



Celtic Evensong and Communion

The Second Sunday of Easter

12 April 2026 4:00 pm

*We come from many places to be together for a little while.
Each of us brings our own experience and traditions to this gathering.
So here in this place, let us take time together to encounter the holy.
Please remember to silence all devices.*

The Opening Rite

Opening Musical Meditation

Fisk of Gloucester

Opening Meditation

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

~ Malcolm Guite, from *Sounding the Seasons*

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

The image shows a musical score for a song. It consists of seven staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The music is written in a simple, melodic style with a consistent rhythm. The lyrics are: "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."

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ter - ror of an - y - one un - der the sun, but the Ho - ly Be - lov - ed to shield me.
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Words: *Carmine Gadelica*, alt.

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

Psalm 118:1-2, 15-16, 21-24

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let Israel now proclaim, *
"His mercy endures for ever."
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory *
in the tents of the righteous:
- 16 "The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! *
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me *
and have become my salvation.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the LORD's doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- 24 On this day the LORD has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

The Lessons and Reflection

Listen now to the Word of God

The First Lesson

1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith-- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire-- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

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

Thanks be to God.

Musical Response

Thomas' Farewell

The Second Lesson

John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to

them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

Kai Freyleue

Music after the Reflection

Farewell

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.**

The Collect of the Day

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

A Collect from *Daily Prayer for all Seasons*

Loving God, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive in our world, our church and our hearts. Renew and strengthen us in the risen life we share in Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

A Collect for George Augustus Selwyn

Almighty and everlasting God, whose servant George Augustus Selwyn laid a firm foundation for the growth of your church in many nations: Raise up in this and every land evangelists and heralds of your kingdom, that your church may proclaim the unsearchable riches of our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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

The South Wind

Hymn #193 in *The Hymnal 1982*

That Easter day with joy was bright

The Grace

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

The Peace

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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:

Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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:

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

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

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

So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

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.

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

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

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

Concluding Musical Meditation

Easter Sunday

— Worship Leaders —

The Rev. E. Clifford Cutler
Ryan Patten, Grayson Davison, Lisa Duffy
Ryan Patten
Paul Massari
Kai Freyleue
Kourtni Patten
Joanna Troy

Presider
Musicians
Opening
Lector
Reflection
Prayers
Usher

Our Prayers are offered for

Mary Brown, Robert Borden, Linda Abbene, Deven Manthorne, Margaret Connor, Chuck Manck, Barbara Dwyer, Lilyann, 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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We are excited to announce that Grace Church is now accepting gifts via *Realm!*

Realm is an online tool to help us keep more accurate and up to date stewardship records. This will be an alternative to the PayPal button on our website and automated bill pay options.

If you pledged for 2026, you will soon receive an email invitation to login to your personal Realm account and create a password (if you don't see it please check your spam folder).

Should you choose to log in, we need your help to ensure our records are up to date. We did our best, but please double-check that your contact information looks correct. Additionally, please review your pledge information and giving history for accuracy. If you notice any discrepancies or have questions, please reach out to me at treasurer@gracechurchsalem.org

While we encourage you to try this new way of giving, don't worry all the old ways still work too! Thank you in advance for your patience as we learn this new tool together!





Plant Sale May 16th

Our Annual Plant Sale will be on **Saturday, May 16th** 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.

Sign-up forms are available in the back of the church, or you can download a one by clicking [here](#).

We would like to have all donations by **Saturday, May 9th** 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 16th. Financial contributions towards the fundraiser are also appreciated. Please contact one of us or send an email at fundraising@gracechurchsalem.org and we will sign you up. Thank you for your support.

- Peggy, Melissa, and Joanne

This Week's Feast: George Augustus Selwyn

George Augustus Selwyn was born on April 5, 1809, at Hampstead, London. He was educated at Eton, and in 1831 graduated from St. John's College, Cambridge, of which he became a Fellow.

