



Celtic Evensong and Communion

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

19 October 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

Opening Meditation

At the beginning of my spiritual life when I was thirteen or fourteen,
I used to ask myself what I would have to strive for later on
because I believed it was quite impossible for me to understand perfection better.
I learned very quickly since then that the more one advances,
the more one sees the goal is still far off.
And now I am simply resigned to see myself always imperfect
and in this I find my joy.

~ From *Story of A Soul: The Autobiography of St. Therese of Lisieux*, p. 158.

Confession

Most loving God,
we confess that we have not loved
in thought, word, or deed.
We have not loved you or our neighbors or ourselves.
We are sorry.
Remind us that you love us unconditionally and help us to rest in your love.

A Prayer for the Turning of Hearts

Gracious Lord, whenever we err, fill our hearts with your love.
When we wound or are wounded, fill our hearts with your love.
When tempted to judge, fill our hearts with your love.
Wherever there is hurt, loss, or despair, fill our world with your love.

The Invitatory and Psalter

To you I lift up my eyes,

to you enthroned in the heavens.

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping;

that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

Glory to the Holy Trinity, as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.

Song to the Light

The musical score for 'Song to the Light' is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff has two vocal parts: a soprano line (1) and an alto line (2). The lyrics are: '1 Light of the world, in the grace and beau - ty, 2 Now, as we see in the lights of eve - ning, mir - ror of God's e - ter - nal face, we raise our voice in hymns of praise; trans - par - ent flame of love's free du - ty, worth - y are you of end - less bless - ing, you bring sal - va - tion to our race, sun of our night, lamp of our days.' The music is simple and melodic, with a final double bar line at the end of the fourth staff.

1 Light of the world, in the grace and beau - ty,
2 Now, as we see in the lights of eve - ning,
mir - ror of God's e - ter - nal face,
we raise our voice in hymns of praise;
trans - par - ent flame of love's free du - ty,
worth - y are you of end - less bless - ing,
you bring sal - va - tion to our race,
sun of our night, lamp of our days.

Words: Paul Gibson, *Enriching our Worship 1*, © 1998 The Church Pension Fund.
Music: Morrison, George Emblom, © 2002 George Emblom.
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Psalms 119:97-104

97 Oh, how I love your law!

all the day long it is in my mind.

98 Your commandment has made me wiser than my enemies,

and it is always with me.

99 I have more understanding than all my teachers,

for your decrees are my study.

100 I am wiser than the elders,

because I observe your commandments.

101 I restrain my feet from every evil way,

that I may keep your word.

- 102 I do not shrink from your judgments,
because you yourself have taught me.
- 103 How sweet are your words to my taste!
they are sweeter than honey to my mouth.
- 104 Through your commandments I gain understanding;
therefore I hate every lying way.

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

Jeremiah 31:27-34

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of humans and the seed of animals. And just as I have watched over them to pluck up and break down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring evil, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the Lord. In those days they shall no longer say: "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge." But all shall die for their own sins; the teeth of everyone who eats sour grapes shall be set on edge. The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt-- a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

Thanks be to God.

Musical Response

The Second Lesson

Luke 18:1-8

Jesus told his disciples a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us, and for the Word of God within us,

Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Paul Massari

Music after the Reflection

Affirmation

We believe in God,
the creator of all life and beauty,
who blesses our journey.
We believe in Jesus Christ,
who lived as a friend and savior
to all he met as he traveled,
and who ate and laughed, wept, and celebrated with them in love.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who rides on the gentle breeze,
who strengthens our bindings,
and who offers hope eternal.
We believe in the church,
which stands open to all travelers,
and bears witness to the everlasting love of God. Amen.

The Prayers

Prayers for Ourselves and Others

Loving God, in our faith, we pray:
For reconciliation between the violated and the violent,
That we may rest in your peace.
For generosity between rich and poor people everywhere,
That we may share the abundance of your creation.
For the growth of love between broken peoples and nations,
That we may shape our common life as your kingdom.
For mutual respect between immigrants and insiders,
That we may welcome your image in all who come to us.
For protection for the weak and humility for the strong,
That we may serve others as you serve us in Christ.
For all the joys and concerns of our hearts,
That we may live with gladness and trust.
I invite you to now offer the prayers of your heart, either silently or aloud.

