grace episcopal church



The First Sunday after Pentecost ~ Trinity Sunday

June 4, 2023

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Grace Episcopal Church

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/GECHartford

WE 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*Cell phone: 203-209-4178 Church office: 860-233-0825
Email: RevRowena@gracehartford.org

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 Adrianne Brown, Josephine Dominguez, Pamela Glasner, Claudia Gwardyak, Nadia Holmes, Sandra Morgan

ELCOME to all who are joining with us virtually as we celebrate *TRINITY* SUNDAY. 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

TRINITY SUNDAY

June 4, 2023

Solemn High Mass, 10:30 A.M.

Propers of Year A

Mass Setting: Mass for Three Voices

William Byrd (d. 1623)

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

~~~~~~~~~~~

Voluntary: "Wir glauben all' an einen Gott" (Credo, from German Organ Mass)

Johann Sebastian Bach (d. 1750)

### The Liturgy of the Word

Introit (choir) Benedicta sit

Mode VIII

[Antiphon] Blessed be the Holy Trinity, and the undivided Unity: we will praise and glorify him, in the presence of the living, for he hath shewed his mercy upon us. [Psalm] O Lord our Governor, how exalted is thy Name in all the world! Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. [Repeat antiphon.]

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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*.

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 (choir) W. Byrd

KYRIE eleison. Christ eleison. Kyrie eleison. [Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy]



The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Aconfession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of the Divine Majesty to worship the Unity: We beseech thee that thou wouldest keep us steadfast in this faith and worship, and bring us at last to see thee in thy one and eternal glory, O Father; who with the Son and the Holy Spirit livest and reignest, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* 

The Old Testament Lesson: Genesis I: I — 2: 4a [NRSV]

A reading from the First Book of Moses, commonly called Genesis.

In the BEGINNING when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. God made the two great lights — the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night — and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

THUS the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

The Word of the Lord.

Congregation's Response: Thanks be to God.

Gradual: Canticle 2

Benedictus es, Domine

Tone VIII.I

(Congregation remains seated and sings the italicized verses.)

[Song of the Three Young Men, 29-34]



I BLESSED art thou, O Lord God of our | fathers;

\* praised and exalted above | all for ever.

2 BLESSED art thou for the Name of thy | Majes^ty;

\* praised and exalted above | all for ever.

3 BLESSED art thou in the temple of thy | holi^ness;

\* praised and exalted above | all for ever.

4 BLESSED art thou that beholdest the depths,

and dwellest between the | Cheru^bim;

\* praised and exalted above | all for ever.

5 BLESSED art thou on the glorious throne of thy | kingdom;

\* praised and exalted above | all for ever.

6 BLESSED art thou in the firmament of | heaven;

\* praised and exalted above | all for ever.

7 BLESSED art thou, O Father, Son, and Holy | Spirit;

\* praised and exalted above | all for ever.

The Epistle: 2 Corinthians I3: II-I3 [NRSV]

A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

TINALLY, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

The Word of the Lord.

People's Response: Thanks be to God.

Alleluia Benedictus es, Domine Deus

Tone VI



Choir: Blessed art thou, O Lord God of our fathers: and worthy to be praised for evermore.



The Holy Gospel: St. Matthew 28: 16-20 /RSV/

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

*People:* ▶ Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

Mr. Chuck Sharp, Vocational Deacon Intern





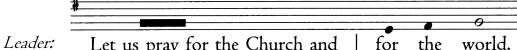


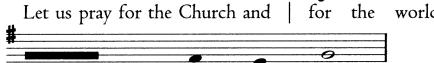




The Prayers of the People

Form IV





