



Celtic Evensong and Communion

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

3 May 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

Farewell to Glasgow

Opening Meditation

He is the Way.
Follow Him through the Land of Unlikeness;
You will see rare beasts, and have unique adventures.

He is the Truth.
Seek Him in the Kingdom of Anxiety;
You will come to a great city that has expected your return for years.

He is the Life.
Love Him in the World of the Flesh;
And at your marriage all its occasions shall dance for joy.

~ W. H. Auden, from *For the Time Being: A Christmas Oratorio*

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



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.



○ 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. ○ 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.

Words: *Carmine Gadelica*, alt.

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

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

- 1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; *
deliver me in your righteousness.
- 2 Incline your ear to me; *
make haste to deliver me.
- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag and my stronghold; *
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.
- 4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, *
for you are my tower of strength.
- 5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, *
for you have redeemed me,
O LORD, O God of truth.
- 15 My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.
- 16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me.

The Lessons and Reflection

Listen now to the Word of God

The First Lesson

Acts 7:55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

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

Thanks be to God.

Musical Response

Her Mantle So Green

The Second Lesson

John 14:1-14

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the

Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

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

Christine Reichert

Music after the Reflection

MacPherson's Lament

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, 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.**

A Collect from *Daily Prayer for all Seasons*

Loving God, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive in our world, our church and our hearts. Renew and strengthen us in the risen life we share in Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

A Collect for Elisabeth Cruciger

Pour out your Spirit upon all of your sons and daughters, Almighty God, that like your servant Elisabeth Cruciger our lips may praise you, our lives may bless you, and our worship may give you glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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

Ambran Na Leabhar

The Grace

In Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!
Amen.

The Peace

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

O God of mystery and promise, God of resurrection and new life, you invite us to discover you within ourselves and service to others. You invite us to discover you within the complexities of our humanity, in love and struggle, in confusion and unknowing, in flashes of insight and wisdom. You also call us beyond ourselves to places of imagination, beyond the silent stars, in the deep rhythms of the ocean, in the unending cycles of day and night, seasons of life and death. With saints and ancestors, with the seas and earth and sky, with animals and birds, with our friends and those unknown to us, with all creation we join in the song of your unending glory:

Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We praise you that in Jesus you make known to us the wonder and richness of our humanity. We give thanks for his life-giving love, for his healing touch, for his vulnerability and for his gentleness. Before he gave up his life, he shared his humanity, his flesh and blood with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks for it, broke it and gave it to them saying:

This is my own body given for you. Do this to remember me.

So too after they had eaten, he took wine, gave thanks for it and gave it to them saying:

“This is my blood, poured out in love for you. Do this to remember me.”

So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Holy and gracious God, present with us now, send in kindness your Holy Spirit to settle on this bread and wine and fill them with the fullness of Jesus. As we eat and drink these bodily things, make us one body, food for the world, one blood to be poured out for the life of all. Touch us with your gentle creativity and fire us with longing for the new age of justice and peace. We ask this through Jesus who gave his body that we might be one and his blood that we might find new life. With him, and through him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, be to you, O God, all honor and glory forever.

The Lord's Prayer

The Breaking of the Bread

The Invitation

Celebrant This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord.
It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more.
So come, you who have much faith and you who have little,
You who have been here often, and you who have not been here long,
you who have tried to follow and you who have failed.
Come, because it is the Lord who invites you.
It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

Communion

Concluding Prayer

Living God, in this sacrament we have shared in your eternal kingdom. May we who taste this mystery forever serve you in faith, hope, and love. Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

Blessing

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

Dismissal

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

Concluding Musical Meditation

The Lark in the Morning

— Worship Leaders —

The Rev. Manny Faria
Ryan Patten, Grayson Davison, Lisa Duffy
Ryan Patten
Paul Massari
Christine Reichert
Joanna Troy
Katie Scott

Presider
Musicians
Opening
Lector
Reflection
Prayers
Usher

Our Prayers are offered for

Mary Brown, Robert Borden, Linda Abbene, Deven Manthorne, Margaret Connor, Chuck Manck, 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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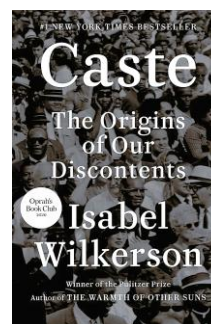
Book Group Sponsored by Diocesan Racial Justice Commission

The Racial Justice Commission of our diocese will launch its racial justice book group with a reading of *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* by Isabel Wilkerson. The group will read the book in sections and meet four times to discuss it: May 4, May 18, June 1, and June 15.

All sessions will meet on Zoom from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. You may register at this web address:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/gL2_gePdRDWfvld5dVE2ZA

Marianne Cannon has registered for this group; if you have questions, please reach out to her at: ctcannon.aprn@gmail.com





Let's
Connect!

