



Celtic Evensong and Communion

The Second Sunday of Easter

27 April 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

Opening Musical Meditation

Fisk of Gloucester

Plainsong

Opening Meditation

Malcolm Guite

“We do not know... how can we know the way?”
Courageous master of the awkward question,
You spoke the words the others dared not say
And cut through their evasion and abstraction.
Oh doubting Thomas, father of my faith,
You put your finger on the nub of things
We cannot love some disembodied wraith,
But flesh and blood must be our king of kings.
Your teaching is to touch, embrace, anoint,
Feel after Him and find Him in the flesh.
Because He loved your awkward counter-point
The Word has heard and granted you your wish.
Oh place my hands with yours, help me divine
The wounded God whose wounds are healing mine..

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant Alleluia! Come to us, O risen Lord,

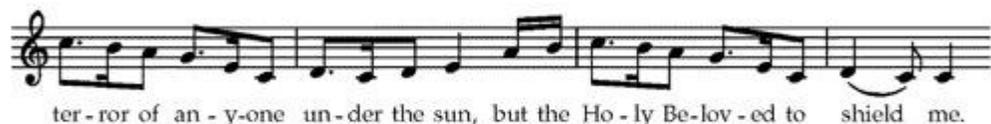
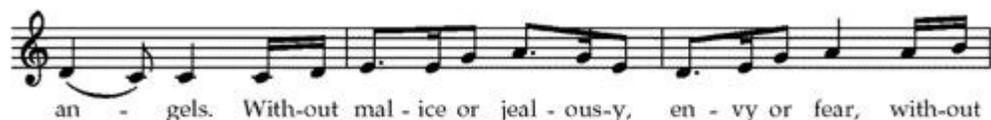
People and enliven us with your eternal love. Alleluia!

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



Words: *Carmine Galizia*, alt.

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

Psalm 150

1 Hallelujah! Praise God in his holy temple; *
praise him in the firmament of his power.

2 Praise him for his mighty acts; *
praise him for his excellent greatness.

3 Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn; *
praise him with lyre and harp.

4 Praise him with timbrel and dance; *
praise him with strings and pipe.

5 Praise him with resounding cymbals; *
praise him with loud-clanging cymbals.

6 Let everything that has breath *
praise the Lord. Hallelujah!

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

Acts 5:27-32

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

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

People Thanks be to God.

Musical Response

Thomas' Farewell

The Second Lesson

John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

Katie Scott

Music after the Reflection

Farewell

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.**

Here, the people may add particular intercessions or thanksgivings.

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and 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 St. Thomas

Everliving God, who strengthened your apostle Thomas with firm and certain faith in your Son's resurrection: Grant us so perfectly and without doubt to believe in Jesus Christ, our Lord and our God, that our faith may never be found wanting in your sight; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. . **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

The South Wind

Hymn #193 in *The Hymnal 1982*

That Easter day with joy was bright

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

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.**

Celebrant O God of mystery and promise, you invite us to discover you in the intimate places of ourselves and our lives. You invite us to discover you within the complexities of our humanity, in passionate and tender loving, in struggle and pain, 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:

Sanctus

**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.**

Celebrant 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:

***All* “This is my own body given for you. Do this to remember me.”**

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

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

Celebrant So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Celebrant 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.

***All* 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 **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

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

Concluding Musical Meditation

Easter Sunday

Worship Leaders

The Reverend Deborah Phillips	<i>Officiant</i>
Grayson Davison, Lisa Duffy, Ryan, Patten,	
Debbie Phillips, Eric Wagner	<i>Musicians</i>
Paul Massari	<i>Assisting</i>
Katie Scott	<i>Reflection</i>
Eric Wagner	<i>Prayers</i>
Marianne Cannon	<i>Usher</i>

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Our Prayers are offered for

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, Eric Wagner, 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, Deb Papps, Derek Fuller and Family, the peaceful repose of the soul of Pope Francis, 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 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.

Welcome Everyone!

Welcome to those of you here for the first time. Please feel free to move about the space during the service, lighting candles or praying at the Lady Altar.

All are welcome by God to the heavenly banquet. The Episcopal Church offers the sacraments to anyone baptized in any denomination who, through prayer and thoughtful consideration, desires them. Please come to the communion rail to receive the bread and wine, whether you are an Episcopalian or not, or to receive a blessing.