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)



hear our prayer. (Sung after every intercession)

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: 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.

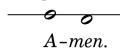
Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit (pause); give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of / thy salvation. (Silence)

Lord, in thy mercy *People: hear our prayer*.

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* 



Confession of Sin and Absolution

Deacon: Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

People: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, ₱ pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

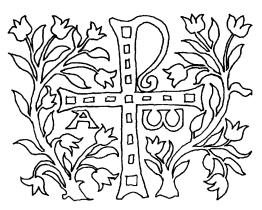
Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew II: 28* God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3: 16* 

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

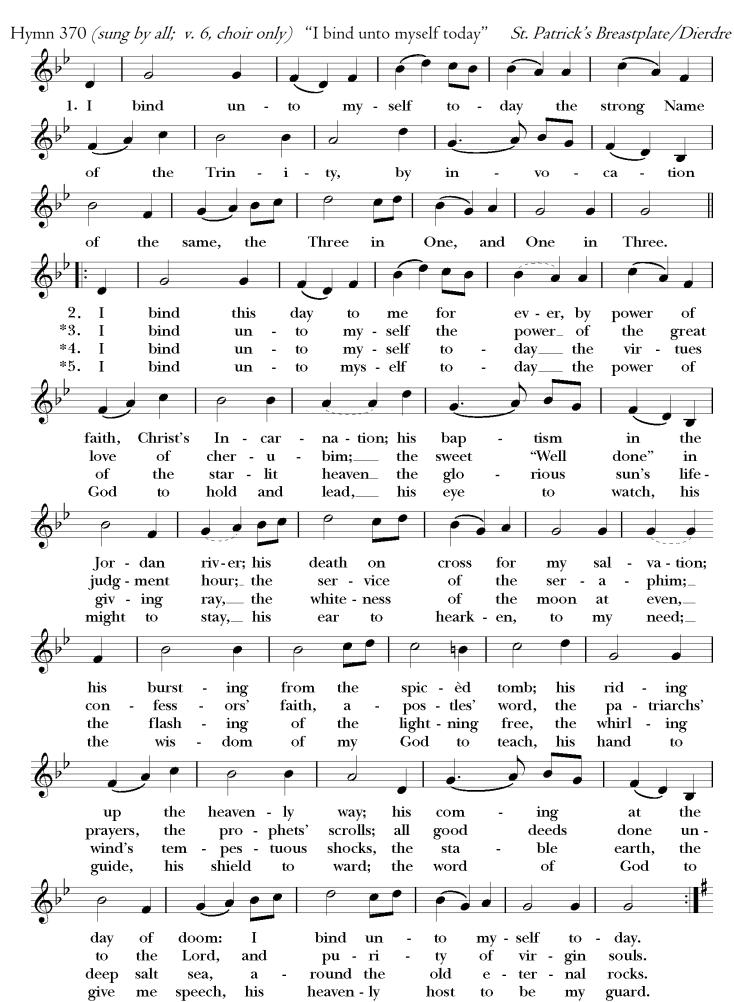
Offertory Sentence

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

Offertory (choir) Benedictus sit

Mode III

 ${
m B}^{
m LESSED}$  be God the Father, and the only begotten Son of God, and blessed be the Holy Spirit, because he hath showed his loving mercy unto us.





Presentation of the alms and oblations (All stand.)

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord,

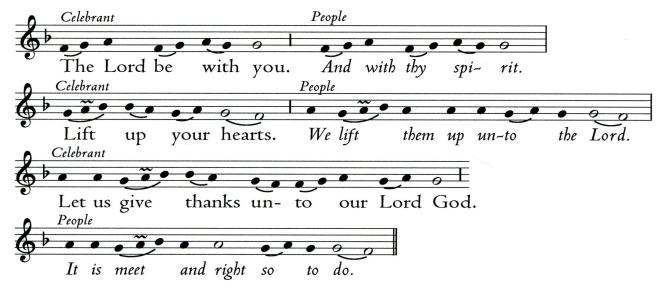
People: And of thine own have we given thee.

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



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.

POR with thy co-eternal Son and the Holy Spirit, thou art one God, one Lord, in Trinity of Persons and in Unity of Substance; and we celebrate the one and equal glory of thee, O Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

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)

W. Byrd

HOLY, 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.

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.

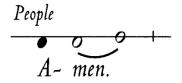
And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance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

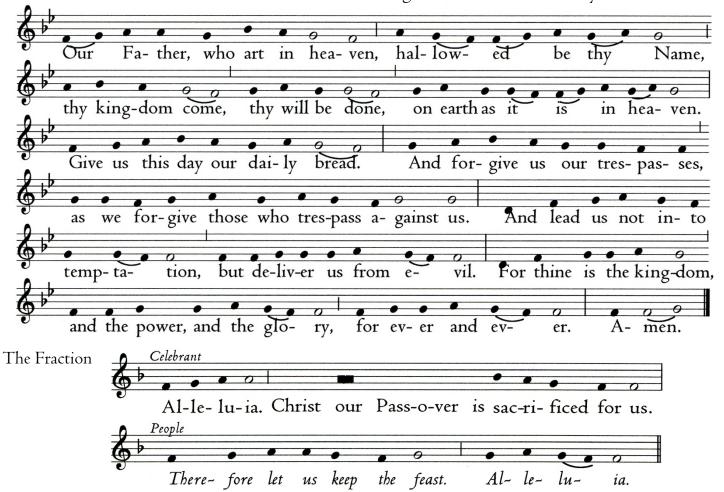
And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

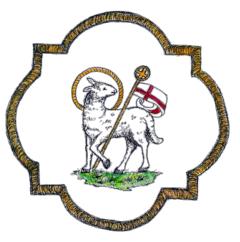
 $B^{\rm Y}$  whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.



The Lord's Prayer (sung by all)

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





Agnus Dei (choir)

W. Byrd

Camb 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 shouldest come under my roof; but speak the

word only, and my soul shall be healed.

Communion (choir) Benedicimus Deum caeli

Mode IV

WE will glorify the God of heaven, and in the presence of all things living we will praise and exalt him, for he hath shown his mercy and loving kindness towards us.

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.



Anthem *(choir)* Leo Sowerby (d. 1968)

ALL hail, adored Trinity, all hail, eternal Unity: O God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, ever One. Behold, O Lord, this festal day we pour to thee our thankful lay: for all thy gifts of priceless worth, the saving health of all the earth. Three Persons praise we evermore, and thee the Eternal One adore: in thy sure mercy ever kind, may we our true protection find. O Trinity, O Unity, be present as we worship thee: and to the Angels' songs in light, our prayers and praises now unite. Amen.

II<sup>th</sup> c. Anglo-Saxon; trans. J. D. Chambers

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.



The Trinity Sunday Blessing

The LORD bless you and keep you. Amen.

The LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you. Amen.

The LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace. Amen.

THE LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, \* Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the holy and undivided Trinity, guard you, save you, and bring you to that heavenly City, where he liveth and reigneth for ever and ever. *Amen.* 

#### The Dismissal

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

The People respond: Thanks be to God.

The Last Gospel St. John 1: I-I4

