

# GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH



*The Sixth Sunday of Easter*  
*~ Rogation Sunday*

May 14, 2023

Service Program for the 10:30 a.m. Sung Mass  
Re-valuing the Lost Message of Rogation Days  
Bulletin Insert from the Episcopal Church  
*Grace Notes*  
*This Week at Grace*

pp. 3-17  
pp. 18-19  
p. 20  
p. 21  
p. 22



## Grace Episcopal Church

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**W**E are a diverse community united by our commitment to Jesus Christ and our desire to live the Christian life. Our prayers and the Sacraments help us find Christ in church and in the world. Seeing Christ in each other and in the faces of strangers, we are inspired to reach out in love and service.

The Rev. Rowena J. Kemp, *Rector*

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The Rev. Canon Robert G. Carroon, *Associate Priest*

The Rev. Canon Annika Warren, *Associate Priest*

The Rev. Joseph L. Pace, *Associate Priest*

Mr. Chuck Sharp, *Vocational Deacon Intern*

Mr. Kyle Swann, *Choirmaster and Organist*

The Vestry

Douglas Bowman, *Senior Warden*; Thomas Phillips, *Junior Warden*

Katharine Rovetti, *Parish Clerk*

Mark Lacedonia, *Treasurer*; Barbara Galbreath, *Assistant Treasurer*

Adrienne Brown, Josephine Dominguez, Pamela Glasner,

Claudia Gwardyak, Nadia Holmes, Sandra Morgan



**W**ELCOME to all who are joining with us virtually as we celebrate *THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER*. We hope you feel at home with us and that you find the love, peace, inspiration, and strength to meet the challenges of your daily life.

We hope that you will take part in our worship by making the Peoples' responses as indicated and joining in the hymn-singing.

If you would like more information about Grace Church, or the Episcopal Church, please communicate with our Rector, The Rev. Rowena Kemp, or make an appointment with her to discuss any questions you have.

# GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## *The Sixth Sunday of Easter ~ Rogation Sunday*

May 14, 2023

Sung Mass, 10:30 A.M.

Propers of Year A

The Rev. Dr. Marcus Halley ~ *Trinity College Chaplain, Celebrant*

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Mass Setting: *Communion Service in E major*

Leo Sowerby (d. 1968)

*This setting of the Ordinary of the Mass will be sung by the choir.*

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Voluntary: A Song of Sunshine

Alfred Hollins (d. 1942)

### The Asperges

*During the Easter Season, we begin each Sunday High Mass  
with the sprinkling of the congregants with Holy Water as a reminder of our Baptism.*

Vidi aquam (*choir*)

Tomás Luis de Victoria (d. 1611)

VIDI AQUAM egredientem de templo, a latere dextro, alleluia. Et omnes, ad quos  
pervenit aqua ista, salvi facti sunt, et dicent, alleluia, alleluia.

[I saw water proceeding out of the temple, from the right side thereof, alleluia. And all,  
whithersoever the waters shall come, shall be healed, and shall say, alleluia, alleluia.]

*Celebrant:* O Lord, show thy mercy upon us. Alleluia.

*People:* And grant us thy salvation. Alleluia.

*Celebrant:* O Lord, hear my prayer.

*People:* And let my cry come unto thee.

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* And with thy spirit.

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

GRACIOUSLY hear us, O Lord, holy Father, Almighty, everlasting God: and vouchsafe  
to send thy Angel from heaven to guard, cherish, protect, visit, and defend all who are  
assembled in this thy holy temple: through Jesus Christ our Saviour. *Amen.*

### The Liturgy of the Word

Opening Acclamation

*Celebrant:* Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

Collect for Purity

ALMIGHTY GOD, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets  
are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may  
perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Introit (*choir*) *Vocem jocunditatis*

Mode III

WITH a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, alleluia: utter it even  
unto the ends of the earth: the Lord hath delivered his people, alleluia, alleluia.

Summary of the Law

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

THOU shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy  
mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: thou shalt  
love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

KYRIE ELEISON. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

[Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.]

Gloria in excelsis (*choir*)

L. Sowerby

GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH, and on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* And with thy spirit.

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

O GOD, who hast prepared for those who love thee such good things as pass man's understanding: Pour into our hearts such love toward thee, that we, loving thee in all things and above all things, may obtain thy promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson: The Acts of the Apostles 17: 22-31 [NRSV]

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

PAUL stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and



the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him — though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.' Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given

assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

The Word of the Lord.

