



Celtic Evensong and Communion

The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

16 February 2025 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

Musical Meditation

Adore devote

Welcome

Opening Meditation

We bless you, who have spelt your blessings out,
And set this lovely lantern on a hill
Lightening darkness and dispelling doubt
By lifting for a little while the veil.
For longing is the veil of satisfaction
And grief the veil of future happiness
We glimpse beneath the veil of persecution
The coming kingdom's overflowing bliss

Oh make us pure of heart and help us see
Amongst the shadows and amidst the mourning
The promised Comforter, alive and free,
The kingdom coming and the Son returning,
That even in this pre-dawn dark we might
At once reveal and revel in your light.

-Malcolm Guite

The Invitatory and Psalm

Arise, shine, for your light has come.

And the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.

Glory to the Holy Trinity,

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron*



O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ, in you the Father's glory shone.
Immortal, holy, blest is he, and blest are you his holy Son.

Now sunset comes, but light shines forth, the lamps are lit to pierce the night.
Praise Father, Son, and Spirit: God who dwells in the eternal light.

Worthy are you of endless praise, O Son of God, life-giving Lord;
Wherefore you are through all the earth and in the highest heaven adored.

Psalm 1

1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.

3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.

4 It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

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 Lesson

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Thus says the Lord: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse-- who can understand it? I the Lord test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

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

People Thanks be to God.

Musical Response

Mairi Bhan Og

The Second Lesson

Luke 6:17-26

Jesus came down with the twelve apostles and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets." "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

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

Kai Freyleue

Music after the Reflection

Archibald McDonald of Keppoch

The Prayers

Leader In the midst of hunger and war
People **we celebrate the promise of plenty and peace.**

Leader In the midst of oppression and tyranny
People **we celebrate the promise of service and freedom.**

Leader In the midst of doubt and despair
People **we celebrate the promise of faith and hope.**

Leader In the midst of fear and betrayal
People **we celebrate the promise of joy and loyalty.**

Leader In the midst of hatred and death
People **we celebrate the promise of love and life.**

Leader In the midst of sin and decay
People **we celebrate the promise of salvation and renewal.**

Leader In the midst of death on every side
People **we celebrate the promise of the living Christ everywhere.**

Leader Let us now hold before God our neighbors who are in need, sickness, danger or despair.

Here, the people may add particular intercession and thanksgivings.

The Collect of the Day

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Collect for Frederick Douglas

Almighty God, we bless your Name for the witness of Frederick Douglass, whose impassioned and reasonable speech moved the hearts of people to a deeper obedience to Christ: Strengthen us also to speak on behalf of those in captivity and tribulation, continuing in the way of Jesus Christ our Liberator; who with you and the Holy Spirit dwells in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

A Collect for Anti-Racism

God of all peoples, whose Son reached across the ethnic boundaries between Samaritan, Roman and Jew, help us to break down the barriers in our communities, enable us to see the reality of racism and bigotry, and free us to challenge and uproot it from ourselves, our society and our world in the Name of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; 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. Please move about as the Spirit leads you.

Music during Prayers

King of the Fairies

Hymn

Brother, sister let me serve you

1 Bro - ther, sis - ter, let me serve you, let me be as
 2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, fel - low trav'lers
 3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night-time
 4 I will weep when you are weep-ing; when you laugh, I'll
 5 When we sing to God in hea - ven, we shall find such
 6 Bro - ther, sis - ter, let me serve you, let me be as

Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to
 on the road; we are here to help each o - ther
 of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
 laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
 har - mo - ny, born of all we've known to - geth - er
 Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to

let you be my ser - vant too.
 walk the mile and bear the load.
 speak the peace you long to hear.
 till we've seen this jour - ney through.
 of Christ's love and a gon - y.
 let you be my ser - vant, too.

The Peace

The Holy Communion

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts
People **We lift them to the Lord**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is our joy and delight to give you thanks and praise Emmanuel, God with us. We give you thanks and praise for your hallowing of human flesh. We praise you that you brought forth new life in the family of Mary and Joseph as you do today from all who faithfully await the fulfillment of your word. We praise you that you were known first by poor shepherds and wise seekers as you are known today by the poor and outcast.

We rejoice at your light which shines out of darkness and enlightens all who seek you. We rejoice with the angels at your promise of peace for those who trust in you. We rejoice that the extraordinary is given birth in the ordinary places of life.

So with the angels who sing “Glory” and with all the saints and ancestors who have known you to be with us, we sing together:

People Holy, holy, holy Lord. 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.

