



Celtic Evensong and Communion

The Second Sunday in Lent: Celebration of St. Patrick

16 March 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

Opening Meditation

“Our God is the God of all, the God of heaven and earth, of the sea, and of the rivers;
the God of the sun and of the moon, of all the stars;
the God of the lofty mountains and of the lowly valleys;
the God over heaven and in heaven and under heaven.
He has His dwelling towards heaven and earth, and the sea, and all things which are in them.
He inspires all things, He gives life to all things, He surpasses all things, He supports all things.
He kindles the light of the sun, He strengthens the light of the moon at night for watches;
and He made springs in the land, and dry islands in the sea;
and the stars He placed to minister to the greater lights.
He has a Son co-eternal with Himself and like unto Himself.
The Son is not younger than the Father, nor is the Father older than the Son.
The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are not separated.
I truly desire to unite you to the Heavenly King, since ye are daughters of an earthly king.
Believe.”

- St. Patrick

The Confession

Lord Jesus, you come into our lives when we are least prepared for you. As you enfolded your betrayers so embrace us who struggle to love. Reconcile us with our sisters and brothers, and, for the sake of your love, forgive us all our sins.

The Absolution

As far as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is Christ’s loving response to those who are humble; so far does the Spirit’s enduring strength uphold those who face the darkness within. As parents are concerned for their children, God comes to those who reach out in faith. Our Lord Jesus Christ, who offered himself for us, forgives your sins by the grace of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Invitatory and Psalm

Renew and strengthen us, eternal God,
as we prepare for resurrection.

Glory to the Holy Trinity,

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

O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron (to Erhalt uns, Herr)*

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 97

1 The Lord is King; let the earth rejoice; *
let the multitude of the isles be glad.

2 Clouds and darkness are round about him, *
righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.

3 A fire goes before him *
and burns up his enemies on every side.

4 His lightnings light up the world; *
the earth sees it and is afraid.

5 The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

6 The heavens declare his righteousness, *
and all the peoples see his glory.

7 Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods! *
Bow down before him, all you gods.

8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, *
because of your judgments, O Lord.

9 For you are the Lord, most high over all the earth; *
you are exalted far above all gods.

10 The Lord loves those who hate evil; *
he preserves the lives of his saints and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

11 Light has sprung up for the righteous, *
and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.

12 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, *
and give thanks to his holy Name.

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

Genesis 15:1-12,17-18

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness. Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

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

People Thanks be to God.

Musical Response

St. Patrick's An Dro

The Second Lesson

Luke 13:31-35

Some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

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

Wesley Utsler

Music after the Reflection

For Ireland I Won't Say Her Name

The Lorica of St. Patrick

Leader: I bind to myself today

People The strong virtue of the Invocation of the Trinity
I believe the Trinity in the Unity
The Creator of the Universe.

Leader I bind to myself today

People The virtue of the Incarnation of Christ with His Baptism,
The virtue of His crucifixion with His burial,
The virtue of His Resurrection with His Ascension,

The virtue of His coming on the Judgment Day.

Leader I bind to myself today
People The virtue of the love of seraphim, the obedience of Angels,
In the hope of resurrection unto reward,
In prayers of Patriarchs, in predictions of Prophets,
In preaching of Apostles, in faith of Confessors,
In purity of holy Virgins, in deeds of righteous men.

Leader I bind to myself today
People The power of Heaven, The light of the sun,
The brightness of the moon, The splendour of fire,
The flashing of lightning, The swiftness of wind,
The depth of sea, The stability of earth,
The compactness of rocks.

Leader I bind to myself today
People God's Power to guide me, God's Might to uphold me,
God's Wisdom to teach me, God's Eye to watch over me,
God's Ear to hear me, God's Word to give me speech,
God's Hand to guide me, God's Way to lie before me,
God's Shield to shelter me, God's Host to secure me,
Against the snares of demons,
Against the seductions of vices,
Against the lusts of nature,
Against everyone who meditates injury to me,
Whether far or near, Whether few or with many.

Leader I invoke today all these virtues
People Against every hostile merciless power
Which may assail my body and my soul,
Against the incantations of false prophets,
Against the false laws of heresy,
Against the deceits of idolatry,
Against every knowledge that binds the soul of man.

Leader Christ, protect me today.
People Against every poison, against burning,
Against drowning, against death-wound,
That I may receive abundant reward.

Leader Christ with me, *People* Christ before me,
Leader Christ behind me, *People* Christ within me,
Leader Christ beneath me, *People* Christ above me,

Leader Christ at my right, *People* Christ at my left,
Leader Christ in the fort, *People* Christ in the chariot seat,
Leader Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,
People Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks to me,
Leader Christ in every eye that sees me,
People Christ in every ear that hears me.

Leader I bind to myself today
People The strong virtue of an invocation of the Trinity,
I believe the Trinity in the Unity
The Creator of the Universe.

