



Celtic Evensong

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

23 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

Lord, you have always given bread for the coming day;
and though I am poor, today I believe.
Lord, you have always given strength for the coming day;
and though I am weak, today I believe.
Lord, you have always given peace for the coming day;
and though of anxious heart, today I believe.
Lord, you have always kept me safe in trials;
and now, tried as I am, today I believe.
Lord, you have always marked the road for the coming day;
and though it may be hidden, today I believe.
Lord, you have always lightened this darkness of mine;
and though the night is here, today I believe.
Lord, you have always spoken when time was ripe;
and though you be silent now, today I believe.
—Northumbria Community

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 in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some slurs indicating phrasing. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across 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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Words: *Carmine Gadelica*, alt.

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

Psalm 138

- 1 I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; *
before the gods I will sing your praise.
- 2 I will bow down toward your holy temple
and praise your Name, *
because of your love and faithfulness;
- 3 For you have glorified your Name *
and your word above all things.
- 4 When I called, you answered me; *
you increased my strength within me.
- 5 All the kings of the earth will praise you, O Lord, *
when they have heard the words of your mouth.

6 They will sing of the ways of the Lord, *
that great is the glory of the Lord.

7 Though the Lord be high, he cares for the lowly; *
he perceives the haughty from afar.

8 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; *
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand shall save me.

9 The Lord will make good his purpose for me; *
O Lord, your love endures for ever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.

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 51:1-6

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be for ever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

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

Musical Response

The Second Lesson

Matthew 16:13-20

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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.

Silence

During the next two minutes, let the reading speak to you

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

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Sundays

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Saint Bartholomew the Apostle

Almighty and everlasting God, who gave to your apostle Bartholomew grace truly to believe and to preach your Word: Grant that your church may love what he believed and preach what he taught; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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
Kourtni Patten
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!

~Katie Scott, Treasurer



This Week's Feast: Saint Bartholomew the Apostle

Bartholomew is one of the twelve Apostles known in the Gospels according to Matthew, Mark, and Luke only by name. His name means “Son of Tolmai,” and he is sometimes identified with Nathanael, the friend of Philip, the “Israelite without guile” in John’s Gospel, to whom Jesus promised the vision of angels ascending and descending on the Son of Man.

There is a tradition that Bartholomew traveled to India, and Eusebius reports that when Pantaenus of Alexandria visited India, between 150 and 200, he found there “the Gospel according to Matthew” in Hebrew, which had been left behind by “Bartholomew, one of the Apostles.”

An ancient tradition maintains that Bartholomew was flayed alive at Albanopolis in Armenia.

From Lesser Feasts and Fasts, Church Publishing

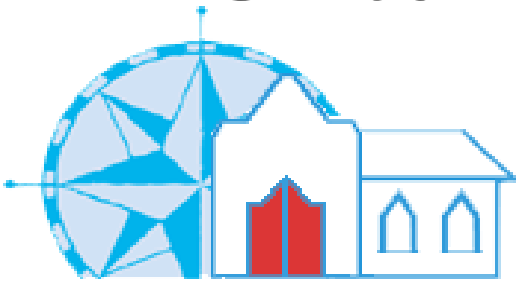


Bartolomeo Bulgarini, Saint Bartholomew, c. 1335–1340. Tempera on panel. Pinacoteca Capitolina, Rome.



The Miracle of St. Bartholomew, Sebastiano Vini, c. 1570. Church of San Bartolomeo, Cutigliano, Italy.

Grace Episcopal Church



385 Essex Street
Salem, Massachusetts 01970
(978) 744-2796

E-mail: office@gracechurchsalem.org
Web: www.gracechurchsalem.org

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*