*Congregation's Response:* Thanks be to God.



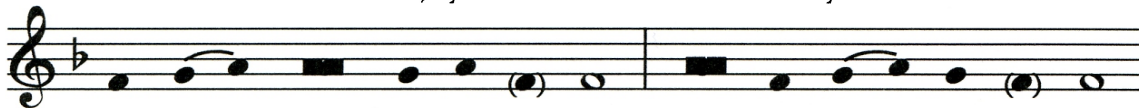
The Gradual: Psalm 66

*Jubilate Deo*

Tone VI

*(Congregation sings the italicized verses.)*

*Antiphon: Cantor first, then all*



- 7 O PRAISE our God | ye peoples,  
*\* and make the voice of / his praise to be ^ heard.*
- 8 *Who holdeth our soul / in life;*  
*\* and suffereth / not our feet to ^ slip.*
- 9 For thou O God | hast prov-ed ^ us;  
*\* thou also hast tried us like as | silver is tried.*
- 10 *Thou broughtest us / into the ^ snare;*  
*\* and laidest trouble / upon our loins.*
- 11 Thou sufferedst men to ride o- | ver our heads;  
*\* we went through fire and water,*  
 and thou broughtest us out in- | to ä wealthy ^ place.
- 12 *I will go into thine house with burnt-offerings, and will pay / thee my vows,*  
*\* which I promised with my lips, and spake with my mouth,*  
*when I / was in trouble.*
- 13 I will offer unto thee fat burnt-sacrifices, with the in- | cense of rams;  
*\* I will offer | bullocks and goats.*
- 14 *O come hither, and hearken, all ye / that fear God;*  
*\* and I will tell you what he hath / done for my soul.*
- 15 I called unto him | with my mouth,  
*\* and gave him | praises with my ^ tongue.*
- 16 *If I incline unto wickedness / with mine heart,*  
*\* the Lord / will not hear me.*
- 17 But God | hath heard me;  
*\* and considered the | voice of my prayer.*
- 18 *Praised be God, who hath not cast out / my pray'r,*  
*\* nor turned his / mercy from me.*

*[All repeat antiphon.]*

The Epistle: I Peter 3: 13-22 [NRSV]

A reading from the First Letter of Peter.

**N**OW who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you — not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.



The Word of the Lord.

People's Response: Thanks be to God.

The Alleluia *Surrexit Christus*

Tone VI

Cantor:  Al- le- lu- ia.

People:  Al- le- lu- ia.

Choir: Christ is risen, and hath shewed light unto us: whom he hath redeemed with his most precious Blood.

People:  Al- le- lu- ia.

Choir: I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world and go to the Father.

People:  Al- le- lu- ia.

The Holy Gospel: St. John 14: 15-21 [RSV]

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John.

People: ✠ Glory be to thee, O Lord.

“IF YOU LOVE ME, you will keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he will give you another Counselor, to be with you for ever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him; you know him, for he dwells with you, and will be in you.

“I will not leave you desolate; I will come to you. Yet a little while, and the world will see me no more, but you will see me; because I live, you will live also. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. He who has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me; and he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation's Response: Praise be to thee, O Christ.



Jesus saying farewell to his eleven remaining disciples, from the Maesta by Duccio, 1308-1311

The Sermon

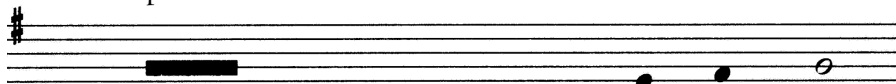
Mr. Aldon Hynes

The Nicene Creed (*sung by all*)

