



Celtic Evensong and Communion

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

5 May 2024 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

Let all mortal flesh keep silence

Opening Meditation

“And in this he showed me a little thing,
the quantity of a hazel nut,
lying in the palm of my hand, as it seemed.
And it was as round as any ball.
I looked upon it with the eye of my understanding, and thought,
‘What may this be?’
And it was answered generally thus,
‘It is all that is made.’
I marveled how it might last,
for I thought it might suddenly have fallen to nothing for littleness.
And I was answered in my understanding:
It lasts and ever shall, for God loves it.
And so have all things their beginning by the love of God.
In this little thing I saw three properties.
The first is that God made it.
The second that God loves it.
And the third, that God keeps it.”
— Julian of Norwich, Revelations of Divine Love

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.
 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.

Words: *Carmine Galelica*, alt.

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

Psalm 98

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The Lord has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the Lord with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.
9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, when he comes to judge the earth.
10 In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.
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 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

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

People Thanks be to God.

Musical Response

Flatwater Fran

The Second Lesson

John 15:9-17

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

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

Kathleen Tone

A few moments of silence follows

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.***

Leader: I invite you to now offer the prayers of your heart, either silently or aloud.

The Collect of the Day

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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*

Holy One, you planted us by living water, that we might be rooted in righteousness. You call us to be holy as you are holy. Assured of your love, help us cast aside all fear, so that we may love our neighbors as ourselves. **Amen.**

A Collect for Catherine of Siena

Triune God, Father and Mother to us all, who showed your servant Julian revelations of your nurturing and sustaining love: Move our hearts, like hers, to seek you above all things, for in giving us yourself you give us all. **Amen.**

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.

Music during Prayers

O'Carolan's Drream

Hymn #304 in *The Hymnal 1982*

I come with joy

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 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 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

Mull of the Mountains

Worship Leaders

The Reverend Deborah Phillips
Ryan, Patten, Debbie Phillips
Paul Massari
Kathleen Tone
Kathleen Tone
Katie Scott

Officiant
Musicians
Assisting
Reflection
Prayers
Usher

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Parish Prayer List

For the Diocese of Massachusetts as we search for our next Bishop Diocesan, for those battling cancer, especially Faith's friend and the Princess of Wales, Heather and Prescott,, Ariana, Sheridan, Faith Aroko and Family, Jesse Hurst and Family, Angela Williams, Neal and Maureen Joyce, Arthur, Jane Thompson, Deb Young, Cindy Rhodes, Ron, Gerald Tucker, Allison Mascolo, Melissa Glassman, Max Joyce, Inga, Henry, and Lucas, Mel, Corey MacNeil, Dianne, Michael Towey, Jenny, Loretta and Kris, Deb Papps, Derek Fuller and Family, the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and their ministries, Palestinian Families, 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 for Fundraising Committee at Grace Church. If you have prayer requests, please email prayerlist@gracechurchsalem.org by Tuesday at noon for publication in that week's e-news.

This Week at Grace Church

- Today:** Choir Rehearsal at 9:15 am
Holy Eucharist at 10:00 am
Coffee at 11:00 am
Celtic Evensong and Communion at 4:00 pm
Kitchen Fellowship at 5:00 pm
- Monday:** Office Hours 10:00—2:00 pm
Boys and Girls Club of Greater Salem 2:00 pm—6:00 pm
- Tuesday:** Boys and Girls Club of Greater Salem 2:00 pm—6:00 pm
Knitting Group 7:00 pm—8:00 pm
- Wednesday:** Boys and Girls Club of Greater Salem 2:00 pm—6:00 pm (on Zoom)
Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Bible Study 5:00 pm– 6:00 pm (on Zoom)
- Thursday:** Boys and Girls Club of Greater Salem 2:00 pm—6:00 pm
- Friday:** Boys and Girls Club of Greater Salem 2:00 pm—6:00 pm
- Saturday:** **Plant Sale 9:00—12:00 pm**
- Sunday:** **Young and Restless at 9:00 am**
Choir Rehearsal at 9:15 am
Holy Eucharist at 10:00 am
Coffee at 11:00 am
Celtic Evensong and Communion at 4:00 pm
Kitchen Fellowship at 5:00 pm

