# grace episcopal church



The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany
February 9, 2025

Service Program for the 10:30 a.m. Solemn High Mass
Bulletin Inserts from the Episcopal Church
Grace Notes & Evensong Announcement
This Week at Grace

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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. Marta S. Rivera Monclova, PhD, *Curate*The Rev. Canon Robert G. Carroon, *Associate Priest*The Rev. Canon Annika Warren, *Associate Priest*The Rev. Joseph L. Pace, *Associate Priest*Mr. Kyle Swann, *Choirmaster and Organist* 

The Vestry

Claudia Gwardyak, Senior Warden; Barbara Galbreath, Junior Warden Katharine Rovetti, Parish Clerk

Mark Lacedonia, *Treasurer*; Barbara Galbreath, *Assistant Treasurer* Adrianne Brown, Josephine Dominguez, Linda Galarza-Rosa, Douglas Gould, Sheryl Rifkin, Gregory Simmons

WELCOME to all who are joining with us virtually as we celebrate *THE FIFTH SUNDAY* AFTER THE EPIPHANY. 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 Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 9, 2025

Solemn High Mass, 10:30 A.M.

Propers of Year C

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Mass Setting: Grace Mass

Edward Wagner, 1987

This setting of the Ordinary of the Mass is for congregational singing.

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Voluntary: Ich ruf zu Dir, Herr Jesu Christ

Johann Sebastian Bach (d. 1750)

#### ENTRANCE RITE AND LITURGY OF THE WORD

Introit (choir) Venite adoremus

Mode II

[Antiphon] O COME, LET US WORSHIP our God, and let us bow down before the Lord: let us kneel before him, who made us: for he is the Lord our God. [Psalm] O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation. 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*.

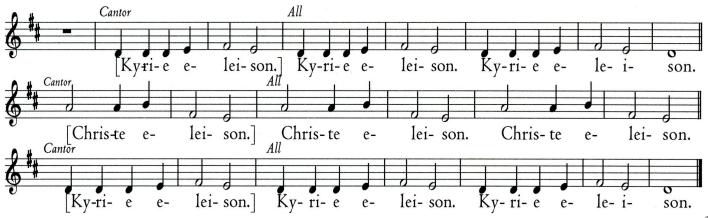
### Summary of the Law

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 (sung by all)

E. Wagner





Gloria in excelsis (sung by all)

E. Wagner



The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

SET US FREE, O God, from the bondage of our sins and give us, we beseech thee, the Sliberty of that abundant life which thou hast manifested to us in thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* 

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 6: I-8 /NRSV/

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is



The Word of the Lord.

me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." Then I heard the voice of the LORD saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

Congregation's Response: Thanks be to God.

The Gradual: Psalm I38

Confitebor tibi

Tone V.2

(Congregation sings the italicized verses.)



I I WILL give thanks unto thee O Lord with my whole | heart; \*even before the gods will I sing | praise unto thëe.

2 I will worship toward thy holy temple,

and praise thy Name, because of thy loving-kindness and | truth;

\* for thou hast magnified thy Name and thy | word a^bove all things.

3 When I called upon thee thou | heardest ^ me:

\* and enduedst my | soul with much strëngth.

4 All the kings of the earth shall praise thee O | LORD;

\* for they have heard the | words of thy mouth.

5 Yea they shall sing of the ways of the | LORD,

\* that great is the | glory of ^ the LÖRD.

6 For though the LORD be high, yet hath he respect unto the | lowly; \* as for the proud he beholdeth | them afar öff.

7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble†, yet shalt thou re- | fresh me;

\* thou shalt stretch forth thy hand upon the furiousness of mine enemies, and thy right | hand shall save më.

8 The LORD shall make good his loving-kindness toward | me;

\* yea thy mercy O LORD endureth for ever;

despise not then the | works of thine ^ own händs.

The Epistle: I Corinthians 15: I-II /NRSV/

A Reading from the First Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians.

I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you — unless you have come to believe in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them — though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

The Word of the Lord.

People's Response: Thanks be to God.

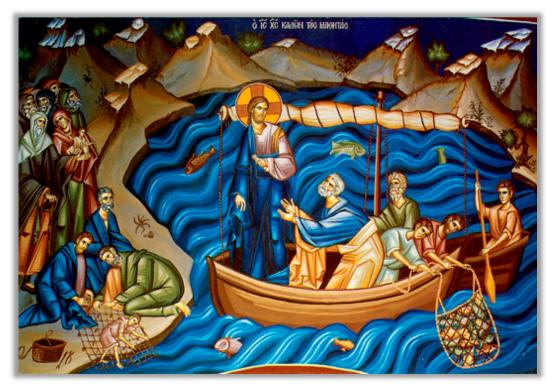
Alleluia Laudate Dominum

Tone VI



Choir: O PRAISE THE LORD, all ye nations: laud him all ye peoples.