Celebrant We bless you for Jesus, born of the Spirit’s love and a woman’s body and blood. We bless you for Jesus who shows us how to live the fullness of our humanity and thus become one with you. We remember Jesus who laughed and wept and felt tiredness and fear; who praised Mary when she anointed him for death and blessed a woman of the city who washed his feet with tears. We remember Jesus who touched lepers and the sick and feasted with tax collectors and sinners. We remember Christ who lives on in all who courageously and faithfully bring forth the light of your love in earth’s darkest places.

We remember Jesus who, on the night before he died, shared a meal with his friends. He took bread, blessed it and broke it and gave it to them saying:

People “Take and eat. This is my own body given for you. Do this to remember me.”

Celebrant After supper he took a cup of wine, gave thanks and gave it to them saying:

People “This is my life-blood given for you. Do this to remember me.”

So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Celebrant O God, who is known to us in human flesh, send your Holy Spirit on us and on these material things of bread and wine, that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ, and we may be the body of Christ, food and life for the world. We ask these things through Christ, with whom and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit be glory now and forever. **Amen.**

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

All God of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Amen.

Blessing May joy and nothing less find you on the way.
May you be blessed and a blessing.
And may light guide you, and countless others, on the way home.
And may the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Officiant May the Lord grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Concluding Musical Meditation

The Parting Glass

Worship Leaders

The Reverend Deborah Phillips	<i>Officiant</i>
Ryan, Patten, Debbie Phillips, Eric Wagner	<i>Musicians</i>
Paul Massari	<i>Assisting</i>
Kai Freyleue	<i>Reflection</i>
Eric Wagner	<i>Intercessor</i>
Marianne Cannon	<i>Usher</i>

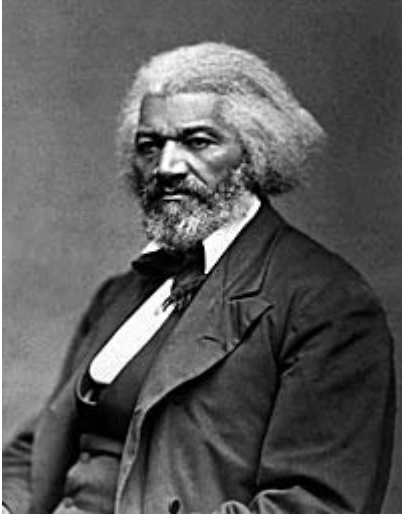
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Parish Prayer List

Christine, Reny Sparapani, Gary Young, Amy, Paul, Chuck Brown, Heather and Prescott, Ariana, Sheridan, Javy, Faith Aroko and Family, Jesse Hurst and Family, Neal and Maureen Joyce, Arthur, Deb Young, Cindy Rhodes, Ron, Gerald Tucker, Allison Mascolo, Melissa Glassman, Max Joyce, Marc Britt, those battling cancer, especially Faith's friend and the Princess of Wales, for Mel, Corey MacNeil, Dianne, Michael Towey, Jenny, Loretta and Kris, Priscilla Lemons and Family, Steve, Deb Papps, Derek Fuller and Family, the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and their ministries, for Ukraine and Haiti; the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Salem, the Salem Public Schools and for an end to racism, war, anti-Semitism, gun violence and oppression. In thanksgiving, we pray for this community of faith, for creation, for the diversity of people, and for all the blessings of this life.

Frederick Douglass: February 20



Frederick Douglass (born Frederick Augustus Washington Bailey, circa 1818 – February 20, 1895) was an American abolitionist, women's suffragist, editor, orator, author, statesman and reformer. Called "The Sage of Anacostia" and "The Lion of Anacostia", Douglass is one of the most prominent figures in African American and United States history.

He was a firm believer in the equality of all people, whether black, female, Native American, or recent immigrant. He was fond of saying, "I would unite with anybody to do right and with nobody to do wrong."

Frederick Douglass was born a slave in Talbot County, Maryland. He was separated from his mother, Harriet Bailey, when he was still an infant. She died when Douglass was about seven and Douglass lived with his maternal grandmother Betty Bailey.

When Douglass was about twelve, his owner's wife started teaching him the alphabet, which was against the law. Douglass succeeded in learning to read from white children in the neighborhood and by observing the writings of men with whom he worked. As Douglass learned and began to read newspapers, political materials, and books of every description, he was exposed to a new realm of thought that led him to question and then condemn the institution of slavery. He was hired out to a number of owners before finally escaping north to freedom in September 1838. Douglass continued traveling up to Massachusetts. There he joined various organizations in New Bedford, including a black church, and regularly attended abolitionist meetings.

