# GRACE EPISCOPAL Church



*The Second Sunday after Pentecost The Solemnity of Corpus Christi* 

June 11, 2023

Service Program for the 10:30 a.m. Solemn High Mass Bulletin Insert from the Episcopal Church *Grace Notes This Week at Grace* 

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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: <u>RevRowena@gracehartford.org</u>

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* 

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Claudia Gwardyak, Nadia Holmes, Sandra Morgan

**W** ELCOME to all who are joining with us virtually as we celebrate *THE* SOLEMNITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI. 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 Solemnity of Corpus Christi

(transferred from June 8)

June II, 2023

Solemn High Mass, 10:30 A.M.

Mass Setting: Missa Brevis No. 3 in F major This setting of the Ordinary of the Mass will be sung by the choir.

Voluntary: *Le banquet céleste* 

# Entrance Rite and The Liturgy of the Word

Introit (choir) Cibavit eos

Mode II

[Antiphon] He fed them also with the finest wheat flour, alleluia: and with honey from the rock hath he satisfied them, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. /Psalm/O sing merrily unto God our strength: and make a cheerful noise unto the God of Jacob. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. [Repeat antiphon.]

**Opening Acclamation** 

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

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

Collect for Purity

A LMIGHTY GOD, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no Asecrets 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:

**T**HOU shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy I 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)* 

K YRIE eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison. [Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.]

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit. People:

Celebrant: Let us pray.

→RACIOUS FATHER, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be Jthe true Bread which giveth life to the world: Evermore give us this Bread, that he may live in us and we in him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

H. Willan

Olivier Messiaen (d. 1992)

Healey Willan, 1928

Propers of Year A

Old Testament Lesson: Deuteronomy 8: 2-3 /NRSV/

A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy.

OSES said to the people, "Remember the long way that the LORD your God has Led you these forty years in the wilderness, in order to humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commandments. He humbled you by letting you hunger, then by feeding you with manna, with which neither you nor your ancestors were acquainted, in order to make you understand that one does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD."

The Word of the Lord.

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

Gradual: Psalm 34 Benedicam Dominum Tone IV.I (Congregation remains seated and sings the italicized verses.) I I WILL alway give | thanks unto the ^ LORD; \*his praise shall | ever bë in ^ mÿ mouth. 2 My soul shall make her | boast in the LORD; \* the humble shall | hear thereöf and ^ bë glad.  $_{3}O$  | praise the LORD with  $^{n}$  me, \* and let us magni- | fy his Näme to^gëther. 4 I sought the LORD | and he heard me; \* yea he deliver'd me | out of äll mÿ fear. 5 They had an eye unto him | and were lighten^ed; \* and their [ faces were not ^ asham'd. 6 Lo the poor crieth, and / the LORD heareth ^ him; \* yea and saveth him | out of all his ^ troubles. 7 The angel of the LORD tarrieth round about | them that fear him, \* and | delivërëth them. 8 O taste and see how gra- | cious the LORD is: \* blessed is the | man that trüsteth ^ in him.



The Epistle: I Corinthians IO: I-4, I6-17 [NRSV]

A reading from the First Letter of Blessed Paul the Apostle to the Corinthians.

 $\mathbf{T}$  do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under Lthe cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

The Word of the Lord.

People's Response: Thanks be to God.

Alleluia Caro mea Tone VI le-Cantor. ia. People. My Flesh is meat indeed, and my Blood is drink indeed: he that eateth my Flesh Choir: and drinketh my Blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him. Sequence Hymn 320, vv. I-4 "Zion, praise thy Savior" Lauda Sion Salvatorem praise with 1 Zi - on, thy Sa - vior, sing - ing hymns ul ex -Hon - or Christ, thy up - rais - ing, who sur - pass voice eth 0 0 ta - tion ring thy Shep - herd ing, praise King and true. his all thy prais ing; nev er canst thou reach due. ø 0 đ 0 the Bread, life - giv - ing, 2 Let liv be our ing, of old the Lord pro - vid ed when the as of glad thanks - giv - ing, truth be - fore thee theme now  $\mathbf{in}$ set; guid - ed, di - vine - ly twelve, at the ho ly ta - ble met. 0 3 What he did, at sup - per seat - ed, Christ or - dained to Full and clear sing out thy 4 prais - ing, gra - cious hymns of 0 0 0 be re peat - ed, his me - mo rial ne'er to cease; up - rais - ing soul in thy heart and day; joy to -0 com-mand for guid bread and wine his ance tak - ing, we for to - day the new  $\mathbf{ob}$ la - tion of the new King's hal low, mak - ing thus our sac - ri - fice of peace. Amen. bids rev e la - tion us feast in glad ar - ray.

