you are invited to come to the Lady Altar
and light a candle and kneel at the rail for prayers.
There is a healing space at the back of the Lady Chapel for you.
Please move about as the Spirit leads you.*

Music during Prayers

Hymn

Blessing

God's blessing be with us, Christ's peace be with us, the Spirit's outpouring be with us, now and always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

May the Lord grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end.
Thanks be to God.

Concluding Musical Meditation

— Worship Leaders —

Ryan Patten
Ryan Patten
Paul Massari
Marianne Cannon
Joanna Troy

Musicians
Opening
Lector
Prayers
Usher

Our Prayers are offered for

Karen and Tom Tucker, Mary Brown, Robert Borden, Linda Abbene, Deven Manthorne, Margarette Connor, Barbara Dwyer, Lilyann, John Gilbo, Vance Gilbert, Reny Sparapani, Laurel, Gary Young, Amy, Paul, Heather and Prescott, Ariana, Sheridan, Javy, Faith Aroko and Family, Jesse Hurst and Family, Maureen Joyce, Arthur, Deb Young, Cindy Rhodes, Ron, Allison Mascolo, Melissa Glassman, Max Joyce, Marc Britt, those battling cancer, Mel, Corey MacNeil, Dianne, Jenny, Loretta and Kris, Priscilla Lemons, Deb Papps, Derek Fuller and Family, for the peaceful repose of the soul of Smadar and all victims of war the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and their ministries; the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Salem, the Salem Public Schools and for an end to racism, war, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, gun violence and oppression. In thanksgiving, we pray for the ministry of The Reverend Debbie Phillips and her husband, Eric Wagner, this community of faith, for God's grace and forgiveness, for those with the courage to stand up to tyranny, for creation, for the diversity of people, and for all the blessings of this life.

If you have additions or deletions to the prayer list, please email prayerlist@gracechurchsalem.org by Tuesday at noon for publication in that week's e-news. The Parish Prayer List is read aloud each Wednesday at Morning Prayer.

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Join our Realm Online Community!

Realm is an online tool to help us keep more accurate and up to date stewardship records. This will be an alternative to the PayPal button on our website and automated bill pay options. If you pledged for 2026, you will soon receive an email invitation to login to your personal Realm account and create a password (if you don't see it please check your spam folder)

Should you choose to log in, we need your help to ensure our records are up to date. We did our best, but please double-check that your contact information looks correct. Additionally, please review your pledge information and giving history for accuracy. If you notice any discrepancies or have questions, please reach out to me at treasurer@gracechurchsalem.org

While we encourage you to try this new way of giving, don't worry all the old ways still work too! Thank you in advance for your patience as we learn this new tool together!

Visit onrealm.org to access our church directory, give online, and stay informed about upcoming events. Scan the QR code to get started today!



This Week's Feast: Jeremy Taylor

Jeremy Taylor, one of the most influential of the “Caroline Divines,” was educated at Cambridge and, through the influence of William Laud, became a Fellow of All Souls at Oxford. He was still quite young when he became chaplain to Charles I and later, during the Civil War, a chaplain in the Royalist army.

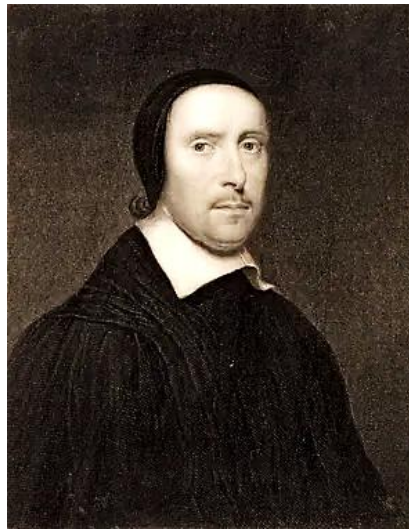
The successes of Cromwell's forces brought about Taylor's imprisonment and, after Cromwell's victory, Taylor spent several years in forced retirement as chaplain to the family of Lord Carberry in Wales. It was during this time that his most influential works were written, especially *Holy Living* and *Holy Dying* (1651). The opening of *Holy Living* reveals the impact that the Civil War, fought in part over religious concerns, had on him:

“I have lived to see religion painted upon banners, and thrust out of churches; and the temple turned into a tabernacle, and that tabernacle made ambulatory, and covered with skins of beasts and torn curtains; and God to be worshipped, not as he is ‘the Father of our Lord

Jesus,’ (an afflicted Prince, the King of sufferings,) nor as the ‘God of Peace,’ (which two appellatives God newly took upon him in the New Testament, and glories in forever,) but he is owned now rather as ‘the Lord of Hosts,’ which title he was preached by the Prince of Peace. But when religion puts on armor, and God is not acknowledged by his New Testament titles, religion may have in it the power of the sword, but not the power of godliness; and we may complain of this to God, and amongst them that are afflicted, but we have no remedy but what we must expect from the fellowship of Christ's sufferings and the returns of the God of peace. In the meantime, and now that religion pretends to stranger actions upon the new principles; and men are apt to prefer a prosperous error before an afflicted truth; and some will think they are religious enough, if their worshippings have in them the great earnestness and passion, with much zeal and desire; that we refuse no labor; that we bestow upon it much time; that we use the best guides, and arrive at the end of glory by all the ways of grace, of prudence, and religion.”

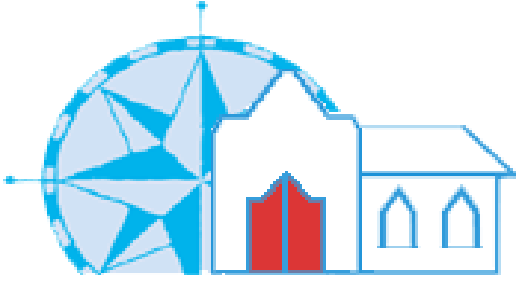
Among Taylor's other works, *Liberty of Prophesying* proved to be a seminal work in encouraging the development of religious toleration in the seventeenth century. The principles set forth in that book rank with those of Milton's *Areopagitica* in its plea for freedom of thought.

In later life, Taylor and his family moved to the northeastern part of Ireland where, after the restoration of the monarchy, he became Bishop of Down and Connor. To this was later added the small adjacent diocese of Dromore. As bishop, he labored tirelessly to rebuild churches, restore the use of the Prayer Book, and overcome continuing Puritan opposition. As Vice-Chancellor of Trinity College, Dublin, he took a leading part in reviving the intellectual life of the Church of Ireland. He died in 1667, having remained to the end a man of prayer and a pastor. *From Lesser Feasts and Fasts, Church Publishing*



Jeremy Taylor (1613–1667), Bishop of Down and Connor, portrait engraving by **Pierre (P.) Lombart**, published as the frontispiece to Taylor's *Ductor Dubitantium* (London, 1660)

Grace Episcopal Church



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The Mission of Grace Church is to unconditionally invite all people to join us in building a faithful Episcopal congregation that goes out into the community and through prayer, presence, and partnering improves the quality of life by bringing everyone closer to God.

— Grace Episcopal Church —

A parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

The Most Reverend Sean Rowe
The Right Reverend Julia Whitworth
The Reverend E. Clifford Cutler
The Reverend Manny Faria
Mark N. Peterson
Tom and Karen Tucker
Jenny Connors

*Presiding Bishop
Bishop Diocesan
Assisting Clergy
Assisting Clergy
Music Director
Property Stewards
Parish Administrator*

— Vestry —

Ryan Patten
Lisa Duffy
Joanna Troy
Katie Scott
Javy Awan, Kai Freyleue, Susan Tweed
Caroline Watson-Felt, Holly Willis

*Senior Warden
Junior Warden
Clerk
Treasurer
Members of Vestry*