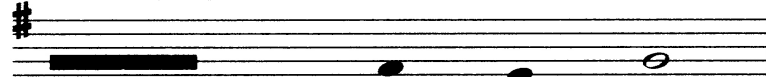
I be- lieve in one God, the Fa- ther Al- might-y, Ma- ker of hea- ven and earth;  
and of all things vi- si- ble and in- vi- si- ble; and in one Lord Je- sus Christ,  
the on- ly- be- got- ten Son of God, be- got- ten of his Fa- ther be- fore all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light, ve-ry God of ve-ry God, be- got- ten, not made,  
 be- ing of one sub- stance with the Fa- ther; by whom all things were made;  
 who for us men and for our sal- va- tion came down from hea- ven,  
 (stand) and was cru- ci- fi- ed al- so for us un- der Pon- tius Pi- late;  
 he suf- fer- ed and was bu- ri- ed; and the third day he rose a- gain  
 ac- cor- ding to the Scrip- tures, and as- cend- ed in- to hea- ven, and sit- teth on the  
 right hand of the Fa- ther; and he shall come a- gain, with glo- ry, to judge both  
 the quick and the dead; whose king- dom shall have no end. And I be- lieve in the  
 Ho- ly Ghost the Lord, and Gi- ver of Life, who pro- ceed- eth from the Fa- ther and the Son;  
 who with the Fa- ther and the Son to- ge- ther is wor- shipp'd and glo- ri- fi- ed;  
 who spake by the Pro- phets. And I be- lieve one ho- ly Cath- o- lic and A- po- sto-  
 lic Church; I ac- know- ledge one Bap- tism for the re- mis- sion of sins: and I look for  
 the re- sur- rec- tion of the dead, \* and the life of the world to come. A - - - men.

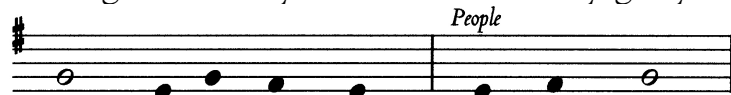




Leader: Let us pray for the Church and | for the world.



Grant almighty God, that all who confess thy Name may be united in thy truth, live together in thy love, and reveal thy glory / in the world. *(Silence)*



Lord, in thy mer - cy *People* hear our prayer. *(Sung after every intercession)*

Leader: Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the / common good. *(Silence)*  
Lord, in thy mercy *People: hear our prayer.*

Leader: Give us all a reverence for the earth as thine own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to thy hon-/or and glory. *(Silence)*  
Lord, in thy mercy *People: hear our prayer.*

Leader: Watch over thy children *Steven, Bethany & Heather*, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days / of their lives. *(Silence)*  
Lord, in thy mercy *People: hear our prayer.*

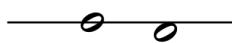
Leader: We pray for an increase in the membership of this parish; that we may have the hands and hearts to carry / out thy will. *(Silence)*  
Lord, in thy mercy *People: hear our prayer.*

Leader: We commend to thy gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad [*especially N.*]. Defend them day by day with thy heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of thine abiding presence wherever / they may be. *(Silence)*  
Lord, in thy mercy *People: hear our prayer.*

Leader: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit (*pause*); give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of / thy salvation. *(Silence)*  
Lord, in thy mercy *People: hear our prayer.*

Leader: We commend to thy mercy all who have died, that thy will for them may be fulfilled (*pause*); and we pray that we may share with all thy saints in thine e-/ternal kingdom. *(Silence)*  
Lord, in thy mercy *People: hear our prayer.*

*Celebrant:* Lord, hear the prayers of thy people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *People*



A-men.



The Peace

*Celebrant:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People:* And with thy spirit.

*The Ministers and People greet one another in the Name of the Lord.*



## The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

*Celebrant:* Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good thy vows unto the Most High. *Psalm 50: 14*

Offertory (*choir*) *Benedicite gentes*

Mode II

**O** bless the Lord our God, all ye his peoples, and make the voice of his praise to be heard. It is the Lord who holdeth our souls in life, and who suffereth not our feet to slip. Blessed be the Lord our God, who hath not rejected the voice of my prayer, and who hath not withheld his mercy from me, alleluia.

Anthem (*choir*)

Martin Shaw, 1923

**W**ITH a voice of singing declare ye this and let it be heard, alleluia; utter it even unto the ends of the earth: The Lord hath delivered his people, alleluia. O be joyful in God, all ye lands, O sing praises to the honour of his name, make his praise to be glorious.

Presentation of the alms and oblations (*All stand.*)

*Celebrant:* All things come of thee, O Lord,

*People:* And of thine own have we given thee.

Orate

*Celebrant:* Pray that this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving may be acceptable to God the Father Almighty.

*People:* May the Lord receive this sacrifice at thy hands, to the praise and glory of his holy Name, both to our benefit and that of all his holy Church.

Sursum corda

*Celebrant* *People*  
The Lord be with you. And with thy spi- rit.

*Celebrant* *People*  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them up un-to the Lord.

*Celebrant*  
Let us give thanks un- to our Lord God.