Douglass' best-known work is his first autobiography *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*, published in 1845. The book received generally positive reviews and it became an immediate bestseller. Douglass published three versions of his autobiography during his lifetime (and revised the third of these), each time expanding on the previous one. The 1845 Narrative, which was his biggest seller, was followed by *My Bondage and My Freedom* in 1855. In 1881, after the Civil War, Douglass published *Life and Times of Frederick Douglass*, which he revised in 1892.

Douglass produced some regular abolitionist newspapers, including *The North Star*. Its motto was "Right is of no Sex — Truth is of no Color — God is the Father of us all, and we are all brethren."

Douglass believed that education was key for African Americans to improve their lives. For this reason, he was an early advocate for desegregation of schools.

Douglass conferred with President Abraham Lincoln in 1863 on the treatment of black soldiers, and with President Andrew Johnson on the subject of black suffrage. His early collaborators were the white abolitionists William Lloyd Garrison and Wendell Phillips.

In 1848, Douglass attended the first women's rights convention, the Seneca Falls Convention, as the only African American. Elizabeth Cady Stanton asked the assembly to pass a resolution asking for women's suffrage. Many of those present opposed the idea, but Douglass stood and spoke eloquently in favor; he said that he could not accept the right to vote himself as a black man if woman could not also claim that right. His powerful words rang true with enough attendees that the resolution passed.

By the time of the Civil War, Douglass was one of the most famous black men in the country, known for his orations on the condition of the black race and on other issues such as women's rights. His eloquence gathered crowds at every location. His reception by leaders in England and Ireland added to his stature.

After the Civil War, Douglass was appointed to several important political positions. He served as President of the Reconstruction-era Freedman's Savings Bank; as marshal of the District of Columbia; as minister-resident and consul-general to the Republic of Haiti (1889–1891); and as chargé d'affaires for the Dominican Republic. Douglass was an ordained minister of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

WARRANT FOR PARISH MEETING

The **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF GRACE CHURCH IN SALEM** will be called to order on **Sunday, February 23rd at 5:00 pm** for the following purposes:

1. To receive the annual reports of the Parish.
2. To present a budget for 2025.
3. To elect the following officers of the Parish:

Two Wardens (1 year)

Two Vestry persons (3 years)

Treasurer (1 year)

Clerk (1 year)

2 Delegates of Convention (1 year)

1 Alternate Delegate to Convention (1 year)

5 Delegates to North Shore Deanery (1 year)

4. To consider ways to live into our mission.

Everyone is invited to the meeting. Only members will be allowed to vote. A member is anyone who regularly attends Sunday worship, financially supports the parish through a pledge and participates in the life of the community. Everyone present, however, is welcome to participate in the discussion.

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.

Please join us in our mission.



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday 4 March

5:00 pm—6:30 pm

All are welcome to this free event

**Take a break from cooking
and join others
in food and conversation**

Ash Wednesday

5 March



5:30 pm
Children's Service

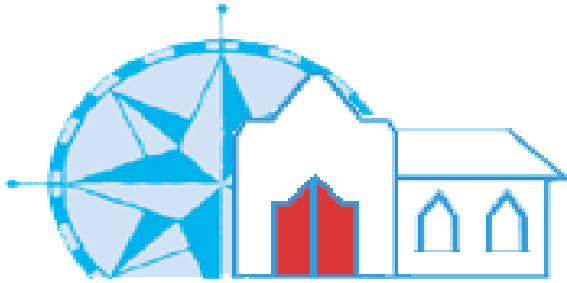
A half-hour service designed especially for children with imposition of ashes and a story.

7:00 pm
Choral Holy Eucharist

Proper liturgy for Ash Wednesday with the imposition of ashes



Grace Episcopal Church



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— Grace Episcopal Church —

A parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

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

*Presiding Bishop
Bishop Diocesan
Rector
Assisting Clergy
Assisting Clergy
Music Director
Property Stewards*

— Vestry —

Ryan Patten
Barbara Layne
Lisa Duffy
Joanne Moar

*Senior Warden
Junior Warden
Clerk
Treasurer*

Melissa Barnes, Marianne Cannon, Joanna Troy
Susan Tweed, Matt VanHamersveld, Holly Willis

Members of Vestry