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Rest

Gracious God, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in your mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. **Amen.**

A Collect for Henry Martyn

O God of the nations, who gave to your servant Henry Martyn a longing to share your Gospel with all peoples; Inspire the church in our own day with that said desire, that we may be eager to commit both life and talents to you who gave them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Leader Jesus says, “Come to me you who are troubled and I will give you rest.” So come, you who are broken in body or in spirit, you who are torn by relationships and doubt, you who feel deeply within yourselves the divisions of the world. Come, for Jesus invites us to bring our brokenness.

*From now until the end of the service, you are invited to come to the Lady Altar
and light a candle and kneel at the rail for prayers.
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

Hymn #337, The Hymnal 1982

And now, O Father, mindful of the love

The Grace

God of faithful surprises, throughout the ages you have made known your love and power in unexpected ways and places: May we daily perceive the joy and wonder of your abiding presence and offer our lives in gratitude for our redemption. **Amen.**

The Peace

Welcome and Announcements

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 It is right to praise you, for you are the One from whom we came and the One to whom we will return. You conceived the universe, wove the world together and hold all life in your hand. You watch us waking and sleeping, you keep every tear we shed, you hear every prayer we make, you know both our best and our worst, and you will not let us go.

So with angels and archangels, with the saints from long ago, with our loved ones who are gathered round your heavenly table, we praise you as we say,

All **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 Blessed is he who was born among us, who grew up without privilege or status, who walked the way to heaven through the back streets of this world, who told the deepest truths in ordinary language, who touched, healed, blessed, and disturbed without fear or favor, who showed inclusive love to all in its unconditional glory. For all of this, he was crucified, died, and was buried, and for all of us, he rose again, and yet, though high in heaven, is present with us here and now.

Among friends gathered around a table, Jesus took bread; and when he had blessed it, he broke it and gave it to them saying,

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

Celebrant As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said:

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 God beyond holiness, as we do what Jesus once did, let your Spirit move among us to settle on this bread and this wine that they become for us the body and blood of Christ. And let that same Spirit stir our souls so that as we share this sacrament, we may recognize our Lord and receive him that he may be in us and we in him for ever. 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

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Blessing

May the stillness of God be yours this night, that you may sleep in peace.
May the awareness of the angels be yours this night, that you may be alert to unseen mysteries.
May the life of Christ be yours this night, that you may be kindled in love.
And may the blessing of the Holy Trinity be with you evermore. **Amen.**

Dismissal

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

Concluding Musical Meditation

— Worship Leaders —

The Rev. Sarah A. Conner
Kathleen Tone
Ryan Patten, Grayson Davison, Lisa Duffy
Paul Massari
Paul Massari
Kourtni Patten
Joanna Troy

Presider
Opening
Musicians
Lector
Reflection
Prayers
Usher

Our Prayers are offered for

Margaret Connor, Liev Manck, Barbara Dwyer, Lilyann, Margarete Connor, John Gilbo, Vance Gilbert, Reny Sparapani, Laurel, Gary Young, Amy, Paul, Heather and Prescott, Ariana, Sheridan, Javy, Faith Aroko and Family, Jesse Hurst and Family, Maureen Joyce, Arthur, Deb Young, Cindy Rhodes, Ron, Allison Mascolo, Melissa Glassman, Max Joyce, Marc Britt, those battling cancer, Mel, Corey MacNeil, Dianne, Jenny, Loretta and Kris, Priscilla Lemons, Deb Papps, Derek Fuller and Family, for the peaceful repose of the soul of Smadar and all victims of war 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 the ministry of The Reverend Debbie Phillips and her husband, Eric Wagner, 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. The Parish Prayer List is read aloud each Wednesday at Morning Prayer.

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The Fundraising Committee is looking for help/donations in connection with our **October fundraisers!** If you can donate and/or help, please email fundraising@gracechurchsalem.org or speak with one of the following Fundraising Committee members: Peggy Carter, Melissa Barnes, or Joanne Moar.

Our fundraisers help support the day-to-day running of the parish, so we hope that everyone will participate in some way.



A Note from the Fundraising Committee

The St. Francis Day Pet Treat and Pumpkin Sale was a great success and a very fun community event. The Fundraising Committee wants to extend a special thanks to all who helped make the event possible.

Saturday, October 25, 2025 - 7:30pm

Silent Movies in October 2025

Nosferatu (10/25)

We need folks to help with checking in attendees/selling tickets at the door, selling popcorn and water and other goods, and answering attendee questions (e.g., where to find restrooms, etc.). We also need folks to help with screen set up and break down.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Hats O.F.F.

To Warm Heads (and Hearts)



Outreach: Grace Church parishioners, their families, and friends have knitted or crocheted many beautiful children's hats to donate to various organizations that support children in Salem and beyond. We plan to donate roughly 300 hats before Winter sets in.