The Holy Gospel: St. Luke 5: I-II /RSV/

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. Celebrant:

*People's response:*  $\blacksquare$  Glory be to thee, O Lord.

THILE THE PEOPLE PRESSED UPON HIM to hear the word of God, he was standing **V** by the lake of Gennesaret. And he saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when he had ceased speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell

down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to

land, they left everything and followed him. People's response: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Gospel of the Lord.

The Sermon (all sit)

The Rev. Marta S. Rivera Monclova, PhD, Curate

The Nicene Creed (said by all)

Prayer Book p. 327

**T** BELIEVE IN ONE GOD, the Father Almighty,

▲ maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of his Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made,

being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made;

who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven,

and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate:

he suffered and was buried

and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;

and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,

who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;

who spake by the Prophets.

And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;

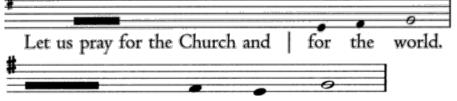
■ and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.



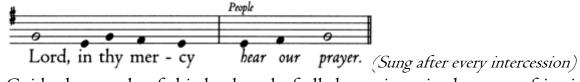
The Prayers of the People

Form IV

Leader:



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: 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* 

#### 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.

#### Comfortable Words

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

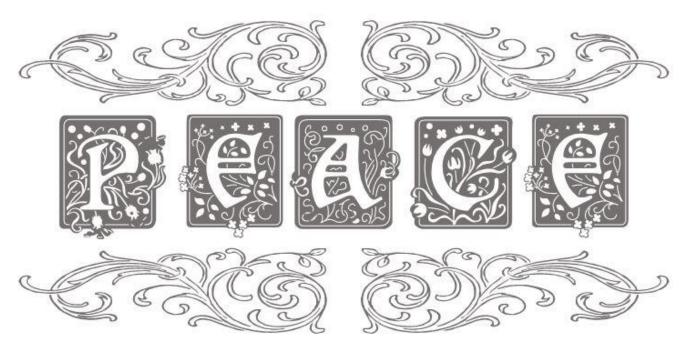
COME UNTO ME, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew II: 28* GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3: 16* 

#### 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

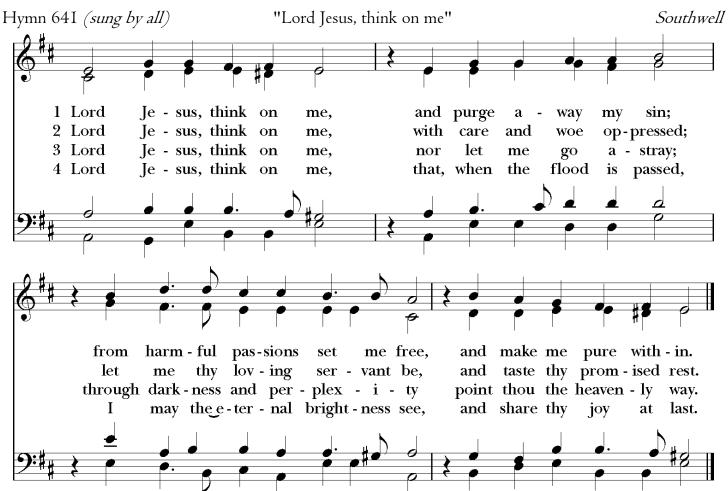
#### Offertory Sentence

Celebrant: OFFER TO GOD a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good thy vows unto the Most High. Psalm 50: 14

Offertory (choir) Perfice gressus meus

Mode IV

MY FOOTSTEPS have held fast to thy paths O God, and my feet have not stumbled nor slipped: incline thine ear unto me and hear thou the words of my mouth: show thou me thy marvelous loving-kindness, thou Savior of them that put their trust in thee, O Lord God.