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.

In 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 Onlybegotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

People: Thanks be to God.



Voluntary: "St. Patrick's Breastplate," from Organ Sonata No. 4 ("Celtica")

Charles Villiers Stanford (d. 1924)

## Deacon Sunday June Prain Deacon Sunday June Pr

## New England Celebrates Control De Episcopal Church a deacon exercises "a special ministry of servanthood" directly under the deacon's bishop,











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serving all people and especially those in need. Deacons Made Meno Meaningful



the needs, concerns, and hopes of the world." (BCP, p. 543)

"Ours is to offer the gift of a new kind

of leadership; one that walks alongside, that is inclusive, that encourages mutuality and interchange between all of God's people, one that affirms the gifts of the stranger, and is excited every time the church's doors open acons wider and her people venture farther."

~ The Rev. Deacon Susanne Watson Epting

conal ministry is at the core of who we as the Jess Movement in our time.

~ Presiding Bishop Michael Curry

Lord Jesus, who came among us as one who serves, after difficultive among us as one who serves, who are o the prestice and great strong to the diaconate for six months stolawear brasouth best who save called to the diaconate as an itelang words and action, proclaim the diaconate as an itelang words and action, proclaim the direction of their bishops and may be assigned to congregations and communities for particular ministries and periods of time.



as journeyed m the mindse mer's time."

sanne Watson E

eacons Do in the World?\_

ns bridge the Church and the y living their ministries outside of s. They may be advocates for ants, troubled teens, or persons melessness. Deacons are social rs, musicians, artists, community 🌉 tal chaplains, lawyers, healt

lled to ordained ministry from the midst of many professions ire and bring others along with them to do likewise.

eacons Do in our Worship? Celebrates our Deagons wer the left urs is to offer the gift of a new kind during

Deacons Make A Meaningful Difference

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the ar for ation nt leaders.

Deacons are members of one of three distinct orders of ordained ministry (with bishops and presbyters). In the Episcopal Church a deacon exercises "a special ministry of servanthood" directly under the deacon's bishop, serving all people and especially those in need.

~ Book of Common Prayer

Lord Jesus, who came among us as one who serves, grant your deacons patience and faithfulness that by our work, the Church may come to understand better the needs of the world and by our proclamation of the Gospel, we may hear your call to serve as you have served us and in words and action, proclaim the Good News. Amen.

~ Saint Augustine's Prayer Book



red to Know More? scopal Province of New artner in a deacon-formation ool for Deacons has five short topical video or parishes, dioceses, and nd share. Here is where to

neo.com/channels/1819337).

### e Diaconate be Calling You?

terest to deacons@province1.org or speak to your local deacon



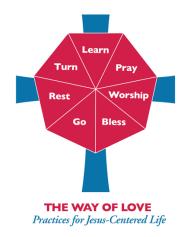
or priest.



#### Explore the Way of Love: LEARN

As humans, we often think of our lives in terms of stories. So much of the input of our senses, what we hear and what we read – and even what we feel – is processed in terms of story. We are the protagonist, the heroine or hero on a journey, pursuing our goal, facing conflict along the way, and each day is another chapter in our story.

When we look to the example of Jesus, we see a life in which God was incorporated in a very real way as part of that story. As we embark on the Way of Love, the practice that leads us in the footsteps of Jesus and those who have followed him for generations, we can invite God into our own stories.



The Way of Love calls us to the practice of learning. As the Psalmist prays, "Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths."