*People*  
It is meet and right so to do.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant says,

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

**B**UT chiefly are we bound to praise thee for the glorious resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world; who by his death hath destroyed death and by his rising to life again hath won for us everlasting life:

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,



Sanctus and Benedictus (*choir*)

L. Sowerby

**H**OLY, HOLY, HOLY, Lord God of hosts, Heaven and earth are full of thy glory: Glory be to thee, O Lord most High. ✠ Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

The Consecration

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

ALL glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ✠

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me." ✠

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, ✠ be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

BY whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

*People*

—●—○—○—+  
A- men.

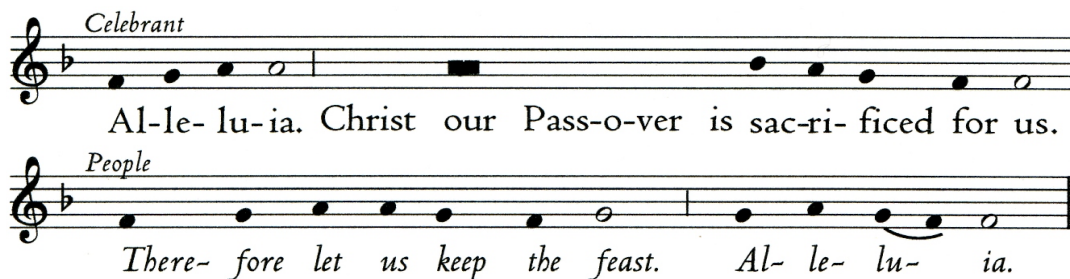
The Lord's Prayer (*sung by all*)

*Celebrant:* And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,



Our Fa-ther, who art in hea-ven, hal-low-ed be thy Name,  
thy king-dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in hea-ven.  
Give us this day our dai-ly bread. And for-give us our tres-pas-ses,  
as we for-give those who tres-pass a-gainst us. And lead us not in-to  
temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us from e-vil. For thine is the king-dom,  
and the power, and the glo-ry, for ev-er and ev-er. A-men.

The Fraction



*Celebrant*  
Al-le-lu-ia. Christ our Pass-o-ver is sac-ri-ficed for us.  
*People*  
There-fore let us keep the feast. Al-le-lu-ia.



Agnus Dei (*choir*)

L. Sowerby

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Prayer of Humble Access (*said by all*)

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

WE do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Invitation to Communion

*Celebrant:* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*People:* Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof; but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.

Communion (*choir*) *Non vos relinquam*

Mode V

I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you again, alleluia: and your heart will rejoice, alleluia, alleluia.

Prayer of Spiritual Communion (*said by those worshipping virtually*)

*IN UNION, O Dear Lord, with the faithful at every Altar of Thy Church, where Thy blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to offer Thee praise and thanksgiving. I present to Thee my soul and body, with the earnest wish that I may ever be united to Thee. And since I cannot now receive Thee sacramentally, I beseech Thee to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to Thee, and embrace Thee with all the affections of my soul. O let nothing ever separate me from Thee. Let me live and die in Thy love. Amen.*



Hymn 323

“Bread of heaven, on thee we feed”

*Jesu, Jesu, du mein Hirt*

1 Bread of heaven, on thee we feed, for thy Flesh is  
2 Vine of heaven, thy Blood sup-plies this blest cup of  
meat in-deed; ev-er may our souls be fed give,  
sac-ri-fice; Lord, thy wounds our heal-ing give,  
with this true and liv-ing Bread; day by day with  
to thy cross we look and live: Je-sus, may we  
strength sup-plied, through the life of him who died.  
ev-er be graft-ed, root-ed, built in thee.

Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

*People:* Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these Holy Mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical Body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Regina Coeli (*choir*)

Giuseppe Antonio Bernabei (d. 1732)

**R**EGINA coeli laetare, alleluia: Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia, Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia: Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.

[Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia. For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia, has risen, as he said, alleluia. Pray for us to God, alleluia.]

The Easter Blessing

**M**AY Almighty God, who hath redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. *Amen.*

May God, who through the water of baptism hath raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. *Amen.*

May God, who hath brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. *Amen.*

**A**ND the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

The Dismissal

*Deacon:* Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

*The People respond:* Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Last Gospel

St. John I: I-14

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* And with thy spirit.

*Celebrant:* The Beginning of the holy Gospel according to John.

*People:* Glory be to thee, O Lord.

