

The Fifth Sunday of Easter



18 May 2025

Choral Holy Eucharist Rite II: 10:00 am

Grace Episcopal Church

The Reverend Deborah Phillips, *Rector*

385 Essex Street • Salem • Massachusetts 01970

(978) 744-2796

Email: office@gracechurchsalem.org Web: www.gracechurchsalem.org

Welcome!

Welcome to those of you here. Here's some information:

Most Sundays, we have Church School at 10:00 am with trained teachers. The classroom is located through the door at the front right of the chapel and down the hall; please ask if you need help finding it. The children will join us in church at the Peace and for Communion. All baptized children of any age are welcome to receive communion.

Please join in the singing! Hymnals are located in the pew and the numbers are listed in the leaflet. **"S"** numbered hymns are found in the front of the *Hymnal 1982*. The *Book of Common Prayer* may also be found in the rack in front of you.

This is a self-supporting congregation, so when the plate is passed in the middle of the service, please be generous. Today's collection will support our ministries to the community.

At the communion, God welcomes all 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 whether you are an Episcopalian or not, or to receive a blessing.

When coming to the rail for communion, please kneel or stand at the rail from right to left until the rail is full. You may receive the wafer, receive the wine after consuming the wafer (no indicting) or may ask for a blessing. Please let the priest know if you need **gluten free**.

The priest, Debbie, is available after the service to answer any questions you might have. Please let her know your thoughts about today's service.

If this is your first time here, please sign the book at the entrance of the church. If you want more information, our website is www.gracechurchsalem.org. Our weekly newsletter, called Grace Notes, can be found there. If you wish to receive the newsletter, simply go to the website, open Grace Notes and subscribe.

May we all find the service meaningful and the embrace of the community inviting. It is a joy to worship together, wherever we are in our journey.

The Opening Rite

Opening Voluntary

The Hymn at the Procession
The day of resurrection

The Hymnal 1982, #210
Ellacombe

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, page 355

Song of Praise
A Song to the Lamb

The Hymnal 1982, S 266
Calvin Hampton

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Word of the Lord

The Lessons *The people sit.*

The First Lesson

Acts 11:1-18

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also

accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 148:1-4, 11-14

Charles Villiers Stanford



1 Hallelujah!

Praise the ¹LORD from the ¹heavens; *
— ¹praise him ¹in the ¹heights.

2 Praise him, ¹all you ¹angels of his; *

— ¹praise him, ¹all his ¹host.

3 Praise him, ¹sun and ¹moon; *

praise him, ¹all you ¹shining ¹stars.

4 Praise him, ¹heaven of ¹heavens, *

and you ¹waters a ¹bove the ¹heavens.

-
- 11 Kings of the earth and 'äll 'peoples, *
princes and all 'rulers 'of the 'world;
- 12 Young 'men and 'maidens, *
— 'old and 'young to 'gether.
- 13 Let them praise the 'Name of the 'LORD, *
for his Name only is exalted,
his splendor is 'over 'earth and 'heaven.
- 14 He has raised up strength for his people
and praise for all his 'loyal 'servants, *
the children of Israel, a people who are 'near him. '
'Halle 'lujah!

The Second Lesson

Revelation 21:1-6

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Sequence Hymn

The Hymnal 1982, #686

Come, thou fount of every blessing

Nettleton

The Gospel

John 13:31-35

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Reverend Deborah Phillips

page 358

page 385

The Holy Communion

Text is found at #488 in The Hymnal 1982

Bergland

page 365

Calvin Hampton

page 364

All present are invited to reverently receive the Holy Sacrament.

O heiliger Geist

Postcommunion Prayer

page 365

Post Communion Hymn

Love divine all loves excelling

The Hymnal 1982, #657

Hyfrydol

Blessing and Dismissal

Voluntary

— Worship Leaders —

The Reverend Deborah Phillips

Presider and Preacher

Mark N. Peterson

Organist and Choir Director

Joanne Moar

Verger

Gavin Watson-Bertrand

Acolyte

Gavin Watson-Bertrand

Lector

Lisa Duffy

Chalicer

Tom and Karen Tucker

Ushers

Our Prayers are offered for

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, Eric Wagner, Melissa Glassman, Max Joyce, Marc Britt, those battling cancer, 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 by Tuesday at noon for publication in that week's e-news.

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A Message from the Senior Warden

Dear Grace Church,

Happy Eastertide! Now that Holy Week and Easter have passed, we naturally turn to the next big event in the life of Grace Church: Debbie's last weeks with us as our Rector. I want to give you a brief update of where we are in the process and what is coming.

Debbie's last Sunday with us will be June 22, and there is a celebratory service planned (information about that event will be announced separately).

The process of calling a new Rector is a long one, and we will walk through it with intention. In July, Grace Church as a whole will begin a period of congregational discernment. This time of self-study will likely occupy us through the rest of 2025. During this stage of the process, the Vestry will assemble a search committee, which will take an in-depth look at our history, identity, mission, and goals. The Vestry will consider how the search process will impact our budget and what financials will look like going forward. It's a process of discovering (and rediscovering) who we are and what we discern God's dreams for us to be. With that identity, we can begin to find a new Rector.

In January of 2026 (or thereabouts), the search committee will start receiving names of candidates and begin narrowing down the field. This may be the longest part of the process. When the search committee and Vestry all agree on a candidate, we will issue a call to that person and invite them to be our new Rector.

Through this entire process, we will continue to be Grace Church. We'll still be in community with one another and meet as we always do for services, Bible study, fellowship, silent films, cookie walks, and pancake dinners. We will have support from our diocese and transitional priests, and we will not be adrift at sea.

So, for now, we are still in a process of saying goodbye. I cannot overemphasize the importance of this time. Debbie's pastoral relationship with Grace Church is coming to an end, and now is our opportunity to express to her what having her as part of Grace has meant to each of us, to express our gratitude to her, and to wish her well. After June, our goodbyes will be over and our paths will diverge, so it is important to make the most of this time of farewell. More on how we can best do that will be announced later this month.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me directly. My email is ryan.l.patten@gmail.com.

With hope and gratitude,
Ryan Patten
Senior Warden



Pride Events at Grace Church



Pride Month Events



Pride Service

June 1 at 10:00 am

Let us give thanks for the uniqueness and
diversity among us and
recommit to our work for LGBTQ+ rights

Pride Parade

June 28

Come march as Grace Church to celebrate
LGBTQ+ Pride

Debbie's Last Sunday

As Debbie announced in a letter in February, she will be retiring from Grace Church on July 1st after almost 28 years as our Rector. We ask that you save the date of June 22nd for her final Sunday with us. This is the only service on this day. More details are to follow.

You are invited to a Celebration

Of Debbie's Retirement

On June 22

Choral Holy Eucharist at 4:00 pm

Party at 5:30 pm

Grace Episcopal Church

385 Essex Street

Salem, Massachusetts

R.S.V.P. by June 15 to

ryan.l.patten@gmail.com

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

Senior Warden
Junior Warden
Clerk
Treasurer
Members of Vestry



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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.