By reading the scriptures, taking time to study, listen, and absorb what they say, we are entering into the long, deep, stream of humankind's experiences with God. By taking time daily to engage with the Scriptures, particularly the stories of the life of Jesus, we move beyond pop culture interpretations and quick one-line verses and immerse ourselves into the character, will, and story of God. And by internalizing what we read—meditating and allowing even the most mysterious words to flow over us and work inside of us—we are allowing God to work in our story, too.

Diving into the Scriptures can be daunting for some. The Bible is not a rulebook or instruction manual to be easily digested and applied on first reading. Instead, it is a library of different experiences with God, written or told by many different people in different places for different reasons over generations of time.

Beginning to understand and know the Scriptures is a lifelong practice, and calls for patience, openness, and a willingness *not* to know every answer. But as we continually study, and discuss with other people who accompany us on our journey, and reflect upon the ideas on the page, sometimes wrestling with them, and sometimes just letting them flow by like a spring breeze, we will grow in understanding, and we will get to know God better, as God becomes more and more intertwined with our own story.

Are you willing to commit to the practice of learning? Are there those around you who can support and join you as you learn?

Learn more about the Way of Love at *episcopalchurch.org/wayoflove*. You can find suggestions on getting started and going deeper with Learning at *iam.ec/ewol*.

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## June 4, 2023 The First Sunday after Pentecost ~ TRINITY 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, 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;
- Christ Church, Norwalk; Iglesia Betania, Stamford; St. Andrew's, Northford; Episcopal Rainbow; TransEpiscopal; Believe Out Loud; LGBTQ+ Episcopalians; and those who serve the LGBTQ+ community.
- 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.
- Sick or in need: Adrianne; Elaine & Tom; James; Jerry; Bonnie & the Burns Family; Richard; Errol, Norma & the Kemp Family; Ellen; Barbara; Nigel, Kraig & Deidre; Dick, Leanne, Aldon, Kim & Fiona; Carmen & Félix; Mary; Monica; Antoinette; Julia, Mike, André & Maria; Linda & the Galarza Family; Josephine, Melissa & Jaden; Brad; Debbie; Melissa; Margaret; Judy; Peter; Doug; Jane; Bill, Carolyn & Susan; Lynn; McJohn; Doreen; Karen; Terra; Kanata; Betty & John; Cheryl; Mary & Lou; Nelda Sue; Nazra; Diane; Mark & Diane; Susan & Nalbra; Diana; Donald; Eugenia; Jean; 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.
- The Deceased: We pray for the repose of all soldiers and civilians killed in war or civil strife, and in memory of Betty Benton, and Barbara Klemmer Nelson.



THE REV. ROWENA J. KEMP, RECTOR 55 New Park Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106-2123

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Rector's cell phone: 203-209-4178 Rector's email: RevRowena@gracehartford.org Church e-mail: church@gracehartford.org Website: www.gracehartford.org





#### THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Sunday, June 4 The First Sunday after Pentecost ~ TRINITY SUNDAY

**8:00 a.m.:** Low Mass

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

Monday, June 5 Boniface, Archbishop of Mainz, Missionary to Germany, and Martyr, 754

**7:30 a.m.**: Facebook Live Morning Prayer **6:00 p.m.**: Facebook Live Evening Prayer

**Tuesday, June 6** 

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

Wednesday, June 7 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, June 8 CORPUS CHRISTI

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

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

Sunday, June 11 The Second Sunday after Pentecost ~ CORPUS CHRISTI

**8:00 a.m.:** Low Mass

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

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Visit "Grace Episcopal Church, Hartford CT" on FACEBOOK.

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