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 *Captain O'Kane*

Hymn #488 in The Hymnal 1982 *Be thou my vision*

The Grace See that ye be at peace among yourselves, and love one another. Follow the example of good men and women of old and God will comfort you and help you, both in this world and in the world which is to come. **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.**

It is right to thank you and praise you giver of life, beloved of the poor and forgotten. We praise you for the prophets who in spite of persecution spoke your challenging word. We praise you that in Christ you chose to be born in a stable and revealed to poor shepherds. We praise you for Mary, first witness of the resurrection; and for all the women and men who have been trusted and empowered by you. With all the unremembered, outcast, with the poor and needy, with the trusting and hopeful in all the ages we praise you saying:

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 praise you for Jesus Christ, born of peasant parents, friend of lepers and tax collectors, who chose a life given up for others. On the night before he died he shared a meal with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks and broke it and gave it to them saying:

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

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

People **"This is my life-blood poured out 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 Come now Holy Spirit of God. Come upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine, that in sharing this feast we may become the body of Christ. Break down walls of selfishness and fear and bring us all to the new age in which none go hungry and all are fed. Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ in the unity of the Holy Spirit be all honor and 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 Star of Munster

Worship Leaders

The Reverend Deborah Phillips
Ryan, Patten, Debbie Phillips, Eric Wagner
Paul Massari
Wesley Utsler
Joanna Troy

Officiant
Musicians
Assisting
Reflection
Usher

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Parish Prayer List

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, Deb Papps, Derek Fuller and Family, 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. Patrick

Patrick was born into a Christian family somewhere on the northwest coast of Britain around 390. His grandfather had been a Christian priest and his father, Calpornius, a deacon. Calpornius was an important official in the late Roman imperial government of Britain. When Patrick was about sixteen, he was captured by a band of Irish slave-raiders. He was carried off to Ireland and forced to serve as a shepherd. When he was about twenty-one, he escaped and returned to Britain, where he was educated as a Christian. He tells us that he was ordained as both priest and bishop, although no particular see is known as his at this time. A vision then called him to return to Ireland, and he did so around the year 431. Tradition holds that Patrick landed not far from the place of his earlier captivity, near what is now known as Downpatrick (a “down” or “dun” is a fortified hill, the stronghold of a local Irish king). He then began a remarkable process of missionary conversion throughout the country that continued until his death, probably in 461. He made his appeal to the local kings and through them to their tribes. Christianizing the old pagan religion as he went, Patrick erected Christian churches over sites already regarded as sacred, had crosses carved on old druidic pillars, and put sacred wells and springs under the protection of Christian saints. Many legends of Patrick’s Irish missionary travels possess substrata of truth, especially those telling of his conversion of the three major Irish High Kings. At Armagh, he is said to have established his principal church. To this day, Armagh is regarded as the primatial see of all Ireland. Two works are attributed to Patrick: an autobiographical Confession, in which he tells us, among other things, that he was criticized by his contemporaries for lack of learning, and a Letter to Coroticus, a British chieftain. The Lorica or St. Patrick’s Breastplate (“I bind unto myself today”) was probably not written by him, dating most probably from the eighth century rather than from the fifth, but it does express his faith and zeal.

Almighty God, in your providence you chose your servant Patrick to be the apostle to the Irish people, to bring those who were wandering in darkness and error to the true light and knowledge of you: Grant us so to walk in that way that we may come at last to the light of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



Morning Prayer

In many times and places, daybreak has been a time of prayer. Jews prayed in their synagogues at sunrise as well as at other times each day. This Jewish pattern of prayer formed the basis of the Christian monastic Daily Office, with its prayers or “hours” at seven times in each day. Thomas Cranmer’s revision of the Daily Office for the first English Prayer Book (1549) reduced the number of services to two—one for morning (Matins) and one for evening (Evensong or vespers). In the Second English Prayer Book (1552), the morning service was given its present name, Morning Prayer.

Many elements of Morning Prayer come from the monastic hours of matins, lauds and Prime. Psalms were recited at every one of the offices, with the whole Psalter recited once a week.

The reading of Morning Prayer will resume each Monday and Wednesday at 8:30 am throughout Lent. Please know that everyone is welcome to come and start your day with Morning Prayer.

Welcome spring

Hi to all our green thumbs out there.

The annual Grace Church Plant Sale will be held on Saturday, May 10 this year. Please think of us as you start your seedlings and set a few aside for the sale. Breaking up houseplants? Dividing annuals? We would be happy to take the extras for the sale. More information will be forthcoming as the date approaches.

Also we would love help with set up, sales and breakdown on the day of. If you don’t have anything on your calendar for that day pencil in Grace Church plant sale “help.”



Bible Study

One discipline that individuals often take up during Lent is Bible Study. At Grace Church, we gather together to hear how the scripture passage coming up is speaking to us today. Debbie provides some background material each week, but it really is a time to hear how others read Scripture and how we encounter it for our own time. Anglicanism, of which the Episcopal Church is derived, has the “three-legged stool” of Scripture, Tradition, and Reason as its basis. During Bible Study, we employ all three legs as we share our experience of the holy.

