



# Celtic Evensong and Communion

## The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday:

### 13 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

#### Musical Meditation

Gloria, laus, and honor

#### Opening Meditation

- Mary Oliver

On the outskirts of Jerusalem  
the donkey waited.  
Not especially brave, or filled with understanding,  
he stood and waited.  
How horses, turned out into the meadow, leap with delight!  
How doves, released from their cages,  
clatter away, splashed with sunlight!  
But the donkey, tied to a tree as usual, waited.  
Then he let himself be led away.  
Then he let the stranger mount.  
Never had he seen such crowds!  
And I wonder if he at all imagined what was to happen.  
Still, he was what he had always been: small, dark, obedient.  
I hope, finally he felt brave.  
I hope, finally, he loved the man who rode so lightly upon him,  
as he lifted one dusty hoof and stepped, as he had to, forward.

#### The Blessing of Palms

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* And also with you.  
*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*Celebrant* It is right to praise you, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was proclaimed as King of kings by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along his way. Let these branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

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## 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 31: 9– 16

9 Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble; \*  
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

10 For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; \*  
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.

11 I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors,  
a dismay to those of my acquaintance; \*  
when they see me in the street they avoid me.

12 I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; \*  
I am as useless as a broken pot.

13 For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around; \*  
they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

14 But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord. \*  
I have said, "You are my God.

15 My times are in your hand; \*  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*  
and in your loving-kindness save me."

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.

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## The Lessons

Listen now to the Word of God

### The First Lesson

Isaiah 50:4-9a

The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens-wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

### Musical Response

*Far Away*

### The Second Lesson

Luke 23:1-49

Listen now to the Word of God

The assembly of the elders of the people rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king." Then Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" He answered, "You say so." Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him." Then they all shouted out together, "Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!" Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!" A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him." But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished. As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?" Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise." It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent."

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*Lector* For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God around us,  
and for the Word of God within us,

**People** Thanks be to God.

**Silence**

*During the silence, let the reading speak to you*

**Reflection**

**Anna Wilcox**

**Music after the Reflection**

*My sorrow is greater than I can tell*

### The Prayers

*Leader* We pray for all who work through the power of Christ, serving the needs of the poor and healing the wounds of injustice, division and materialism in our society. Lord, in your mercy.

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* We pray for the elderly, the sick and the lonely among us: that they may receive comfort, companionship and care from those around them. Lord, in your mercy.

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* We pray that those who have been persecuted or seriously wronged by others may experience warmth and love with Christ, and be able to forgive those who have hurt them. Lord, in your mercy.

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* We pray that when we are discouraged, we may find strength in the signs of a loving and faithful God in those around us, and the joy of the Holy Spirit within us. Lord, in your mercy.

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* We pray for those whom we love but no longer see; those who have gone beyond the veil of this mortal life, that their souls and the souls of all the departed may rest in peace. Lord, in your mercy.

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* We pray for all those who have asked for our prayers and for those who have no one to pray for them. Lord, in your mercy.

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Here, the people may add particular intercession and thanksgivings.*

### **The Collect of the Day**

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; 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 Renewal**

Eternal God, rock and refuge, with roots grown old in the earth, riverbeds run dry, and flowers withered in the field; we wait for revival and release: Stay with us until we come alive in the sunrise of your glory. **Amen.**

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## A Collect for Justice

God, who made us in your infinite creativity, you have chosen the spectrum of the rainbow to be the sign of your blessing and protection. We pray for your children in the rains of inequality and oppression, that they would see your blessing. **Amen.**

*Leader* Jesus says, "Come to me you who are troubled and I will give you rest." So come, you who are broken in body or in spirit, you who are torn by relationships and doubt, you who feel deeply within yourselves the divisions of the world. Come, for Jesus invites us to bring our brokenness. From now until the end of the service, you are invited to come to the Lady Altar and light a candle and kneel at the rail for prayers. There is a healing space at the back of the Lady Chapel for you. Please move about as the Spirit leads you.

## Music during Prayers

*O Carolan's Lament*

## Hymn #439 in The Hymnal 1982

*What wondrous love is this?*

**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.**

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*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.

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 King's Lament*

## **Worship Leaders**

The Reverend Deborah Phillips

Lisa Duffy, Greysen Davison, Ryan Patten,

Debbie Phillips, Eric Wagner

Paul Massari

Anna Wilcox

Kourtni Patten

Joanna Troy

*Officiant*

*Musicians*

*Assisting*

*Reflection*

*Prayers*

*Usher*

## **Permissions for livestreaming**

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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 [prayer-list@gracechurchsalem.org](mailto:prayer-list@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](http://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.*

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## Ongoing Weekly Events for All

Each week, there are four different groups that meet regularly where everyone is invited to be a participant.