Join our Realm Online Community!

We are excited to announce
that Grace Church is getting Realm!

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!





If you would like to participate, please complete a Donation Sign-Up Form. Forms are available:

- As an *online fillable form* and as a *downloadable PDF* found on the home page of our website gracechurchsalem.org
- As printed copies located at the back of the church

We would like to have all donations by **May 9th** to allow us time to sort, repot and buy supplemental plants as needed for the sale.

We would also like to have volunteers to help with set up, break down and sales on May 16th. Financial contributions towards the fundraiser are also appreciated. Please contact one of us or send an email at fundraising@gracechurchsalem.org if you are able to volunteer and we will sign you up.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to the committee for more information about making donations, how to contribute, or with any other questions you may have.

Thank you for your support.

- Peggy, Melissa, and Joanne



Kourtni Patten will be ordained to the transitional diaconate on Saturday, May 30 at 10:30 a.m. at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston.

For Kourtni, this is the culmination of years of discernment, preparation, and prayer. Everyone is invited to attend her ordination as she continues growing into the ministry to which God has called her.

On Sunday, May 31, we will have the joy of welcoming Kourtni to serve as a deacon that day at Grace, her sponsoring parish.



This Week's Feast: Elisabeth Cruciger

Elisabeth Cruciger was a friend and coworker of Martin Luther, and the first female hymn writer of the Protestant Reformation. Elisabeth entered monastic life as a young woman, but through books that were smuggled into the monastery she became convinced of the teachings of the Protestant Reformation and left the convent for Wittenberg. She would eventually marry Caspar Cruciger, who was a professor of theology.

Elisabeth embarked on an active ministry as a hymn writer, producing a number of compositions that helped to teach the Christian faith to laypeople. According to one account, she once dreamed she was standing in the pulpit of the Wittenberg church preaching. When she told Caspar this, he replied that whenever the church sang one of her hymns, she was indeed preaching, just as much as if she had spoken the words from the pulpit. She died when she was in her mid-thirties.

Elisabeth's hymn "Lord Christ, God's Only Dear Son" was translated into English by Miles Coverdale, and was one of the most popular hymns used by Anglicans in the sixteenth century. It is still included in most Lutheran hymnals, and is #309 in Evangelical Lutheran Worship, the current hymnal of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

The following is the English translation of her hymn translated by Anglican priest Arthur Tozer Russell in 1850:

1. The only Son from heaven, foretold by ancient seers, by God the Father given, in human form appears. No sphere his light confining, no star so brightly shining, As he, our Morningstar.
2. Oh, times of God appointed, Oh bright and holy morn! He comes, the king anointed, the Christ, the virgin-born, Grim death to vanquish for us, to open heav'n before us And bring us life again.
3. Awaken, Lord, our spirit to know and love you more, In faith to stand unshaken, in spirit to adore, That we, through this world moving, each glimpse of heaven proving, May reap his fullness there.
4. O Father, here before you with God the Holy Ghost, And Jesus we adore you, O pride of angel host: Before you mortals lowly cry: "Holy, holy, holy, O blessed Trinity!"

From Lesser Feasts and Fasts, Church Publishing

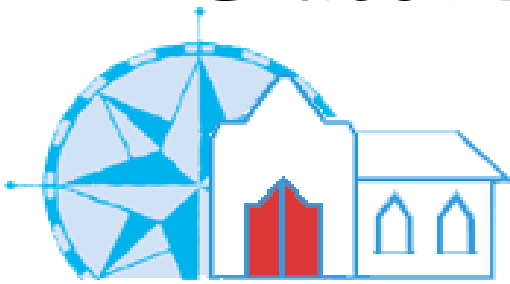


The Episcopal Church. "Elisabeth Cruciger."
The Lectionary Page



The opening of "Lord Christ, God's Only Dear Son (*Herr Christ, der einig Gotts Sohn*)" as it appeared in Maler's edition of the Erfurt Enchiridion, 1524, courtesy of Trinity College Library Dublin.

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

Presiding Bishop

The Right Reverend Julia Whitworth

Bishop Diocesan

The Reverend Sarah A. Conner

Interim Priest

The Reverend E. Clifford Cutler

Assisting Clergy

The Reverend Manny Faria

Assisting Clergy

Mark N. Peterson

Music Director

Tom and Karen Tucker

Property Stewards

Jenny Connors

Parish Administrator

— Vestry —

Ryan Patten

Senior Warden

Lisa Duffy

Junior Warden

Joanna Troy

Clerk

Katie Scott

Treasurer

Javy Awan, Kai Freyleue, Susan Tweed

Members of Vestry

Caroline Watson-Felt, Holly Willis