Presentation of the alms and oblations (remain standing)

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord,

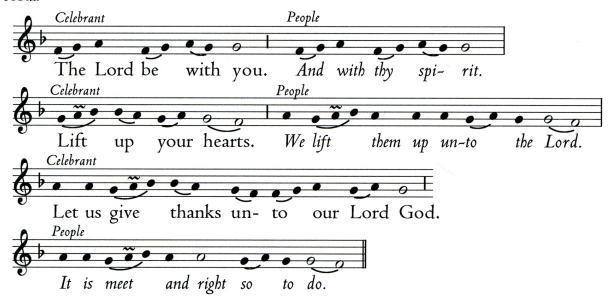
People: And of thine own have we given thee.

#### 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.

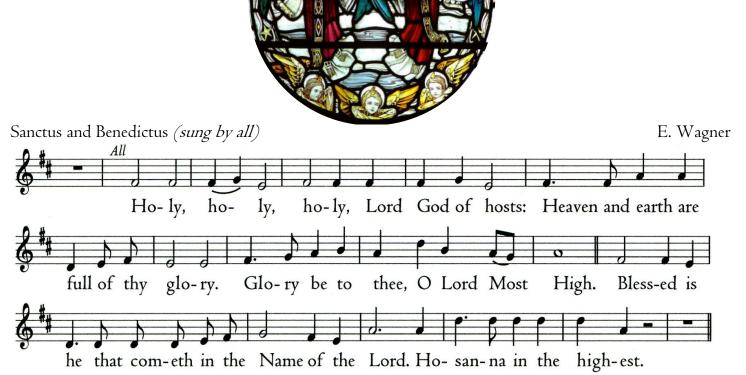
#### Sursum corda



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.

**B**ECAUSE in the mystery of the Word made flesh, thou hast caused a new light to shine in Our hearts, to give the 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,



The Canon of the Mass

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.

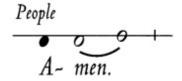
And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance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



The Lord's Prayer

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



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) Introibo ad altare

Mode VIII

MAY I GO UNTO THE ALTAR of God, yea, even unto the God of my joy and gladness.



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) Jane M. Marshall, 1957

He comes to us as One unknown, without a name, as of old by the lakeside he came to those men who know him not. He speaks to us, he speaks the same word: "Follow! Follow thou me!" and sets us to the tasks which he has to fulfill for our time. He commands, and to those who obey him, whether they be wise or simple, he will reveal himself in the toils, the conflicts, the sufferings which they shall pass through in his fellowship, and, as an ineffable mystery, they shall learn in their own experience, who he is.

Albert Schweitzer, 1948



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 Epiphany Blessing

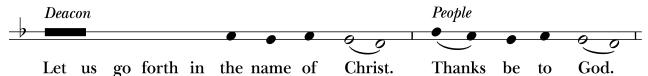
MAY Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also, in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord. *Amen.* 

May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only-begotten at his baptism in the Jordon River, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth. *Amen.* May God, by the power that turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts. *Amen.* 

And the blessing of God Almighty, \* the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.* 

St. John I:I-I4

The Dismissal



The Last Gospel

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 Only-begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

Ave Regina caelorum, Ave Domina Angelorum. Salve radix, salve porta, ex qua mundo lux est orta. Gaude Virgo gloriosa, super omnes speciosa. Vale, o valde decora, et pro nobis Christum exora.

[Hail, O Queen of heaven, Hail, O Lady of Angels. Hail! thou root, hail! thou gate, from whom unto the world a light has risen. Rejoice, O glorious Virgin, lovely beyond all others. Farewell, most beautiful maiden, and pray for us to Christ.]



## The Angelus

Celebrant: The Angel of the Lord announced unto Mary.

*People:* And she conceived by the Holy Ghost.

Celebrant: Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women

and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

People: Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our

death. Amen.

Celebrant: Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

*People:* Be it unto me according to thy word.

Celebrant: Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women

and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

People: Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our

death. Amen.

(Here genuflect) Celebrant: And the Word was made flesh.

(Here rise) People: And dwelt among us.

Celebrant: Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women

and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

People: Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our

death. Amen.

Celebrant: Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

People: That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

We beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts, that, as we have known the Incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by his Passion we may be brought unto the glory of his resurrection, through the same

Christ our Lord. *Amen.* 





Voluntary: In Dir ist Freude

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Spi - rit's

power.



February 9, 2025 – Epiphany 5 (C) Epiphany Bible Study: Week 5

During the season of Epiphany, The Episcopal Church's Office of Global Partnerships is offering a weekly Bible study prepared by writers across the church and Anglican Communion. Each piece, consisting of the Sunday readings, can be studied alone, in small groups, or even with a congregation. You can find the whole study for each week at www.sermonsthatwork.org. This week's study for Epiphany 5 (C) was written by the Rev. Sharack Owuor, a priest formed in Butere, Uganda, currently serving as the rector of Grace Episcopal Church in Port Huron, Michigan.