Please join in the singing! The songs are printed either in the leaflet or in our Hymnal.

We are a self-supporting congregation, so when you pass the plate at the back of the chapel, please be generous. Today's collection will support our ministries to the community.

When coming to communion, please note that the bread is **gluten free**.

We ask that you sign the guestbook at the entrance of the church. If you want more information, our web address is www.gracechurchsalem.org. Our weekly newsletter, called Grace Notes can also be found there. If you wish to receive the newsletter, simply go to the website, open Grace Notes and subscribe.

We hope you find the service meaningful and the community's hospitality inviting.

Thank you for praying with us today.

St. Thomas



The Gospel according to John records several incidents in which Thomas appears, and from them we are able to gain some impression of the sort of man he was. When Jesus insisted on going to Judea, to visit his friends at Bethany, Thomas boldly declared, “Let us also go, that we may die with him” (John 11:16). At the Last Supper, he interrupted our Lord’s discourse with the question, “Lord, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?” (John 14:5). And after Christ’s resurrection, Thomas would not accept the account of the women and the other apostles, until Jesus himself appeared before him, showing him his wounds. This drew from him the first explicit acknowledgment of Christ’s divinity, “My Lord and my God!” (John 20:28). Thomas appears to have been a thoughtful if perhaps literal-minded man, inclined to skepticism; but he was a staunch friend when his loyalty was once given. The expression “Doubting Thomas,” which has become established in English usage, is not entirely fair to Thomas. He did not refuse belief: he wanted to believe, but did not dare, without further evidence. Because of his goodwill, Jesus gave him a sign, alt-

hough Jesus had refused a sign to the Pharisees. His Lord’s rebuke was well deserved: “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe” (John 20:29). The sign did not create faith; it merely released the faith that was in Thomas already. According to an early tradition mentioned by Eusebius and others, Thomas evangelized the Persians. Syrian Christians of India cherish a tradition that after his mission to Persia, he continued East and brought the Gospel to India. The site of his burial, in present-day Chennai, has been a shrine and place of Christian pilgrimage since antiquity. Thomas’ honest questioning and doubt, and Jesus’ assuring response to him, have given many modern Christians courage to persist in faith, even when they are still doubting and questioning.

Easter Gifts

In memory of:

Roger Jenkins
Allen Grant
Dwight Jackson
Nick and Frances Plasmati
Bettye Zimerowski
Sophie Zimerowski
The parents of Marianne Cannon
and John Parsons
Ted Klein
Karen Klein McNulty
James McNulty
Thomas Lemons
Robert Rhodes
Alvin and Persis Watts
John and Rebecca Gilliam
Raymond and Mary Tetrault
The Young Family
Helen Watson-Felt
Colin Watson-Felt
Dick and Liz Thomas
Gordon and Ruth Shemkins
David and Lena Schnopp
Samson Aroko
Ayo Ogunbor
Louise and William Collins
Jon D. Papps
G. Oliver Papps
Susan North
Lynn Koons
Barbara Hawkes
Marc Hawlena
Leonard Fafel
Margaret and John Melby
Marian and Carl Thompson
Jeanne and Jim Duffy
Janet Montagna Sparapani
Susan Howes
Elsie Simonds
All the people I love
Generations of faithful people and friends
The Birchmore Family
The Tucker Family
Samantha Grace Gilmore

Mary Florence Barnes
The Wagner Family
The Wendler Family
Helen and William Phillips
Elizabeth Jane Phillips Pickard
Francis Hill
Bob McDonough
Jeff Wells
Anne Busteed
Larry Kamp
John Gourley
Justin Gourley
David Stonehouse
Leigh Stonehouse
Budge Abbot
Mary and Edward Carter
Pitt and Ann Willand

In thanksgiving for:

The Ministries of Grace Episcopal Church
For the Ogah Family
Our Church School
Debbie's ministry and witness
All the people I love
Generations of faithful people and friends
All our grandchildren and
Great-granddaughter
Nathaniel Stonehouse
The Baptisms of Simone and Isaac Tetrault

Plant Sale May 10th

Our Annual Plant Sale will be on Saturday May 10th this year. This is always a fun event and the fundraising committee is counting on you all to help make it happen. Please let us know how you plan to participate by returning a form or emailing us at fundraising@gracechurchsaalem.org. We would like to have all donations by Saturday May 3 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 10th. Please contact one of us or send an email at fundraising@gracechurchsaalem.org and we will sign you up. Thank you for your support. - Peggy, Melissa, and Joanne

