



Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

March 22, 2018

Spotlight on Grace: Palm Sunday Message from the Rector



In many churches, it's traditional to have Palm Sunday processions outside - to recall the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem - when the weather is good. "Good weather" is a relative term, but for this purpose, I take it to mean at least 55 degrees and no rain. In my eight years at Grace Church, I have never seen a Palm Sunday with "good weather," and we likely won't see one this year. But as we're "driven inside" again for at least the 8th straight Palm Sunday, perhaps there's some message in our "interior" celebration.

We will proclaim Christ in all the seasons of our lives, in times of good weather and bad, in times of grief and times of joy. The Christian Church itself has witnessed periods of "interior worship" when it was too dangerous to worship publicly, as was often the case in the Soviet Union and is still in parts of the world today. Fleeing inclement weather is nothing like fleeing Soviet persecution, of course, but perhaps as we process through the inside of our church on Palm Sunday, we can remember our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the centuries and across the world who have gathered in hope, when all outside indicators suggested that hope was lost. Because from that very first Easter Day, when the risen Christ appeared to the disciples in the Upper Room when they were struggling to hold on to even the smallest shred of hope, Jesus has given us cause to gather together in his name, his hope, and his love.

Final Call for Easter Flowers and Music



EASTER FLOWERS AND MUSIC

— I wish to make a gift of \$ _____ for
Easter flowers at Grace (minimum \$20).

— I wish to support special Easter music
with my gift of \$ _____.

— I wish to make an additional Easter
offering of \$ _____.

Total gift enclosed: \$ _____. Thank you!

Please dedicate my gift (circle one):
in honor of in memory of or in thanksgiving for (please print legibly):

Please place card with your gift in the envelopes provided, before Tuesday in Holy Week.

Thank you for filling out a card located in the pews, and for your support of Easter flowers and music. Please print dedications legibly: In memory of... in honor of... in thanksgiving for... Place your card and gift in the green flower envelopes provided, and return in the offering plate or by mail. Dedications received before March 27 will be recorded in the service bulletins for Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday.

Good Friday Guest Preacher



Grace Church has a decades-long tradition of having a guest preacher at our Good Friday service, and this year we will welcome to our pulpit, for what we believe is the first time, an Orthodox priest - the Very Rev. Elie Estephan. Fr. Elie is the pastor of [St. Mary Anthiochian Orthodox Church](#) in Pawtucket. St. Mary Church was founded a century ago by Orthodox Christians from the Middle East, especially Lebanon and Syria. Fr. Elie is himself a native of Lebanon and has served churches in Lebanon and Brazil before coming to Rhode Island. We are thrilled to welcome Fr. Elie to Grace Church!

The Lenten Giving Cross

Thank you for trying to bring all last Lenten Cross donations to the church by this Sunday, March 25.

This Week at Grace

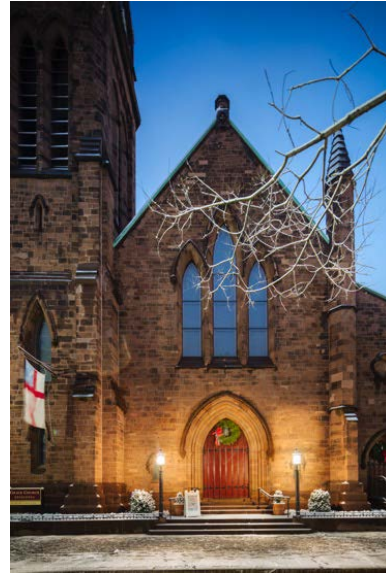
Weekly Worship Schedule:

Sunday 8:00am Holy Eucharist
Sunday 10:00am Holy Eucharist with Music

Monday, March 26 Morning Prayer 9 am
Tuesday, March 27 Candlesong 8 pm
Wednesday, March 28 Wednesday Eucharist 12 pm
Thursday, March 29 Maundy Thursday 7 pm
Friday, March 30 Good Friday 12noon
Saturday, March 31 Easter Vigil 8 pm
Sunday, April 1 Easter Day 8am & 10am

Thursday Concerts at Noon: The Thursday Noon concerts will resume Thursday, April 12.

Open Doors: Your friendly docents are here to greet you every weekday from 11:00am to 2:00pm. Please encourage your friends or guests to come and visit Grace Church and see the new Pavilion at Grace.



TAPA Fundraiser Event in The Pavilion at Grace: The Trinity Academy for the Performing Arts will hold a fundraiser in The Pavilion this evening (Thursday, March 22) from 6:30-9pm, featuring a sample performance of A Midsummer Night's Musical. Tickets are \$25 at the door. Please help fund the completion of this musical production.

Prayer Group: The prayer group meets the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month at 9:30am, presently in The Pavilion at Grace.

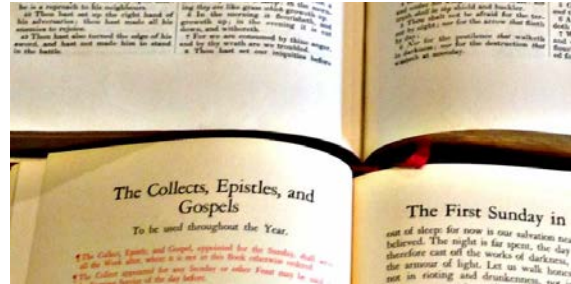
Wheelchair Access and Accessible Parking: Please find convenient accessible in the Grace Church parking lot with access from Snow Street. The new wheelchair ramp connects directly from the lot, and you will enter through the new reception entrance of The Pavilion and into the church at ground level.

Parking for Worship: Free parking for Sunday worship is provided:

- 1.) in the lot diagonally across Westminster Street, on the NW corner of Westminster and Snow;
- 2.) On the **top level only** of the PPAC parking garage, for which the entrance is on Weybosset Street. A stairway from the top level leads right to Chapel Street across from the church; and
- 3.) In the Grace Church parking lot accessed via Snow Street. We ask your kind cooperation in reserving this lot, to the extent possible, for seniors and those with limited mobility.

March 25, 2018
Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



For the text of this Sunday's readings, [please click here](#):

This week from the Episcopal Church: [Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday](#). [Click here](#) for the latest from the Episcopal News Service. And for current news from the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island, [please click here](#).

Would you like to add someone to the prayer list? [Please click here](#) to submit a name, or call the church office at (401) 331-3225. Names are kept on the list for a month, and can be renewed at any time. Those received by Wednesday will appear in the same week's bulletin.



HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday

March 25, 8:00am & 10:00am

Morning Prayer

March 26, 9:00am

Candlesong

March 27, 8:00pm

Wednesday Eucharist

March 28, 12:00 Noon

Maundy Thursday

March 29, 7:00pm

Good Friday

March 30, 12:00 Noon

Easter Vigil


March 31, 8:00pm

Easter

April 1, 8:00am & 10:00am

A Special Holy Week Candlesong

Tuesday, March 27, 8:00pm (doors open at 7:30pm)



Grace Church in Providence
candle song
Reflective music
for the city
and the soul...


20 minutes of chant by candlelight
8:00pm (doors open 7:30pm)
at Westminster and Mathewson Streets

Connect with Grace

[Grace Church Website](#)

[This Sunday's Readings](#)

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**GRACE
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**

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The Mission of Grace Church is to build, by the grace of God, a loving and joyful community which lives the gospel through worship, proclamation and service to each other, to downtown Providence, and beyond.