



Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

June 5, 2016

Spotlight on Grace: *A Joyful Decorative Inscription*

The spectacular chancel at Grace Church -- the raised area around and behind the pulpit containing the high altar, choir, organ console, and clergy stalls -- is appointed throughout with masterfully executed woodcarving. That woodwork includes several sprawling lines of text carved in relief with a font so stylized that one might not initially recognize it as being in the English language. But as with so many of the historical and architectural treasures that surround us here in our place of worship, a closer look uncovers inspiring elements that are nearly hidden in plain view. For this week's *Spotlight on Grace* we highlight one particularly joyful feature of the chancel; but first a touch of context:



Renowned architect Ralph Adams Cram (photo at right) said of his 1912 chancel design: "The new furniture recently installed in the chancel of Grace Church is of oak, wax-finished in dull brown shades, and designed and executed after the manner of the best Gothic traditions. But the furniture, though possessing the charm and quality of ancient woodwork, is wholly modern in character." Later in his description he references: "a decorative inscription in black-letter containing verses from the canticles of the daily-office". Blackletter is a traditional Gothic style of script, but the particular typeface employed here appears distinct from more familiar examples of the style.



All along the left side of the chancel (when facing the high altar), you'll find well above eye-level a continuous line of hand-carved text of the *Jubilate*, a beautiful canticle from the Daily Morning Prayer (Rite Two) in the Book of Common Prayer, page 82; perhaps better known as Psalm 100, *Jubilate Deo*.



The older version of the text that's inscribed upon the side of the chancel reads:

O Be joyful in the Lord all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song. Be ye sure that the Lord he is God. It is he that hath made us and not we ourselves. We are his people and the sheep of his pasture. O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise. Be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.

If you are interested in taking a closer look at the chancel at Grace Church, please don't hesitate to ask an Usher or a Welcomer on Sunday morning to lead you up after a service. Or, if you're nearby during the week, please stop by during the hours of our Open Doors ministry from 11am to 2pm on weekdays, and one of our friendly docents will be happy to show you around. It takes a just few moments to get used to

the stylized typeface of these inscriptions, but you're sure to enjoy these joyful texts that also include excerpts from Gloria in Excelsis, Psalm 92, and more.

This Week at Grace

Worship services:

Sunday 8:00am Holy Eucharist
Sunday 10:00am Holy Eucharist
with music
Wednesday Noon Holy Eucharist

Candlesong Tonight, Friday, June 3 at 9:00pm! Doors open at 8:30pm. Please make a point to join us for this unique immersive experience: reflective music for the city and soul. We are thrilled to offer this Compline service as a feature of PVDFest, the downtown arts and culture festival taking place this weekend. [Please click here](#) for the full PVDFest schedule.

Sunday School Year-End

Picnic: Attention Grace Church families with kids (whether or not you are currently attending Sunday School)! This Sunday, June 5, following our last Sunday School class of the season, you are invited to join us for a picnic in India Point Park immediately following the 10AM service (at the playground between Gano St. entrance and the shoreline). Please bring your own lunch, and any other fun items you wish.

Women's Prayer and Bible Study:

The next Women's Prayer meeting, and the final one of the season, will be Saturday, June 11.

Grace Church is OPEN to the Public each weekday from

11:00am until 2:00pm. Please tell your friends, co-workers, and visitors to stop by and explore this beautiful historic church. Our friendly docents will greet you with a smile.



June 3 at 9:00pm 

candlesong

Reflective music
for the city
and the soul...

20 minutes of chant by candlelight
9:00pm (doors open 8:30pm)

Music at Grace



Exploring Music for Kids!!

A one-day musical experience for kids entering grades 1 through 6 in the fall!

Saturday, June 25 - 9 to 3

Learn about singing, strings, brass, percussion, piano . . . and more!

*Cost: \$10 per child (includes snacks and lunch)
To register your child, contact Vince Edwards
vedwards@graCepVd.org or 331-3225 x4*

Sponsored by Grace Church in Providence
300 Westminster St.

Summer Choir at Grace

During the summer months (Memorial Day to Labor Day) we will enjoy the leadership of our summer choir! Summer Choir is open to anyone who sings with the Grace Church Choir, or anyone who would like to try singing in the choir. We meet in the Choir Room at 8:45 AM on Sunday mornings, rehearse the hymns and psalm, and prepare a simple anthem or two. You don't need to give previous notice, but if you would like to try Summer Choir, please do [email Vince Edwards](mailto:vince.edwards@gracechurch.org), Director of Music, for more information, or if you have any questions. Feel free to sing one Sunday or every Sunday!

Exploring Music for Kids

An engaging and inspiring day of music for kids entering grades 1 through 6 in the Fall. Please see

the flyer at left for details, or [contact Vince Edwards](mailto:vince.edwards@gracechurch.org) for more information.



Announcing an exciting new program for Fall 2016: The Grace Church Choristers

- A choir for boys and girls, grades 2 through 12
- Learn healthy vocal technique, music-reading skills, and history of music and the church!
- Sing the world's greatest sacred music, spanning 500 years!
- Perform alongside the Choir of Grace Church in our splendid landmark building!
- Attend a 5-day Choir Camp at Incarnation Center in Ivoryton, CT
- Free piano lessons offered to the first 10 choristers who join the program!

[Please click here for the full Choristers program brochure](#)

Musical interviews may be held at any time, but choristers must be registered for the program by July 1 to be able to attend the August 15-19 Choir Camp.

For more information, or to schedule a Musical Interview, please contact Vince Edwards, Director of Music at Grace Church: vedwards@gracepvd.org or 401-331-3225, ext 4

Your Priest-in-Charge: The Reverend Lavonne Seifert

During the period of Jonathan's sabbatical, through the end of August, please direct all pastoral questions, inquiries, and/or conversations to Mother Lavonne Seifert.

Lavonne will serve as Priest-in-Charge of Grace Church, and is already well known to this congregation as both a longtime parishioner and as our current Associate Rector. You may reach her by telephone at 401-331-3225 (ext. 6), or via email: lseifert@gracepvd.org.



Connect with Grace

[Grace Church Website](#)

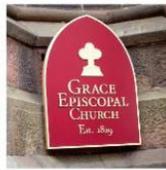
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Sincerely,



Your Grace Church Clergy & Staff
401-331-3225

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.