



# Celtic Evensong and Communion

## The Fourth Sunday of Easter

26 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

*Assisi*

#### Opening Meditation

Whatever happens,  
those who have learned  
to love one another  
have made their way  
into the lasting world  
and will not leave,  
whatever happens.

~ Wendell Berry, from *This Day: Collected & New Sabbath Poems*, p. 183.

#### 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 a simple, melodic line, likely for a voice or a simple instrument. 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."

I will kin - dle my fire in the morn of the day, in the pres - ence of ho - ly  
an - gels. With - out mal - ice or jeal - ous - y, en - vy or fear, with - out  
ter - ror of an - y - one un - der the sun, but the Ho - ly Be - lov - ed to shield me.  
O Ho - ly one, kin - dle thou here in my heart, a flame of pure love to my  
neigh - bor, to my foe, to my friend, to my kin - dred all, to the  
brave, to the knave, to the thrall. O child of the love - li - est Ma - ry, from the  
low - li - est thing, to the Ho - ly Name, the be - lov - ed of all.

Words: *Carmine Gadelica*, alt.

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

## Psalm 23

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; \*  
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures \*  
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul \*  
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I shall fear no evil; \*  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; \*  
you have anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \*  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

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

## The Lessons and Reflection

Listen now to the Word of God

### The First Lesson

Acts 2:42-47

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

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

**Thanks be to God.**

### Musical Response

*Peace and Plenty*

### The Second Lesson

John 10:1-10

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

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

*Searching for Lambs*

## 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

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### A Collect from *Daily Prayer for all Seasons*

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

### A Collect for Zita of Tuscany

Merciful God, who has given to us all things necessary for life and godliness; Grant that we, like your servant Zita, may be faithful in the exercise of our duties and that, whatever you give us to do, we may do it heartily to you for the honor and glory of your Name; through him who has called us to virtue, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. **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 Dunmore Lasses*

### Hymn #645 in *The Hymnal 1982*

*The King of Love*

### 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, God of resurrection and new life, you invite us to discover you within ourselves and service to others. You invite us to discover you within the complexities of our humanity, in love and struggle, 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 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.**

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:  
**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. **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**

**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**

*Sheep on the Moor*

## **— Worship Leaders —**

The Rev. Sarah A. Conner  
Ryan Patten, Grayson Davison, Lisa Duffy  
Ryan Patten  
Paul Massari  
Paul Massari  
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](mailto: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.

## **Permissions for livestreaming**

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Let's  
Connect!

## Join our Realm Online Community!

We are excited to announce  
that Grace Church is getting 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](mailto: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!*

Visit [onrealm.org](https://onrealm.org) to access our church directory, give online, and stay informed about upcoming events. Scan the QR code to get started today!



**Grace Church**  
**Annual Plant Sale**  
**Saturday, May 16**  
**9am - 12pm**

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

If you would like to participate, please complete a Donation Sign-Up Form. Forms are available:

- As an *online fillable form* and as a *downloadable PDF* found on the home page of our website [gracechurchsalem.org](http://gracechurchsalem.org)
- As printed copies located at the back of the church

We would like to have all donations by **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](mailto:fundraising@gracechurchsalem.org) if you are able to volunteer and we will sign you up.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to the committee for more information about making donations, how to contribute, or with any other questions you may have.

Thank you for your support.

- Peggy, Melissa, and Joanne

# 2026 Bishop's Annual Appeal

Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts



Dear Beloved Friends in the Diocese of Massachusetts,

**Alleluia! Christ is Risen!** The Fourth Sunday of Easter is affectionately known as Good Shepherd Sunday, and this year, our Gospel for that day reminds us that Jesus said, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." That is what shepherds do — they guide, support, and walk alongside their flock so that God's people may live abundant lives.

As bishop, I am reminded of my call to serve as shepherd every time I carry the crozier and walk among you in your congregations. Through your faithful witness and ministries, you remind me again and again of the power of our faith in Christ to transform our lives and the communities in which we live.

During this Easter season, I invite you to support the Bishop's Annual Appeal, which this year highlights key ways we support shepherds, lay and ordained alike, who are strengthening congregational vitality throughout our diocese.

Your generosity helps strengthen congregations and ministries across our diocese. For example, diocesan support is helping to nurture collaborative Latino ministry between **Trinity/Trinidad in Haverhill and St. Anne's/Sta. Ana in Lowell**, strengthening bilingual worship and outreach in their communities. Through the work of our regional canons, we are offering innovative resources for congregations to discern pathways to vitality. Congregations such as **St. John's in Sandwich** are growing through tools like Invite, Welcome, Connect. Diverse clergy mutual support groups are serving a wide variety of communities. All of these ministries bind us together as one church, as the collective body of Christ.

Lay leaders are also essential shepherds in the life of our diocese. Through initiatives such as the **Finance Forums and new wardens' gatherings**, we are equipping parish leaders with tools, resources, and connections that strengthen the ministries of local congregations. We are creating a new lay preaching certification program that will help support the development of prophetic voices among our laity.