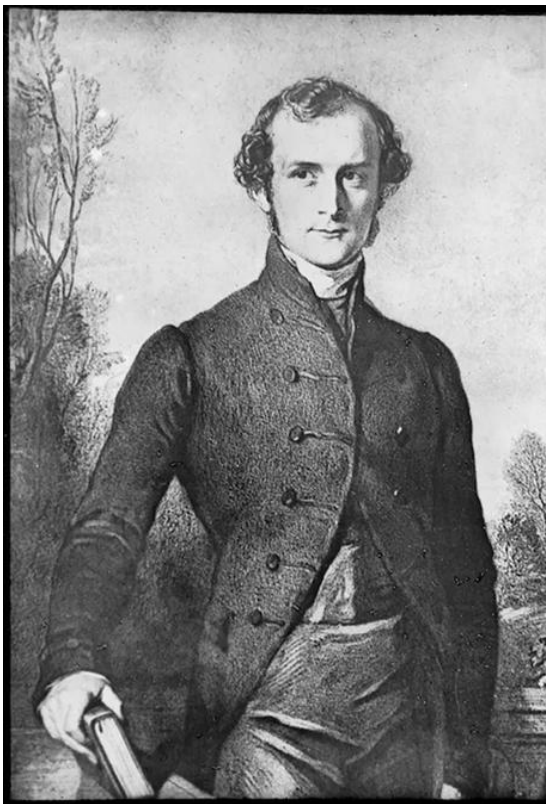
Ordained in 1833, Selwyn served as a curate at Windsor until his selection as the first Bishop of New Zealand in 1841. On the voyage to his new field, he mastered the Maori language and was able to preach in it upon his arrival. In the tragic ten-year war between the English and the Maoris, Selwyn was able to minister to both sides and to keep the affection and admiration of both the Maori and colonists. He began missionary work in the Pacific islands in 1847.

In addition to learning the Maori language and customs, Selwyn became an accomplished navigator, cartographer, and sailor in order to spread the gospel through the Pacific Islands. Reportedly, a sailor once noted, "To see the bishop handle a boat was almost enough to make a man a Christian."

Selwyn's first general synod in 1859 laid down a constitution, influenced by that of the Episcopal Church, which became important for all English colonial churches.

After the first Lambeth Conference in 1867, Selwyn was reluctantly persuaded to accept the See of Lichfield in England. He died on April 11, 1878, and his grave in the cathedral close has become a place of pilgrimage for the Maoris to whom he first brought the light of the gospel.

Bishop Selwyn twice visited the Episcopal Church in the United States, and was the preacher at the 1874 General Convention." *From Lesser Feasts and Fasts, Church Publishing*

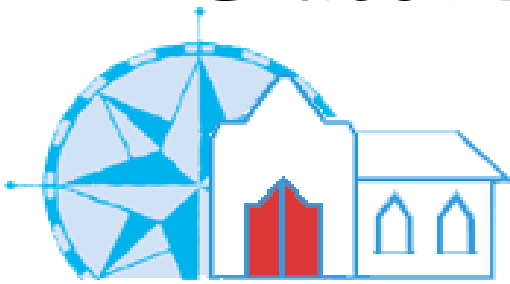


Bishop George Augustus Selwyn at his consecration, 1841 (National Library of New Zealand)



Religious services by Bishop Selwyn, 1843, by George Augustus Selwyn (Te Ara / Alexander Turnbull Library)

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	<i>Presiding Bishop</i>
The Right Reverend Julia Whitworth	<i>Bishop Diocesan</i>
The Reverend Sarah A. Conner	<i>Interim Priest</i>
The Reverend E. Clifford Cutler	<i>Assisting Clergy</i>
The Reverend Manny Faria	<i>Assisting Clergy</i>
Mark N. Peterson	<i>Music Director</i>
Tom and Karen Tucker	<i>Property Stewards</i>
Jenny Connors	<i>Parish Administrator</i>

— Vestry —

Ryan Patten	<i>Senior Warden</i>
Lisa Duffy	<i>Junior Warden</i>
Joanna Troy	<i>Clerk</i>
Katie Scott	<i>Treasurer</i>
Javy Awan, Kai Freyleue, Christine Reichert, Susan Tweed, Caroline Watson-Felt, Holly Willis	<i>Members of Vestry</i>