Fundraiser: Hats can be sponsored at \$10/hat. The hats are given to the children and the \$10 donations support Grace Church and its mission. Hats can be supported by direct donation following the 10:00 or 4:00 services on October 19, 2025, or by using the donation button on the Grace Church website, www.gracechurchsalem.org. If you donate online, be sure to send an email to fundraising@gracechurchsalem.org so that the donation will be attributed to the Hats O.F.F. campaign.

Fellowship: Come hang out with us knitters on Tuesday nights at 7:00 p.m. No need to be a member of Grace Church or even to know how to knit.

We are having a blast!

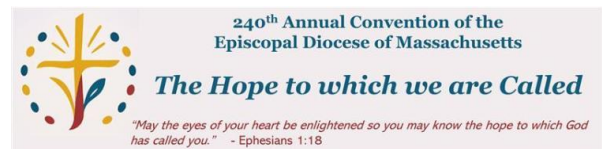


Everyone is Welcome at Diocesan Convention Workshops

Our annual diocesan convention takes place on Friday, November 14th and Saturday, November 15th at the Marriott in Burlington. The Saturday session is when the required business of convention takes place, and also includes an address by Bishop Whitworth – Laura Beasley- Topliffe, Joanne Moar, and I will represent Grace as your delegates at this session.

The Friday afternoon session runs from 2:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and is open to everyone. This afternoon session is free (though you must register), and you can choose to attend two of the following workshops:

- Stewardship Fundamentals for Small and Medium-Sized Parishes
- Exploring Anglican Identity
- Exploring Invite, Welcome, Connect
- Keys to Faith Formation
- We Stand with the Vulnerable: Supporting Immigrants
- Stronger Together: Building Collaborative Parishes
- Managing Church Property for Mission
- Building Support with LGBTQIA+ Youth & Adults



Wishing that I could attend all of them, I've registered for "Stewardship Fundamentals for Small and Medium-Sized Parishes" and "Managing Church Property for Mission." If you'd like to attend the workshops, or for more information, go to www.diomass.org.

~ Sarah

This Week's Feast: Henry Martyn

Henry Martyn, an English missionary and translator, died when he was only thirty-one years old. Though his life was brief, it was a remarkable one.

Martyn was educated at Cambridge. He had intended to become a lawyer, but Charles Simeon, the rector of Holy Trinity, Cambridge, inspired him to go to India as a missionary. After serving as Simeon's curate for a short time, Martyn traveled to Calcutta in 1806 as chaplain of the East India Company.

During his five years in India, Martyn preached the gospel, organized private schools, and founded churches. In addition to his work as a missionary, Martyn translated the New Testament and the Book of Common Prayer into Hindi, which was a valuable missionary aid to the young Anglican Church in India. He also began the study of Persian, and translated the New Testament into that language as well.

Martyn longed to go to Persia, and in 1811, his persistence brought him to Shiraz, as the first English clergyman in that city. He engaged in theological discussions with learned Muslims and corrected his Persian translations of the New Testament. Martyn hoped eventually to visit Arabia and to translate the New Testament into Arabic.

While on his way to Constantinople in 1812, however, Martyn died in the Turkish city of Tokat. The Armenian Orthodox Christians of the city buried him with the honors usually accorded to one of their own bishops. Very soon afterwards, his life of energetic devotion and remarkable accomplishment became widely known. He is remembered as one of the founders of the modern Christian church in both India and Iran.

From Lesser Feasts and Fasts, Church Publishing



Henry Martyn

From: A memoir of the Rev. Henry Martyn; Sargent, John; London: Printed for R. B. Seeley and W. Burnside; and sold by L. and G. Seeley; 1837.

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.

— Grace Episcopal Church —

A parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

The Most Reverend Sean Rowe

The Right Reverend Julia Whitworth

The Reverend Sarah A. Conner

The Reverend E. Clifford Cutler

The Reverend Manny Faria

Mark N. Peterson

Tom and Karen Tucker

Presiding Bishop

Bishop Diocesan

Interim Priest

Assisting Clergy

Assisting Clergy

Music Director

Property Stewards

— Vestry —

Ryan Patten

Lisa Duffy

Joanna Troy

Melissa Barnes

Javy Awan, Marianne Cannon, Kai Freyleue,

Joanne Moar, Susan Tweed, Holly Willis

Senior Warden

Junior Warden

Clerk

Treasurer

Members of Vestry