**I**N the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him: and without Him was not anything made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men: and the light shineth in the darkness, and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that light, but was sent to bear witness of that light. That was the true light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. (*Here genuflect*) And the Word was made flesh, (*Here rise*) and dwelt among us: and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the Only-begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

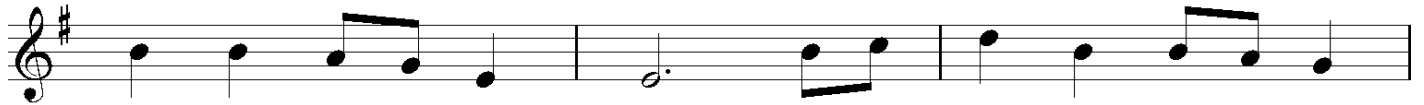
*If the weather is fair, we will process to the church garden for the Rogationtide Liturgy, singing the following hymn.*



1 O Je - sus, crowned with all re - nown, since thou the earth hast  
 2 Lord, in their change, let frost and heat, and winds and dews be  
 3 that we may feed the poor a - right, and, gath - ering round thy



trod, thou reign - est and by thee come down hence -  
 given; all fos - tering power, all in - fluence sweet, breathe  
 throne, here, in the ho - ly an - gels' sight, re -



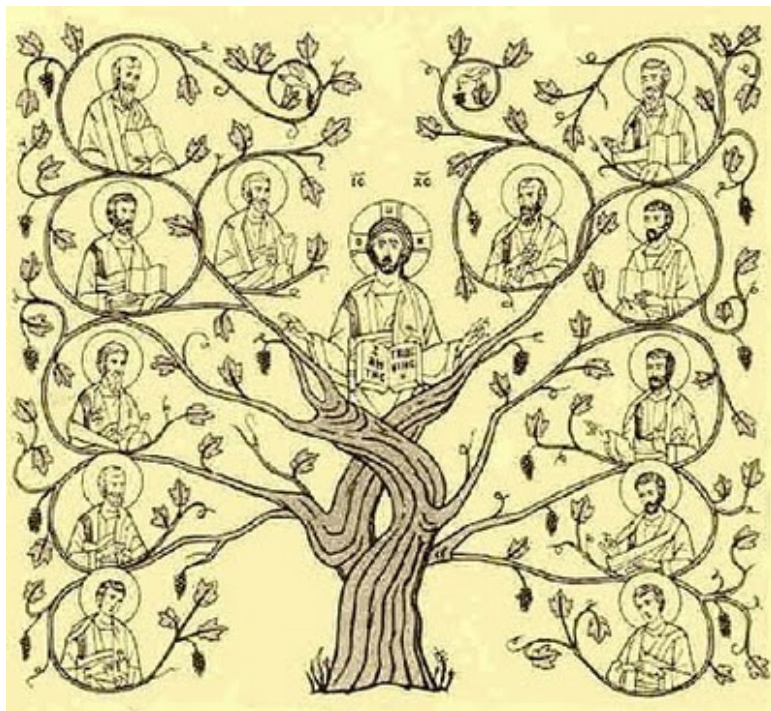
forth the gifts of God. Thine is the health and  
 from the bount - eous heaven. At - tem - per fair with  
 pay thee of thine own: That we may praise thee



thine the wealth that in our halls a - bound, and  
 gen - tle air the sun - shine and the rain, that  
 all our days, and with the Fa - ther's Name, and

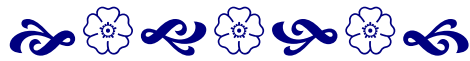


thine the beau - ty and the joy with which the years are crowned.  
 kind - ly earth with time - ly birth may yield her fruits a - gain:  
 with the Ho - ly Spi - rit's gifts, the Sa - vior's love pro - claim.





## The Rogationtide Liturgy



The Lesson: Matthew 6: 25-34 [NRSV]

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you — you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.”