This Week's Saint: Julian of Norwich

The Lady Juliana was born about 1342, and when she was thirty years old, she became gravely ill and was expected to die. Then, on the seventh day, the medical crisis passed, and she had a series of fifteen visions, or "showings," in which she was led to contemplate the Passion of Christ. These brought her great peace and joy. She became an anchoress, living in a small hut near to the church in Norwich, where she devoted the rest of her life to prayer and contemplation of the meaning of her visions. The results of her meditations she wrote in a book called *Revelations of Divine Love*, available in modern English in a Penguin Paperback edition. During her lifetime, she became known as a counselor, whose advice combined spiritual insight with common sense, and many persons came to speak with her. Since her death, many more have found help in her writings. The precise date of her death is uncertain.

Her book is a tender meditation on God's eternal and all-embracing love, as expressed to us in the Passion of Christ.

She describes seeing God holding a tiny thing in his hand, like a small brown nut, which seemed so fragile and insignificant that she wondered why it did not crumble before her eyes. She understood that the thing was the entire created universe, which is as nothing compared to its Creator, and she was told, "God made it, God loves it, God keeps it."

She was concerned that sometimes when we are faced with a difficult moral decision, it seems that no matter which way we decide, we will have acted from motives that are less than completely pure, so that neither decision is defensible. She finally wrote: "It is enough to be sure of the deed. Our courteous Lord will deign to redeem the motive."

A matter that greatly troubled her was the fate of those who through no fault of their own had never heard the Gospel. She never received a direct answer to her questions about them, except to be told that whatever God does is done in Love, and therefore "that all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well."

Speaking of her visions of heaven and hell, she said, "To me was shown no harder hell than sin."

Of our response to the sins of others, she said (ch. 76): "The soul that would preserve its peace, when another's sin is brought to mind, must fly from it as from the pains of hell, looking to God for help against it. To consider the sins of other people will produce a thick film over the eyes of our soul, and prevent us for the time being from seeing the 'fair beauty of the Lord'-- unless, that is, we look at them contrite along with the sinner, being sorry with and for him, and yearning over him for God. Without this it can only harm, disturb, and hinder the soul who considers them. I gathered all this from the revelation about compassion... This blessed friend is Jesus; it is his will and plan that we hang on to him, and hold tight always, in whatever circumstances; for whether we are filthy or clean is all the same to his love."

"Glad and merry and sweet is the blessed and lovely demeanour of our Lord towards our souls, for he saw us always living in love-longing, and he wants our souls to be gladly disposed toward him . . . by his grace he lifts up and will draw our outer disposition to our inward, and will make us all at unity with him, and each of us with others in the true, lasting joy which is Jesus."

-- Julian of Norwich

The following was translated by -- Liz Broadwell (ebroadwe@dept.english.upenn.edu)

And from the time that [the vision] was shown, I desired often to know what our Lord's meaning was. And fifteen years and more afterward I was answered in my spiritual understanding, thus: 'Would you know your Lord's meaning in this thing? Know it well, love was his meaning. Who showed it to you? Love. What did he show you? Love. Why did he show it? For love. Keep yourself therein and you shall know and understand more in the same. But you shall never know nor understand any other thing, forever.'

Thus I was taught that love was our Lord's meaning. And I saw quite clearly in this and in all, that before God made us, he loved us, which love was never slaked nor ever shall be. And in this love he has done all his work, and in this love he has made all things profitable to us. And in this love our life is everlasting. In our creation we had a beginning. But the love wherein he made us was in him with no beginning. And all this shall be seen in God without end ...

Bishop Candidates' Meet and Greets

The Transition Committee, of which our own Kourtnei Patten is a member, has announced the scheduling of a series of open meetings around the diocese May 7-11, giving the people of the diocese an opportunity to meet and learn more about the nominees for election as the diocese's 17th bishop diocesan. All in the diocesan community are invited to attend, particularly those who are voting members of the Special Electing Convention to be held on Saturday, May 18 at Trinity Church in Boston.

The meet-and-greet gatherings will be held on:

Tuesday, May 7 at All Saints' Parish, Ashmont in Dorchester, 7-8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 8 at St. Mary's Church in Barnstable, 10-11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, May 8 at St. Thomas's Church in Taunton, 7-8:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 9 at Christ Church in Needham, 2-3:30 p.m.