#### Isaiah 6:1-8

**6** In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty, and the hem of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup> Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup> And one called to another and said,

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory."

<sup>4</sup>The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup> And I said, "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!"

<sup>6</sup> Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup> The seraph touched my mouth with it and said, "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." <sup>8</sup> Then I

heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

#### Commentary from Shadrack Owuor

Isaiah is overwhelmed by the majesty of God. The seraphim's cry, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory," reveals the unmatched holiness of God. Confronted with God's splendor, Isaiah is painfully aware of his sinfulness, exclaiming, "Woe is me! I am lost." Yet God does not leave him in despair. The seraph cleanses him with a live coal, a powerful symbol of forgiveness and purification. Set free from guilt, Isaiah responds eagerly to God's call: "Here am I; send me!"

Isaiah reminds me of our own lives, especially those moments when we feel unworthy in the face of God's holiness. However, through Christ, we are encouraged that our sins are blotted out, freeing us to embrace our calling as messengers of his love. We cannot encounter the holy God and remain the same.

#### **Discussion Questions**

How does God's grace free you to respond to his call?

How do the holiness and love of God inspire both awe and action in you?

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## February 9 The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

#### 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, and please contact her immediately, should there be an illness, hospitalization, or any other pastoral emergency that she 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; Sean, Presiding Bishop; Jeffrey and Laura, Bishops of ECCT; Rowena, Jerry, Annika, and Joseph, our priests, and Marta, our curate.
- 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. John's, Essex; St. Paul's, Fairfield; St. James', Farmington; and Haitian ministry in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut. The Anglican Church of Australia.
- World & Community Concerns: For peace throughout the world, especially between Iran, Israel, and Gaza, and in the Middle East; in Sudan; and between Russia and Ukraine; for Christians being persecuted around the world, particularly in China and Palestine; for those who are suffering because of extreme climate; for the hungry and poor in our midst; and the volunteers who serve A Place of Grace food pantry.
- 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, and Charles.
- Thanksgiving and Celebrations: We give thanks and ask for thy blessings upon Matt Rose (Mon.), whose birthday we celebrate this week.
- Sick or in need: Antoinette; Lynne; David; Neil; Lea & the Rivera Family; Mark; Jerry; Bonnie & the Burns Family; Megin; Walter & Claudia; Tom & Elaine; Ellen; Sally; Errol, Norma & the Kemp Family; Barbara; Nigel, Kraig & Deidre; Mary; Josephine, Melissa, Jaden, Tay, Soraya & Rapael; Julia, Mike, André & Maria; Linda, Tiffany & the Galarza Family; Kathy; Patti; Delores; Nancy; Marcolina; Peter; Sr. Linda; Leonard; Joy; Cori and the Mackey Family; Brad & Mary; Judy; Jane; Bill, Carolyn & Susan; McJohn; Doreen; Ted; Kanata; Betty & John; Mary & Lou; Nelda Sue; Diane; Nina; Ellen and Jim; Lauren, Alexandra & Anna; Mark & Diane; Jean; and all victims of natural and man-made disasters.
- The Deceased: We pray for the repose of John Miolene, Alfred White, Alton Brennan, all soldiers and civilians killed in war or civil strife, and in memory of Dorothy Leyendecker, Tina Wilson, Rehanna Mungroo, Josephine Melusky, Stephen Snover, Harry Glasner, Vosie Barbour Swann, and The Rev. Donald Hartwell Morse.



THE REV. ROWENA J. KEMP, RECTOR

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





#### THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Sunday, February 9 The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

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

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

Tuesday, February 11 Feria

**10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**: Office Hours

Wednesday, February 12 Feria

**10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**: Office Hours

7:00 p.m.: Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 13 Absalom Jones, Priest, 1818

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

Friday, February 14 Cyril, Monk, and Methodius, Bishop, 19th Century

**1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**: Office Hours

Sunday, February 16 The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany ~ Sunday of Septuagesima

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

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





Visit "<u>Grace Episcopal Church, Hartford CT</u>" on FACEBOOK Please join, and help us spread the good news on line!





# Ash Mednesday

# ASH WEDNESDAY, March 5<sup>th</sup>

Ash Wednesday Liturgy and Distribution of Ashes

9:15 A.M. Low Mass

6 P.M. Solemn High Mass