The Collects

O gracious Father, who openest thine hand and fillest all things living with thy plenteousness: Bless the lands and waters, and multiply the harvests of the world; let thy Spirit go forth, that it may renew the face of the earth; show thy loving-kindness, that our land may give her increase; and save us from selfish use of what thou givest, that men and women everywhere may give thee thanks; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Almighty God, who hast made all thy children to be one family in thee, so that what concerns any must concern all, we ask thy help for all who are in hunger and in need. Grant to them comfort and courage in their suffering; grant to us compassion and the willingness to sacrifice for their relief; that together we may build a new and better order on this earth, for the blessing of thy people and the glory of thy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Blessing of the Garden

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, Creator of all things and giver of all life: Let thy blessing be upon this garden, and grant that it may serve to thy glory and the welfare of thy people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Litany for Rogationtide (*people's part in italics*)

THAT it may please thee to grant favorable weather, temperate rain, and fruitful seasons, that there may be food and drink for all thy creatures, *we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to bless the lands and waters, and all who work upon them to bring forth food and all things needful for thy people, *we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to look with favor upon all who care for the earth, the water, and the air, that the riches of thy creation may abound from age to age, *we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

Let us pray. O merciful Creator, whose hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us, we beseech thee, ever thankful for thy loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of thy bounty; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

# Re-valuing the Lost Message of Rogation Days

(from Trinity Episcopal Church, Rutland, Vermont)



“Beating the bounds:” Rogationtide Procession.

From the very beginning of faith and worship, people have offered thanks, praise and prayers of request and intercession for the fruits of the earth. Celebrations and rituals were established to recall us to our dependence upon the bounties of the earth. These celebrations remind us of our duties as stewards and caretakers of God’s creation and caution against willful negligence and careless destruction of our only source of sustenance. Our celebration of Rogation Days is one such rite and begins this Sunday, the sixth after Easter. The word “Rogation” is from the same Latin root as “interrogate” and means “to ask.” Rogation Days — the four days before Ascension Day — are days to ask God to bless the fruits of the earth by which we subsist. [In the autumn, Rogation Days of planting and sowing are mirrored by the Ember Days of harvesting and reaping.]

While Rogation Days rituals are among the oldest in our tradition, hearkening back to the Sarum Rite of the 5<sup>th</sup> century, they are merely given a passing nod in today’s worship. As society moved from an agrarian one to becoming more and more industrialized, the rituals pertaining to localized farming and plantations grew less and less pertinent. By the 1979 Book of Common Prayer, Rogation Days rites and lectionary had been relegated to “occasional services” to be used at the discretion of the parish priest. To be fair, the developers of our current prayer book have included many more prayers and thanksgivings for the natural order that speak to our more global understanding of God’s creation and our roles as stewards.

In fact, the ancient lectionary for Rogation Sunday had evolved out of the instruction for the newly baptized. The Epistle of James focuses on the correct disposition one needs to hear the Word and the expectation of doing the works of God. It was the collect which connected the care and preservation of the fruits of the earth to the expected behaviors of the newly baptized: “O Lord, from whom all good things do come; grant to us, your humble servants that by your Holy inspiration we may think those things that are good, and by your merciful guiding may perform the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.” The Gospel from John is one that Jesus forewarns of his departure and that the Holy Spirit will come upon them. So ultimately the message of the lectionary is that now that we have received the learning, we are to listen, think and do. Through us, God is working His purpose out.

We no longer use the ancient lectionary for Rogation Sunday. Neither do we use the Rogation Days lectionary during the daily offices. But vestiges of the ancient rite remain in some of the hymns we use that are designated for those four days. Hymn 534 in The Hymnal 1982 is called “Purpose” and is the setting for the text by Arthur Ainger. The text was written for the boys of Eton College, where Ainger was a popular schoolmaster, and subtly connects the ancient Rogation lectionary of becoming messengers of God to the even more ancient rites of asking for God’s blessings of earthly produce. This is especially evident in the last stanza:

All we can do is nothing worth,  
Unless God blesses the deed;  
Vainly we hope for the harvest-tide,  
Till God gives life to the seed;  
Yet nearer and nearer draws the time,  
The time that shall surely be,  
When the earth shall be filled with the glory of God  
As the waters cover the sea.

A hymn text by Edward White Benson set to the Vaughan Williams adaptation of the folk tune “Kingsfold” is another hymn specifically denoted for Rogation Days. The first stanza of hymn paraphrases the preamble of the collect: “thou reignest and by thee come down henceforth the gifts of God.” Yet this hymn addresses more specifically the spirit of “Rogation” in petitioning God for a bountiful crop — the better to do God’s work!