Friday, May 10 at Christ Church in Andover, 7-8:30 p.m. (with childcare)

Saturday, May 11 on Zoom, 10:30 a.m.-noon (with special Zoom rooms for youth and young adults, as well as for all others).

Additionally, there will be a "Coffee & Conversations with Clergy, Postulants and Candidates" session on Thursday, May 9, 10:30 a.m. to noon, at St. Paul's Church in Dedham.

Information about Zoom access and other details will be posted at www.diomass.org/bishop-search/meet-greets as they become available.

A Prayer for the Bishop Election

Loving and Living God, as we seek a bishop for the Diocese of Massachusetts, we also seek you. Help us to listen deeply as you speak through the people of our diocese; through our parishes, missions, ministries and institutions; through our neighborhoods, towns and cities; through our past and our present; through word and sacrament.

When we are distracted by other voices, other tasks, other pressures, call us back to you. Give us courage, vision and an ability to see past the surface of things. May we be patient and compassionate, trusting always in your mercy and goodness to us and to all that you have made.

We pray this in the name of the Holy and Undivided Trinity, one God. Amen.

Around the Diocese

The **Massachusetts Episcopal Network for the Poor People's Campaign** invites participation in an upcoming online conversation:

- • Book discussion on Monday, May 20, 7-8:15 p.m., about *Poverty, by America* by Matthew Desmond. Although reading the book is encouraged, it is not required. Anyone who wants to learn more about the causes of poverty and the Poor People's Campaign is welcome to attend.

E-mail MAPPCEN@gmail.com with questions or to be added to the e-mail list to receive a monthly newsletter and periodic updates.

All are welcome to join for **“Challenges and Promises of Asian and Asian American Christians,”** with the Rev. Dr. Jim Kodera, presenter, on Saturday, June 8, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Church of Our Saviour in Brookline. The gathering is being organized by the Asian Pacific Islander American Episcopalians of the diocese. Refreshments and lunch will be provided. RSVPs and questions are welcome to Grace Knowles at booker04@msn.com.

Next Sunday: Ascension Sunday

Forty days after Easter, our tradition tells us that the risen Christ gathered his followers to the Mount of Olives and while giving instructions as to the preparation for Pentecost and the great commissioning, he ascends into the heavens in their sight. Many in the Episcopal Church observe this Holy Day on the following Sunday, as will we.

During the Young and the Restless Chapel service, Debbie will tell this story and then sing “Up! Goes Lord Jesus” (apologetically to “Pop goes the weasel”).

During our 10:00 am service, we will consider what it might mean to us that Jesus took humanity with him as he was glorified.

At the 4:00 pm service, we will hear a meditation on the Ascension. We will also observe Thurgood Marshall's Feast Day.

Welcome spring

Our Annual Plant Sale will be on Saturday May 11th 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 4th 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 11th. Please contact one of us or send an email and we will sign you up. Thank you for your support. - Peggy, Melissa, Joanne, and Kourtnei

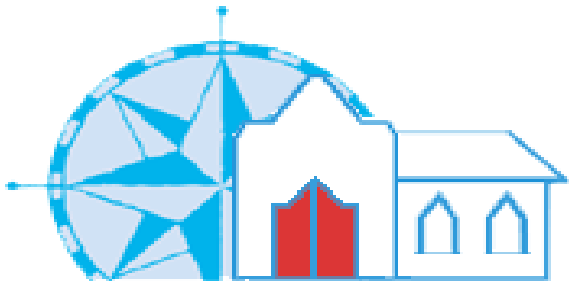


4th Annual Plant Sale

*Take a stroll in plant heaven...
hundreds of plants to choose from
herbs, vegetables and flowers*

**SATURDAY MAY 11th
9 - 12
GRACE CHURCH SALEM
385 ESSEX STREET**

Grace Episcopal Church



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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 Michael B. Curry
The Right Reverend Alan M. Gates
The Right Reverend Carol Gallagher
The Reverend Deborah A. Phillips
The Reverend E. Clifford Cutler
The Reverend Manny Faria
The Reverend Ann Perrott
Mark N. Peterson
Tom and Karen Tucker

Presiding Bishop
Bishop Diocesan
Assistant Bishop
Rector
Assisting Clergy
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