And perhaps most important of all — our newest shepherds. One of the great strengths of our diocese is that we continue to raise up talented people for ordained ministry — we have 39 people in the ordination process! Yet fewer congregations are able to support clergy in the early years of ministry. Through the **Strategic Curacies Initiative**, we are investing in the formation of newly ordained priests so that they can grow into wise and faithful leaders for Christ's Church.

In this season of resurrection and renewal, I ask: will you support the growth of our shared ministry by donating to the Bishop's Annual Appeal? Your Easter gift will help ensure the Church continues to raise up faithful shepherds and vibrant congregations for generations to come.

Together we are already doing important work — and with your help we can do even more to nurture leaders and care for Christ's flock.

**The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Faithfully,

The Rt. Rev. Julia E. Whitworth  
Bishop Diocesan

*"I am the good shepherd.  
The good shepherd lays  
down his life for the sheep."  
John 10:11*



#### **Our New Shepherds**

Our newly ordained: Revs. Jocelyn Collen, Mary Curlew, Eva Dalzell, Julia Matallana-Freedman, and Aidan Stoddart!



#### **Our Retiring Shepherds**

Father Edgar from St. Lucas Chelsea.



#### **Our Future Shepherds**

In the Diocese of Massachusetts, we are building the church of the future – and maybe even some bishops of the future!



#### **Our Lay Shepherds**



#### **Our Shepherds of Hope**

Voices of Hope, at the Bishop Alan Gates African Episcopal Mission Center, was a day full of music, strong community spirit, and meaningful connections.



#### **Our Regional Shepherds**

The Rev. Canon Kelly A. O'Connell  
*Regional Canon for the Southern Region*

The Rev. Canon Gregory G. Perez  
*Regional Canon for the Northern & Western Region*

The Rev. Canon Marissa S. Rohrbach  
*Regional Canon for the Central Region*



#### **Our Prophetic Shepherds**

In March, our cathedral partnered with Episcopal City Mission to host a morning of prayer and preparation before demonstrations on the Boston Common.



#### **Our Sainly Shepherds**

People from across our diocese joined the John Burgess Chapter of the Union of Black Episcopalians to celebrate the Feast of Absalom Jones and Barbara C. Harris at our cathedral.



To give by credit card, use the QR code or go to [www.diomass.org/bishops-appeal](http://www.diomass.org/bishops-appeal).  
Make checks payable to "Bishop's Annual Appeal" and send to the address below.

Contact the Rev. Brian Raiche, Development Consultant, with any questions or to make a gift of securities. [braiche@diomass.org](mailto:braiche@diomass.org) | 617-482-4826 ext. 515



Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts  
138 Tremont Street • Boston, Massachusetts 02111 | [www.diomass.org](http://www.diomass.org)

*Thank you for  
your generous support.*

## This Week's Feast: Zita of Tuscany

Zita was born in the early thirteenth century in the village of Montsegradi in Tuscany; she died on April 12, 1271. Zita was born into a poor family, but one in which the Christian faith was emphasized. One of her uncles was a hermit, a sister became a nun, and the entire family was faithful in worship together, both at church and in their home.

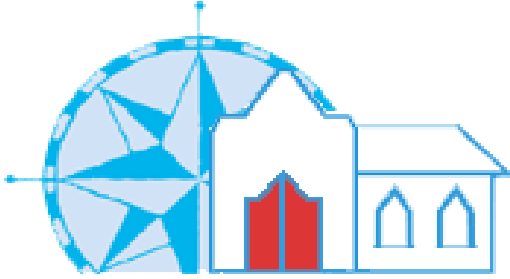
At the age of twelve she entered the service of the Fatinelli family in Lucca. Although little more than a child, she maintained the serious faith that she had been taught by her family. Scrupulous in the exercise of her domestic duties, she embodied Paul's advice in Colossians 3:23, "Whatever your task, put yourselves into it, as done for the Lord and not for your masters." Her earnest diligence, however, was first met with scorn from both her employers and her fellow servants. Nevertheless, she continued faithfully in her work and exhibited a peace that surpassed comprehension. Through her perseverance in doing good, she eventually earned the respect and affection of the whole household.

In due course, the once despised servant became the housekeeper. As head of the household staff, Zita demonstrated such Christlike benevolence that she came to be venerated throughout Lucca even before her death. Mindful of the poverty in which she had been raised, she gave away most of her income to those in need.

After her death, the popularity of her cult spread as far as England, where she is called Sitha; images of her may be found in churches throughout southern England. In popular piety, she is often entreated in order to find lost keys. *From Lesser Feasts and Fasts, Church Publishing*



# Grace Episcopal Church



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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 Sarah A. Conner  
The Reverend E. Clifford Cutler  
The Reverend Manny Faria  
Mark N. Peterson  
Tom and Karen Tucker  
Jenny Connors

*Presiding Bishop  
Bishop Diocesan  
Interim Priest  
Assisting Clergy  
Assisting Clergy  
Music Director  
Property Stewards  
Parish Administrator*

## — Vestry —

Ryan Patten  
Lisa Duffy  
Joanna Troy  
Katie Scott  
Javy Awan, Kai Freyleue, Susan Tweed  
Caroline Watson-Felt, Holly Willis

*Senior Warden  
Junior Warden  
Clerk  
Treasurer  
Members of Vestry*