GRACE CHURCH IN SALEM PLANT SALE DONATION SIGN-UP

We are looking forward to our Annual Plant Sale on May 10, 2025! In order to have a successful event, we will need to gather at least 100 individual plants to sell to the community. Your donations will help us keep costs of the event low while helping us reach our fundraising goals for the year. Donation commitments can be emailed to fundraising@gracechurchsaalem.org or this form can be scanned and emailed to the same address, or printed, completed, and mailed or dropped to the church. Thank you, in advance, for your generous donation! As indicated below, we need the plants a week in advance, i.e., by May 3, 2025 (anytime before 5:00 PM).

-
- | Name | Tel / Email |
|------|-------------|
|------|-------------|
- I will purchase a 6-pack flat of veggies
 - I will purchase a 6-pack flat of **flowers**
 - I will purchase a 6-pack flat of: _____
Please describe
 - I will grow _____ of veggie seedlings
 - I will grow _____ of **flowers** seedlings
 - I will grow _____ of other seedlings: _____
Please describe
 - I will grow, divide, and share _____ from
my garden. Please describe

**Deliver plants to: 385 Essex St. • Saturday, May 3 •
Anytime before 5pm**

Notices

Rector at Clergy Conference

Debbie will be at the Devins Conference Center Monday—Wednesday for the annual Diocese of Massachusetts Clergy Conference. She will not be returning email, but if there is a pastoral emergency, please call her.

Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer will take place this week on Monday and Wednesday at 8:30 am in the back of the Lady Chapel. On Monday, Ryan Patten will be our Officiant. On Wednesday, the Officiant will be Eric Wagner.

Knitting Group

Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm, people gather to knit hats for students in our school system. Want to learn? Come and you'll be taught. Want to just come hang out with a wonderful group of people? Come and do that too! All are welcome and bring your friends too.

Bible Study

Bible Study meets this week on Zoom at 4:00 pm. During the next few weeks as we look at the upcoming Gospel readings, we will consider how Christ abides in us, is constantly present with us as he is recognized in the breaking of bread, as the Good Shepherd, and in the community that loves one another.

No experience is necessary to be a part of this group, nor must you commit to every week. An open mind and heart are encouraged.

Rector's Desk has Returned Home

From 1935 –1942, The Reverend Frederick Morris was Rector of Grace Church in Salem, having just service St. Michael's Mission to the Arapahoes. Mr. Morris' granddaughter contacted Grace Church this week and offered to have his personal desk returned to the Rector's Office. We are so happy to have this remembrance of a previous Rector back with us.

Mr. Morris was active in the Civil Rights movement. After leaving Grace Church, he became Rector of St. Thomas', 5th Avenue and continue to advocate for the disenfranchised. In "Saint Thomas Church Fifth Avenue," the esteemed Rev. J. Robert Wright chronicles the impactful tenure of its tenth rector, Dr. Frederick Myers Morris. Serving from 1954 to 1972, Dr. Morris championed both good worship and strong preaching. His leadership coincided with the Civil Rights Movement, a cause he fervently endorsed, seeing it as integral to conscientious Christian discipleship. Under his guidance, the church's philanthropy extended to the NAACP, the Urban League, and the East Harlem Protestant Parish, reflecting his commitment to social justice and community support. It is an honor to have his desk where he wrote most of his sermons at Grace Church.

— 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 —

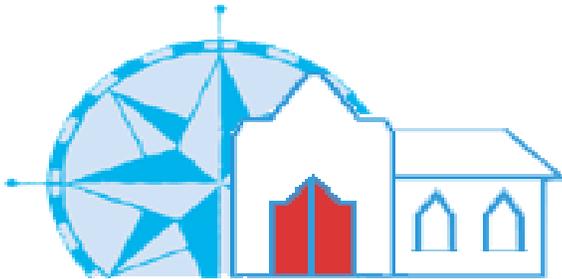
Ryan Patten
Lisa Duffy
Joanna Troy
Melissa Barnes

Senior Warden
Junior Warden
Clerk
Treasurer

Javy Awan, Marianne Cannon, Kai Freyleue
Joanne Moar, Susan Tweed, Holly Willis

Members of Vestry

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.