Bible Study resumes next Wednesday at 5:00 pm on Zoom. The link is found on our webpage and in our weekly newsletter, “GraceNotes

WEEKLY THEME

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

LENT 2025

March Calendar

This week, we invite you to reflect on "welcome": how it feels and what it means to be welcomed.

This week, we invite you to notice and give thanks for the people who offer welcome in your communities.

Dear God, thank you **9** for all of the people who offer welcome. Let them know our gratitude for their words and actions, even when we forget to acknowledge them.

10
Running errands this week? Notice and respond to anyone who welcomes you as you enter a store.

11
Are you a regular? Do you go to the same store or coffee shop each week? Do you go because you feel welcome? Tell the staff thank you!

This week, we invite you to consider and give thanks for organizations that welcome those in need of help.

Dear God, thank you **16** for all of the people who offer welcome to those in need in our community, from medical professionals to social service agencies. Bless and uphold them.

17
Notice and give thanks for the free or low cost health offerings in your town such as Planned Parenthood or a free clinic.

18
Notice and give thanks for those that offer welcome and help to the unhoused.

This week, we invite you to consider and give thanks for those who welcome immigrants, refugees, and migrants.

Dear God, we give you thanks **23** for encouraging us to be the sign of your love when we offer welcome and hospitality to the stranger. Uphold those that do this work on behalf of the church and help us support them in it.

24
Today we give thanks and pray for the Episcopal congregations and ministries on the border of their country.

25
Today we give thanks and pray for the Episcopal congregations and ministries offering welcome to migrants.

This week, we invite you to consider and give thanks for the ways we are welcomed by other cultures.

Dear God, we give you thanks **30** for the diversity of cultures and traditions in the world around us. Thank you for the richness this brings to our lives and communities.

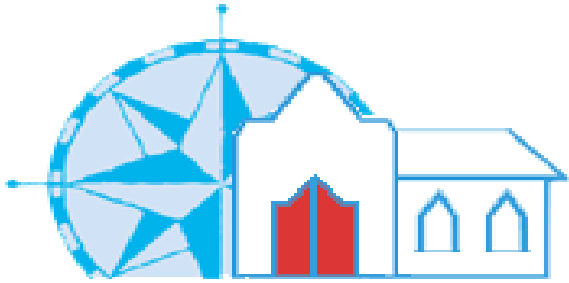
31
How is welcome and hospitality expressed in your culture? Give thanks for the way this has informed your life.

Gratit
This calendar begins with reflecting with gratitude on Sundays will offer a prayer through opportunities to r on our social media platfo www.unitedthankoffering.org.

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Ash Wednesday 5 Reflect on a time when you felt or experienced welcome. Why was that experience so memorable for you?</p>	<p>6 Reflect on a time when you felt or experienced being unwelcome. Why was that experience so memorable for you?</p>	<p>7 If you had to explain what "welcome" means to someone what would you say?</p>	<p>8 Self Care Saturday: Do something today that helps you feel welcome at home, in your neighborhood, or in your body.</p>
<p>12 Social Media invites? Say thank you to the community groups that organize events in your town to help connect people.</p>	<p>13 Welcome wagon? Notice how your town welcomes people when they visit or move to town. How can or do you offer welcome?</p>	<p>14 Enjoying a Friday night out? Notice and give thanks for the actions of others that help you feel welcome when you go out.</p>	<p>15 Self Care Saturday: Do something today that helps you feel welcome at home, in your neighborhood, or in your body.</p>
<p>19 Notice and give thanks for those that offer welcome and help to those suffering from substance use disorder: AA groups, overdose clinics, etc..</p>	<p>20 Notice and give thanks for those that offer welcome and help to people in crisis: therapists, crisis hotlines, domestic violence shelters, etc..</p>	<p>21 Notice and give thanks for those that offer welcome and help to those who are isolated: social workers, home visitors, etc..</p>	<p>22 Self Care Saturday: Spend some time today cleaning out your house, donate gently used items to a local domestic violence shelter, or volunteer.</p>
<p>26 Today we give thanks and pray for Episcopal Migration Ministries (EMM) and the refugees they welcome and support on our behalf.</p>	<p>27 Today we give thanks for the contributions of immigrants to our community and society. Instead of scrolling the news, search for inspiring stories from these change-makers.</p>	<p>28 Spend some time today thinking about the immigrant community in your area and learn how to say 'hello' and 'welcome' in their language.</p>	<p>29 Self Care Saturday: Spend some time today learning about your family's story - were they immigrants, Indigenous people, or refugees?</p>

Welcome is a journey...come journey with UTO and EMM this Lent.
 Ash Wednesday and goes through Easter to help you spend a little time each day during Lent in the ways welcome is offered in our world. Each week will focus on a new area of welcome. To help us focus our thoughts, while Saturday will give an opportunity to care for ourselves, reflect, learn, grow, or engage. You can also receive these prompts via text message each day or join our weekly book group. For more information visit: www.uto.org/lent

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 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
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*Senior Warden
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Clerk
Treasurer*

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

Members of Vestry