

# The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany



1 February 2026  
Holy Eucharist: Rite II  
with Birthday Blessing  
10:00 am

## Grace Episcopal Church

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## **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](http://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.

# Holy Eucharist: Rite II

10:00 AM

## The Opening Rite

### Prelude

Werde munter, mein Gemüte

*Johann Sebastian Bach*

### Hymn at the Procession

Blest are the pure in heart

*The Hymnal 1982, #656*

*Franconia*

### Opening Acclamation

*The Book of Common Prayer, page 355*

### The Collect for Purity

*The Book of Common Prayer, page 355*

### Song of Praise

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers

*The Hymnal 1982, S236*

*John Rutter*

### The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## The Word of the Lord

**The Lessons** (*The people sit*)

### The First Lesson

**Micah 6:1-8**

Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. "O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to

Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.” “With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with tens of thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

*Lector*     The Word of the Lord.

*People*     Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 15

Charles Villiers Stanford



1 LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? \*  
who may abide upon your holy hill?

2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, \*  
who speaks the truth from his heart.

3 There is no guile upon his tongue;  
he does no evil to his friend; \*  
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.

4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, \*  
but he honors those who fear the LORD.

5 He has sworn to do no wrong \*  
and does not take back his word.

6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, \*  
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.

†7 Whoever does these things \*  
shall never be overthrown.

## The Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

*Lector*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      Thanks be to God.

## The Sequence Hymn

What does the Lord require

*The Hymnal 1982, #605*

*Sharpthorne*

## The Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

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

*People*      Glory to you, Lord Christ

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak,

and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

*Gospeller* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## **The Sermon**

The Reverend Sarah A. Conner

## **The Nicene Creed**

*The Book of Common Prayer, page 358*

## **The Prayers of the People: Form III**

*BCP, page 387*

## **The Confession and Absolution**

*BCP, page 360*

## **The Birthday Prayer**

*Those celebrating birthdays in the month of February 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**

# The Holy Communion

## The Offertory Anthem

*Carson P. Cooman*

Prayer of Julian of Norwich

*God of your goodness, give yourself to me.*

*For you are enough for me:*

*Only in you do I have everything. Amen.*

## The Hymn at the Presentation

*The Hymnal 1982, #508*

Breathe on me, Breath of God

*Nova Vita*

## The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B

*BCP, page 367*

## Sanctus

*The Hymnal 1982, S114*

Holy, holy, holy

*Healey Willan*

## The Lord's Prayer

*BCP, page 364*

## The Fraction Anthem

*The Hymnal 1982, S158*

O Lamb of God

*Healey Willan*

## Communion

*All present are invited to reverently receive the Holy Sacrament*

## Hymn at Communion

*The Hymnal 1982, #325*

Let us break bread together on our knees

*Let Us Break Bread*

## Postcommunion Prayer

*BCP, page 365*

## Postcommunion Hymn

*The Hymnal 1982, #522*

Glorious things of thee are spoken

*Austria*

## Blessing and Dismissal

## Postlude

Psalm XIX

*Benedetto Marcello*

## — Worship Leaders —

The Reverend Sarah A. Conner  
Joanne Moar  
Gavin Watson-Bertrand  
Wes Utsler  
Joanne Moar  
Peggy Carter and Jason Barnes

*Presider and Preacher*  
*Verger*  
*Acolyte*  
*Lector*  
*Chalicer*  
*Ushers*

### **Our Prayers are offered for**

Linda Abbene, Mickey, 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](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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## WARRANT FOR PARISH MEETING

The **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF GRACE CHURCH IN SALEM** will be called to order on **Sunday, February 1, 2026 at 5:00 pm** for the following purposes:

- To receive the annual reports of the Parish.
- To present a budget for 2026.
- To elect the following officers of the Parish:

Two Wardens (1 year)

Two Vestry persons (3 years)

Treasurer (1 year)

Clerk (1 year)

2 Delegates of Convention (1 year)

1 Alternate Delegate to Convention (1 year)

Up to 5 Delegates to North Shore Deanery (1 year)

- To consider ways to live into our mission.

Everyone is invited to the meeting. Only members will be allowed to vote. A member is anyone who regularly attends Sunday worship, financially supports the parish through a pledge and participates in the life of the community. Everyone present, however, is welcome to participate in the discussion.

*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.*

*Please join us in our mission.*

## Epiphany Gifts for Our Neighbors

Our church school children recognize that gifts appear in many different ways. Please help us collect any of the following items during the Epiphany season, to be given in love to our neighbors who are in great need, with the intention of giving the gift of comfort and joy.



Please bring any of these suggested gifts to church during Epiphany; they will then be donated to Lifebridge. The collection will conclude on Sunday, February 15th .

~ Melissa Barnes

- Bar Soap
- Personal Wipes
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Toothbrush covers
- Dental floss
- Hand cream
- Chapstick
- Gloves
- Hats
- Rain Ponchos
- New socks
- New underwear
- Packets of Tuna
- Packets of Chicken
- Protein bars
- Fruit cups in juice
- Individual PB servings

## UPCOMING — Events

### Annual Meeting

with Chili Cookoff

TONIGHT at 5:00 p.m.

Abbot Hall




REPORT




## Antiracism Team Forum February 15th

A regular monthly antiracism forum will be held this year, with the theme of building a beloved community. **Our second forum will be offered on Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup>** following the Celtic service.

SAVE THE DATES FOR  
*Lenten Learning*  
*Details to come!*



JOURNEYING WITH THE MYSTICS




Five Thursdays starting February 26th  
In-person at Grace from 7:00p.m.–8:00 p.m.

Cliff Cutler will lead an exploration of the mystics to enhance each participant's capacity for their own spirituality, and to awaken wonder in daily life.

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EPISCOPAL 101



Four Tuesdays starting February 24th  
On Zoom from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
(with one in-person session after each service on Sunday, March 22nd )

Sarah Conner will lead an introduction to the Episcopal Church for those who are new to it or want to learn more. The class will also prepare adults for baptism, confirmation, or reception into the Episcopal Church.

Please let Sarah know in advance if you'd like to participate.

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## — 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

Katie Scott

Javy Awan, Marianne Cannon, Kai Freyleue,

Joanne Moar, Susan Tweed, Holly Willis

*Senior Warden*

*Junior Warden*

*Clerk*

*Treasurer*

*Members of Vestry*