5

The Holy Gospel: St. John 6: 47-58 *(RSV)* 

Celebrant:The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.People's response:Image: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

TRULY, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that a man may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if any one eats of this bread, he will live for ever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh." The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood, you have no life in you; he who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so he who eats me will live because of me. This is the bread which came down from heaven, not such as the fathers ate and died; he who eats this bread will live for ever."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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





The Nicene Creed



(stand) and cru- ci- fi- ed was al- so for Pon-tius us under Pi- late; suf- fer- ed and was bu- ried; and the third day he rose ahe gain 0 0 cor-ding to the Scrip-tures, and as-cend-ed in-to hea-ven, and sit- teth on the acright hand of the Fa- ther; and he shall come a- gain, with glo-ry, judge both to whose king-dom shall have no end. the quick and the dead; And I be-lieve in the . • • 0 ----0 Holy 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 wor-shipp'd and glo-riis fi- ed; spake by the Pro-phets. And I be-lieve one ho-ly Cath-o-lic who and A- po- sto-• • Church; I ac-know-ledge one Bap-tism for the re-mis-sion of sins: and I look for lic the re- sur-rec-tion of the dead, <sup>\*</sup> and the life of the world to come. Amen.



The Prayers of the People

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)* 



- *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 child *Jill,* O Lord, as her days increase; bless and guide her wherever she may be. Strengthen her when she stands; comfort her when discouraged or sorrowful; raise her up if she falls; and in her heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days / of her life. *(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* 

0 0 A-men.

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) Portas caeli

Mode VIII

THE Lord God opened the doors of heaven and rained down manna on them, that they might eat, and he gave them food from heaven. And so mortals ate the bread of angels, alleluia.

Motet (choir)

O Salutaris Hostia, quae caeli pandis ostium, bella premunt hostilia, da robur, fer auxilium. [O Saving Victim, opening wide the gate of heaven to us below, our foes press on from every side, thine aid supply, thy strength bestow.] attr. St Thomas Aquinas (d. 1274)

Presentation of the alms and oblations

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:

 $\mathbf{B}^{\text{ECAUSE}}$  in the mystery of the Word made flesh, thou hast caused a new light to Bshine in our hearts, to give knowledge of thy glory in the face of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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)

H. Willan

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.

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."  $\bigstar$ 

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."  $\blacksquare$ 

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;

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

People

A- men.

The Lord's Prayer

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



OLamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. OLamb 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) Qui manducat

Mode VI

"WHOSO eateth my Flesh, and whoso drinketh my Blood, remaineth in me, and I in him," saith the Lord.

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 (from Five Mystical Songs) (choir)

#### Joshua Rowland, baritone

LOVE bade me welcome; yet my soul drew back, guilty of dust and sin. But quickeyed Love, observing me grow slack from my first entrance in, drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning, if I lack'd anything. "A guest," I answered, "worthy to be here:" Love said, "You shall be he." "I the unkind, ungrateful? Ah, my dear, I cannot look on thee." Love took my hand, and smiling did reply, "Who made the eyes but I?" "Truth, Lord, but I have marr'd them: let my shame go where it doth deserve." "And know you not," says Love, "who bore the blame?" "My dear, then I will serve." "You must sit down," says Love, "and taste my meat:" so I did sit and eat.



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.



#### Corpus Christi Procession of the Blessed Sacrament

The Lesson: Revelation 19: 1-2a, 4-9 [NRSV]

A reading from the Revelation to John.

A FTER this I heard what seemed to be the loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power to our God, for his judgments are true and just." And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who is seated on the throne, saying, "Amen. Hallelujah!" And from the throne came a voice saying, "Praise our God, all you his servants, and all who fear him, small and great." Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunderpeals, crying out, "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready; to her it has been granted to be clothed with fine linen, bright and pure" — for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints. And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he said to me, "These are true words of God."

The Word of the Lord.

Congregation's Response: Thanks be to God.

Procession of the Blessed Sacrament *(It is traditional to genuflect as the Sacrament passes by) Celebrant:* Let us go forth in peace.

*People:* In the Name of Christ. Amen.

Hymn 314 "Humbly I adore thee" Adoro devote ø 0 Hum - bly I dore thee, Ver 1 а ty un seen, i 2 Taste and touch and vi sion to dis cern thee fail; 3 drous of the death; Ο me - mo rial won Lord's own 4 Ι by faith be - hold, Ie sus, whom now hid den, who sha - dows thy hid 'neath these glo ry est mean; faith. that comes by hear  $\mathbf{es}$ through the veil. ing, pierc liv ing Bread that giv est all thy crea - tures breath, what doth long that thy word fore - told: my soul for, whole heart lo, to thee sur - ren dered, my is bowed, Son Ι be lieve what - e'er the of God hath told; grant my spi rit ev  $\mathbf{er}$ by thy life may live, face last shall face to thy splen dor, Ι at see, 0 tranced as it be - holds thee, shrined with in the cloud. what the Truth hath that for truth Ι hold. spo ken, to my taste thy sweet ness er fail ing give. nev in the glo - rious vi sion, bless - ed Lord. of thee.

Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at the Altar

Celebrant: Thou gavest them Bread from heaven, alleluia.

*People:* Containing in itself all sweetness, alleluia.

*Celebrant:* Let us pray. O God, who in a wonderful Sacrament hast left unto us a memorial of thy Passion: grant us, we beseech thee, so to venerate the Sacred Mysteries of thy Body and Blood, that we may ever perceive within ourselves the fruit of thy redemption; who livest and reignest, world without end. *Amen.* 

The Divine Praises (all repeat each phrase after the priest)  $\mathcal{B}$ lessed be God.

 ${\mathscr B}$ lessed be His Holy Name.

 ${}^{\prime \prime }B$ lessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.

 ${}^{\prime }B$ lessed be the Name of Jesus.

Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart.

 ${}^{\prime\prime}B$ lessed be Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

 ${}^{\mathcal{B}}$ lessed be the Holy Spirit, the Comforter.

Blessed be the Great Mother of God, Mary most Holy.

Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.

Blessed be Saint Joseph,

protector of the Holy Mother and Child.

 ${}^{\prime \prime }B$ lessed be God in His Angels and in His Saints.



Voluntary: Résurrection, from Symphonie-Passion

FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI







#### Explore the Way of Love: PRAY

Our day to day lives can be hurried and busy. We have so many things to do and so little time to do them. With devices and media asking for our time, so much to do and hear and say – it can make us feel overwhelmed and isolated. It can make our relationships challenging, as we struggle to connect.

The practice of the Way of Love, following in the footsteps of Jesus, tells us that God wants to break through the noise and busy-ness of the world and be able to have a relationship with us – with you. Not as a distant god in a far-off sky, or as a theory or an ideal or a metaphor, but a presence, dwelling with us, here and now. And the way to make that connection is to Pray.

As the Psalmist tells us: "The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth." Jesus taught us that it is nourishing and strengthening to intentionally take time to pray. The daily practice of making time and space to speak with God, to listen to God, or to simply be with God, clears a pathway for God to enter our lives.

Jesus told us how we can talk with God: We can praise God and thank God for all that has been done. We can tell God about our troubles, and God will listen. We can ask God for healing and forgiveness, and God will help restore us. We can ask God for protection, and face the world with courage. Or we can simply receive God's spirit, in faith that when we make space to pray, God is with us.

We can pray alone and know that we are not alone in this world. We can pray together, whether just two or three of us or a whole community, and find a whole new level of connection with those who are on the journey with us. As Jesus tells us in the Gospel of Matthew: "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."



The Way of Love is not a static practice, in which we read a book of rules and perform the exercises to become improved people. It is a dynamic practice, and part of the active process of transforming our lives is opening up the channels of communication with God, giving and taking, talking and listening, like electricity flowing through a cable or streams that connect a river to the sea. We create a connective flow with a God who loves and cares about us, who and where we are on a daily basis, and wants to know how you are doing today.

Are you making a commitment to incorporate the regular practice of prayer into your life? Is there a place where you can gather with others in the presence of the divine?

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



# June 11, 2023 The Second Sunday after Pentecost ~ CORPUS CHRISTI

#### 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

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

- *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; St. Paul's, Norwalk; All Saints with Christ, Oakville; St. Saviour's, Old Greenwich; and students of all ages who are graduating.
- Serving Our Country in the Military (especially those associated with Grace Church): Brian, 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 Jill Lacedonia (Mon.), whose birthday we celebrate this week; and Steven & Ratana Leach, who celebrated their 33<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary last Tuesday, and Don & Ruth Grant, who celebrated their 38<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary last Thursday.
- *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; Kevin; 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 Alec Sullivan, Beryl Steele Ambrosio, and Peter Rovetti, in whose memory the flowers are given *(by Kathie Rovetti)*.

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# THE REV. ROWENA J. KEMP, RECTOR

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# THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Sunday, June 11 The Second Sunday after Pentecost ~ CORPUS CHRISTI 8:00 am: Low Mass

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

Wednesday, June 14 *Basil the Great, Bishop of Caesarea, 379* 9:15 a.m.: Low Mass (*also on Facebook Live*), followed by breakfast at Effie's

Thursday, June 15 Evelyn Underhill, 194110:00 a.m.: "A Place of Grace" food pantry distribution

Sunday, June 18 The Third Sunday after Pentecost ~ Proper 6

8:00 am: Low Mass 10:30 a.m.: Solemn High Mass (also on Facebook Live)

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