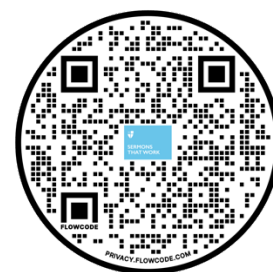
As you progress through the days to Ascension Day next Thursday, take a moment or two to remember the past traditions of Rogation Days and consider the future and our roles in the husbandry of God’s bountiful creation with the following collects:

MONDAY — Almighty God, Lord of heaven and earth: We humbly pray that your gracious providence may give and preserve to our use the harvests of the land and of the seas, and may prosper all who labor to gather them, that we, who are constantly receiving good things from your hand, may always give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

TUESDAY — Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ in his earthly life shared our toil and hallowed our labor: Be present with your people where they work; make those who carry on the industries and commerce of this land responsive to your will; and give us all a pride in what we do, and a just return for our labor; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

WEDNESDAY — O Merciful Creator, whose hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your bounty; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

This Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 6 p.m.  
SOLEMN HIGH MASS for the FEAST OF THE ASCENSION



**May 14, 2023 – Easter 6 (A)**  
**Week 6: Reflections on the Resurrection**

*During the Easter season, Sermons That Work is pleased to present reflections from some of the newest bishops of The Episcopal Church on the resurrection of our Lord. Check back each week for a brief exploration of how Jesus Christ's rising from the grave changes everything. To listen to this reflection, scan the QR code on this page and subscribe to the Sermons That Work podcast.*

Being a Christian is believing in the Resurrection of Christ, which ends up being the center of faith and hope for everyone who believes in Jesus. Christ, upon coming back to life as the firstborn among the dead, reveals to us that our God in Jesus is the Lord of life and not of death, “He gives death and brings life, he brings down to Sheol and raises up” 1 Samuel 2:6.

It is in the paschal experience of his apostles, whom he himself called, with whom this beautiful experience begins, in extraordinary events such as the empty tomb, the appearances of the Risen One “And he appeared for many days,” Acts. 13:31, where certainly it is He himself who manifests himself, the Jesus of Nazareth, since the apostles recognize him, see him, and touch him, eat with him, his presence is real and not like that of a ghost.

It seems that it is to them that these first manifestations of his Resurrection were reserved and not to all the others, that not even the same guards of the tomb who, terrified by the mysterious theophany, would not recognize him. It is to whom He called, his witnesses, his disciples.

It could be said that unlike the event of passion and death where the people and their own followers end up being only distant spectators of such painful events; while in the Resurrection his closest followers become living and very close actors of such a great Theophany.

The gospels try to describe it this way, wanting to narrate in the best way when entering this transcendental, ineffable sphere, which for this must return to the same words given by their Lord when he was with them, even to expressions already prepared by the Old Testament.

The experience of Pentecost ends up being the moment of the beginning of preaching, since it is with the action of the Spirit with which the true Resurrection can be preached as the center of life, a necessary experience for every believer.

We ask the Lord himself, the Risen One, to give us the grace to also be his close witnesses of love, that we can also see and experience his glorious manifestation in our own lives and that the Holy Spirit be the one who leads us to remove fears, break the locks of doubt to proclaim it with conviction and courage, like the first disciples; that we be his apostles in modern times, with the same dedication to announce it. That in this Easter feast we see in the God of Christians the God of life, who raises from death since he defeated it and, in his Resurrection, makes us part of a new life.



*The Right Reverend Elías García Cárdenas is Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Colombia.*

# GRACE NOTES

May 14, 2023 *The Sixth Sunday of Easter ~ Rogation Sunday*

## FOR PASTORAL ASSISTANCE

**THE REV. ROWENA KEMP** welcomes hearing from you. Please don't hesitate to contact her if there's something you'd like to discuss. Please contact her immediately should there be an illness, hospitalization, or any other pastoral emergency that he should know about. For such emergencies, please note Rev. Rowena's cell phone number: 203-209-4178.