Every Tuesday at 7:00 pm, the **Knitting Group** gathers in the Common Room at Grace Church. The items made are then donated to various organizations that support children in Salem and beyond. Whether you knit or not, you are welcome to spend some time with others who care about the needs of our neighbors.

Each Wednesday at 5:00 pm, **Bible Study** takes place on Zoom. Come whenever you can. This is a chance to encounter the upcoming Gospel and relate it to your current circumstance, making it come alive for you and building community with the others present.

At 7:30 on Wednesday evenings, the **Choir** has rehearsal. Not only is this a chance to sing wonderful music, you will be part of a community dedicated to their faith and one another.

The reading of **Morning Prayer** takes place each Monday and Wednesday at 8:30 am. Please enter through the Chapel door.

## Job Opening for Parish Administrator

Grace Church, a small, vibrant, welcoming, and inclusive Episcopal parish, seeks a part-time Parish Administrator who will serve an important role supporting the clergy, staff, and parish. Working with and for the Rector, the Parish Administrator is expected to ensure smooth office operations, manage communications, and handle essential administrative tasks while maintaining a warm, friendly, and positive manner with personal, telephone, and email contacts. Keeping confidentiality and being able to meet deadlines are crucial aspects of this position. We are looking for a part-time (9/10 hours per week) Parish Administrator to work three days a week, beginning May 5th.

If you or someone you know is interested, please have them contact Debbie at [office@gracechurchsalem.org](mailto:office@gracechurchsalem.org). The full posting is on the website.

## Easter Memorials and Thanksgivings

Each Easter, we are provided with an opportunity to remember a loved one and/or give thanks. In this week's leaflets, you will find a form to fill out with this information and letting us know of your special Easter donation to Grace Church.

You may also send a check directly to Grace Church. Simply send an email to [office@gracechurchsalem.org](mailto:office@gracechurchsalem.org) by Wednesday morning with your name, the names or events you want listed in the leaflets, and the amount you are sending.





## *Palm Sunday to Easter At Grace Church*

### *Sunday April 13: Palm Sunday*

10:00 am *Blessing and Processions of Palms  
Reading of the Passion  
Holy Eucharist*

4:00 pm *Celtic Evensong and Communion  
With Palms*



### *Thursday 17 April: Maundy Thursday*

7:00 pm *Proper Liturgy of the Day  
Foot-washing  
Institution of the Lord's Supper  
Stripping of the Altar*



### *Friday 18 April: Good Friday*

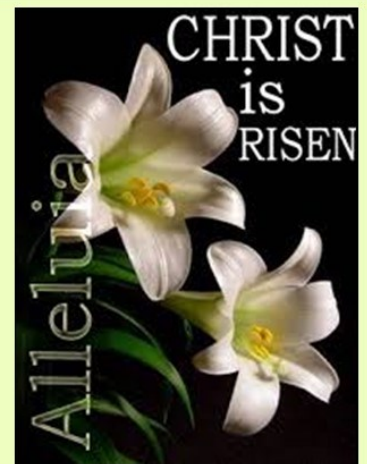
7:00 pm *Proper Liturgy of the Day  
Reading of the Passion  
Adoration of the Cross*

### *Saturday 19 April: The Great Vigil of Easter*

7:00 pm *The Lighting of the New Fire  
Holy Baptism  
Easter Eucharist  
"Sparkling" Reception*

### *Sunday 20 April: Easter Day*

10:00 am *Festival Choral Holy Eucharist*



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## 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@gracechurchsalem.org](mailto:fundraising@gracechurchsalem.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@gracechurchsalem.org](mailto:fundraising@gracechurchsalem.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@gracechurchsalem.org](mailto:fundraising@gracechurchsalem.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).**

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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**





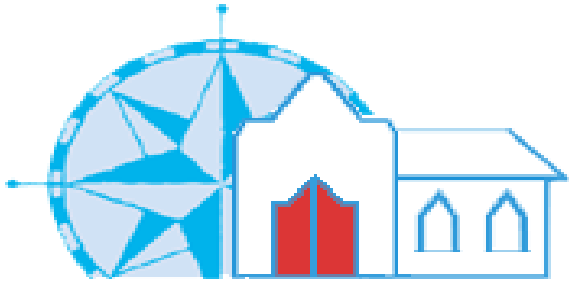
**Grace Church**  
**Annual Plant Sale**  
**Saturday, May 10**  
**9am - 12pm**



Grace Episcopal Church  
385 Essex Street, Salem MA  
[www.gracechurchsalem.org](http://www.gracechurchsalem.org)



# Grace Episcopal Church



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*E-mail: [office@gracechurchsalem.org](mailto:office@gracechurchsalem.org)*  
*Web: [www.gracechurchsalem.org](http://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  
Melissa Barnes

*Senior Warden*  
*Junior Warden*  
*Clerk*  
*Treasurer*

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

*Members of Vestry*