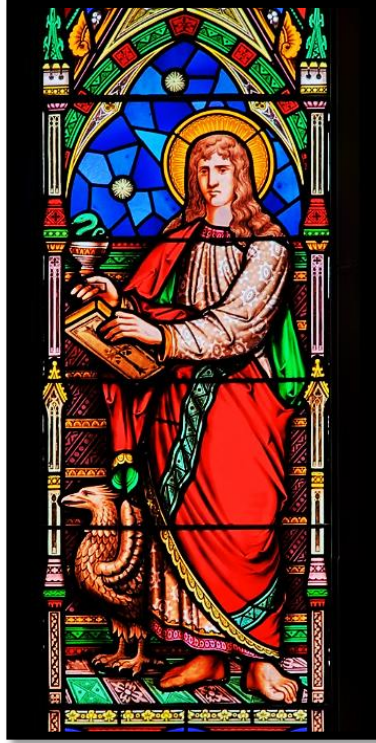


The Fifth Sunday of Easter



3 May 2026

Choral Holy Eucharist : Rite II
with Birthday Blessing

Grace Episcopal Church

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 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 Eucharist, 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 intinction) or may ask for a blessing. Please let the priest know if you need a gluten free wafer.

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 on our journey.

The Opening Rite

Prelude

Mit Fried' und Freud' ich fahr' dahin *Johann Sebastian Bach*

Opening Hymn

The Church's one foundation *The Hymnal 1982, #525*
Aurelia

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, page 355

Song of Praise

Glory to God in the highest *The Hymnal 1982, S278*
William Mathias

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 God

The Lessons *(The people sit)*

The First Lesson

Acts 7:55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.



1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;
 let me never be put to shame; *
 de^liver me in your ^righteousness.

2 In^cline your ^ear to me; *
 make ^häste to de^liver me.

3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
 for you are my ^crags and my ^stronghold; *
 for the sake of your ⁿäme, ^lead me and ^guide me.

4 Take me out of the net that they have ^secretly ^set for me, *
 for ^you are my ^tower of ^strength.

†5 Into your hands I com^mend my ^spirit, *
 for you have redeemed me,
 O ^LORD, O ^God of ^truth.

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.”

The Second Lesson

1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: “See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a

cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner”, and “A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

The Sequence Hymn

The Hymnal 1982, #457

Thou art the Way, to thee alone

St. James

The Gospel

John 14:1-14

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ
 according to John.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus said, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not,

then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

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

The Sermon

The Reverend Sarah A Conner

The Nicene Creed

BCP, page 358

The Prayers of the People: Form II

BCP, page 385

The Birthday Prayer

Those celebrating birthdays in the months of April and May are invited to come forward.

(Said by all): O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Peace

Welcome and Announcements



At the offertory, you are invited to make a gift in support of Grace Church's ministry. You may place your pledge or donation in the offering plate. Or, to pay your pledge online or make a one-time donation, you may scan this QR code.

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Anthem

Richard Farrant

Call to remembrance

*Call to remembrance, O Lord,
Thy tender mercies and Thy loving kindness,
which hath been ever of old,*

*O remember not the sins and offences of my youth:
but according to Thy mercy think Thou on me, O Lord,
for Thy goodness.*

The Hymn at the Presentation *The Hymnal 1982, #487*
Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life *The Call*

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B *BCP, page 367*

Sanctus *The Hymnal 1982, S128*
Holy, holy, holy *William Mathias*

The Lord's Prayer *BCP, page 364*

The Fraction Anthem *The Hymnal 1982, S165*
William Mathias

Communion
All present are invited to reverently receive the Holy Sacrament

Hymn at Communion *The Hymnal 1982, #508*
Breathe on me, Breath of God *Nova Vita*

Postcommunion Prayer *BCP, page 365*

Postcommunion Hymn *The Hymnal 1982, #518*
Christ is made the sure foundation *Westminster Abbey*

Blessing and Dismissal

Postlude
Voluntary in D Flat Major *David N. Johnson*

— **Worship Leaders** —

The Reverend Sarah A. Conner	<i>Presider and Preacher</i>
Joanne Moar	<i>Verger</i>
Gavin Watson-Bertrand	<i>Acolyte</i>
Laura Beasley-Topliffe	<i>Lector</i>
Lisa Duffy	<i>Chalicer</i>
Jim Duffy & Megan Salamida	<i>Ushers</i>

Our Prayers are offered for

Mary Brown, Robert Borden, Linda Abbene, Deven Manthorne, Margarette 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.

Permissions for livestreaming

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license A-401113, from St James Music Press with license number 7273, and from RiteSong. All other music used in this service is in the Public Domain

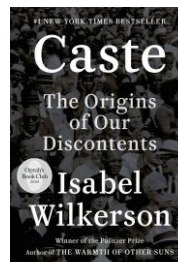


Book Group Sponsored by Diocesan Racial Justice Commission

The Racial Justice Commission of our diocese will launch its racial justice book group with a reading of *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* by Isabel Wilkerson. The group will read the book in sections and meet four times to discuss it: May 4, May 18, June 1, and June 15.

All sessions will meet on Zoom from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. You may register at this web address:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/gL2_gePdRD_Wfvld5dVE2ZA



Marianne Cannon has registered for this group; if you have questions, please reach out to her at: ctcannon.aprn@gmail.com



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@gracechurchsaalem.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!

~ Katie Scott, Treasurer



**GIVE
TODAY**





Kourtni Patten will be ordained to the transitional diaconate on Saturday, May 30 at 10:30 a.m. at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston.

For Kourtni, this is the culmination of years of discernment, preparation, and prayer. Everyone is invited to attend her ordination as she continues growing into the ministry to which God has called her.

On Sunday, May 31, we will have the joy of welcoming Kourtni to serve as a deacon that day at Grace, her sponsoring parish.





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



Grace Episcopal Church
385 Essex Street, Salem MA
www.gracechurchsalem.org
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
- 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 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

Grace Episcopal Church



385 Essex Street
Salem, Massachusetts 01970
(978) 744-2796

E-mail: info@gracechurchsalem.org
Web: 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