## PEOPLE AND PLACES TO KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

***A reminder: Tori Burns manages this list for us, and prayer requests need to be renewed after 2 weeks. Please communicate all prayer requests & updates with her (860-539-8790); (tburns@gracehartford.org).***

- *Bishops and Clergy:* Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, Presiding Bishop; Jeffrey and Laura, Bishops of ECCT; Rowena, Jerry, Annika, and Joseph, Marcus, our priests, and Chuck, our Vocational Deacon Intern.
- *Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:* **We pray for an increase in the membership of this parish, that we may have the hands and hearts to carry out thy will;** for the Episcopal Church in CT & the Anglican Communion; St. Thomas', New Haven; Trinity, New Haven; St. James, New London; clergy peer groups and the Clergy Family Assistance Program.
- *Serving Our Country in the Military (especially those associated with Grace Church):* Brian, Lars, Spencer, Bradley, Curtis, Jordan, John, Carrington, William, Noel, James, Ryan, Michael, Karl, Alec, Jeff, David, Tom, Michael, Charles, Warren, and Mike.
- *Thanksgiving and Celebrations:* We give thanks and ask for thy blessings upon Steven Leach (Wed.), and Heather Cohn and Bethany-Anne Bouchard (both on Fri.), whose birthdays we celebrate this week.
- *Sick or in need:* Rowena; Sally; Kanata; Elaine, Tom & Daisy; Nelda Sue; Tom; James; Jerry; Bonnie & the Burns Family; Richard; Errol, Norma & the Kemp Family; Stephen & Ratana; Ellen; Barbara; Nigel, Kraig & Deidre; Dick, Leanne, Aldon, Kim & Fiona; Carmen & Félix; Mary; Monica; Antoinette; Linda & the Galarza Family; Josephine, Melissa & Jaden; Mike, André & Maria; Brad; Debbie; Melissa; Margaret; Judy; Peter; Doug; Jane; Bill, Carolyn & Susan; Laurie; Dave; Robert; Jerome; Lynn; McJohn; Doreen; Karen; Terra; Betty & John; Cheryl; Mary & Lou; Diane; Nazra; Susan & Nalbra; Diana; Donald; Eugenia; Jean; Lesley; for peace throughout the world, especially between Russia and Ukraine and in the Middle East; for Christians being persecuted around the world, particularly in China and Palestine; and all victims of natural and man-made disasters, including those affected by the pandemic.
- *The Deceased:* We pray for the repose of Todd Koppenhaver, all soldiers and civilians killed in war or civil strife, all those who have died from CoVid-19, and in memory of Robert Lyman, Malcolm McAllister, Anne Hiatt, Allyn Hilt, Agnes Carroon, Beatrice Wagner, and Robert Murphy.

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE REV. ROWENA J. KEMP, RECTOR

55 New Park Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106-2123

Church telephone: 860-233-0825 Church fax: 860-233-5082 Rectory telephone: 860-994-5022

Rector's cell phone: 203-209-4178 Rector's email: RevRowena@gracehartford.org

Church e-mail: church@gracehartford.org Website: www.gracehartford.org



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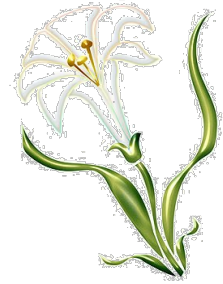
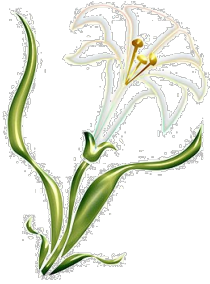


## THIS WEEK AT GRACE

**Sunday, May 14** *The Sixth Sunday of Easter ~ Rogation Sunday*

8:00 a.m.: Low Mass

10:30 a.m.: Solemn High Mass (*also on Facebook Live*)



**Monday, May 15** *Feria*

7:30 a.m.: Facebook Live Morning Prayer

6:00 p.m.: Facebook Live Evening Prayer

**Tuesday, May 16** *Feria*

7:30 a.m.: Facebook Live Morning Prayer

**Wednesday, May 17** *Feria*

9:15 a.m.: Low Mass (*also on Facebook Live*), followed by breakfast at Effie's

6:00 p.m.: Facebook Live Evening Prayer

7:00 p.m.: Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, May 18** *ASCENSION DAY*

8:00 a.m.: Facebook Live Morning Prayer

10:00 a.m.: "A Place of Grace" food pantry distribution

6:00 p.m.: SOLEMN HIGH MASS for the FEAST OF THE ASCENSION (*also on Facebook Live*)

**Sunday, May 21** *The Seventh Sunday of Easter ~ The Sunday after Ascension Day*

8:00 a.m.: Low Mass

10:30 a.m.: Solemn High Mass (*also on Facebook Live*)



Visit "[Grace Episcopal Church, Hartford CT](#)" on FACEBOOK.



Please join, and help us spread the good news online!

## Come and Celebrate The Feast of the Ascension



Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Solemn High Mass at 6:00 p.m.