



GRACE
ABOUNDS



Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

April 12, 2019

Holy Week Message from the Rector

On Sunday we enter into Holy Week at Grace Church, beginning with our celebration of Palm Sunday. Palm Sunday is also known as the Sunday of the Passion, because the Church appoints it as the day on which we read the "Passion Narrative," that is, the portion of the Gospels that tells the events of the last day of Christ's earthly life.



Of course, most of us associate Palm Sunday with, well, palms, which we bless and carry in church that day in remembrance of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem that preceded the events of the Passion. It is, therefore, the only day of the year that we have two Gospel readings in church. The reason we have the Passion reading on Palm Sunday is because the Church knows that not everyone will be in church on Good Friday (when we hear the Passion narrative again). But, if your schedule permits, I encourage you to attend church not just Good Friday, but as many services this coming week as you can. We have unique worship services every day next week (see the schedule below), and in keeping with long tradition at Grace, we will have a guest preacher on Good Friday, The Rev. Elizabeth Chandler Felts, the new senior minister at our neighboring church, Beneficent Congregational.

For the first time in the 8 years I've been at Grace, it looks like Palm Sunday could have weather good enough that we could actually have a procession outside (a centuries-old Christian practice for Palm Sunday). If so, we'll gather in the Pavilion and process through our garden out onto Westminster Street and through the main doors of the Church. If the weather is bad, we'll process around the inside of the church instead!

I look forward to joining with you all in our journey through Holy Week, remembering and

giving thanks for all that God has done for us through Jesus Christ.

Blessings,
Jonathan+

Holy Week Worship Schedule

Holy Week this year begins on April 14 (Palm Sunday), with Easter Sunday therefore following on April 21. For the most immersive experience of Holy Week, we encourage you to consider attending each of the services of the Holy Triduum if you are able: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil.

Holy Week at Grace		
	Palm Sunday	8:00am & 10:00am
	Maundy Thursday	7:00pm
	Good Friday	12:00 Noon
	Easter Vigil	8:00pm
	Easter Sunday	8:00am & 10:00am

Monday in Holy Week - April 15 at 9 AM
Morning Prayer in the Chancel

Tuesday in Holy Week - April 16 at 8 PM
Compline - Half an hour of chant, candlelight, and incense

Wednesday in Holy Week - April 17 at Noon
Holy Eucharist in the Messiah Chapel

Maundy Thursday - April 18
7 PM - The Liturgy of Maundy Thursday
with Footwashing, Holy Eucharist, and Stripping of the Altar,
with music of Latona, Nowialis, and Byrd
Keep watch until Midnight in the garden-like setting of the Chapel of the Messiah
In addition to our own lot, a finite number of spaces will be available free of charge in the lot diagonally across Westminster Street from Grace (please let the attendant know you're here for Grace).

Good Friday - April 19
12:00 Noon - The Liturgy of Good Friday
with the Grace Church Choir singing Victoria's setting of the Passion,
and Solemn Reproaches

Holy Saturday - April 20
8 PM - The Great Vigil of Easter
The Lighting of the New Fire, Baptism, and the First Eucharist of Easter,
followed by a Champagne Reception
Music of Palestrina, Bairstow, and Thatcher

In addition to our own lot, a finite number of spaces will be available free of charge in the lot diagonally across Westminster Street from Grace (please let the attendant know you're here for Grace).

Easter Day - April 21
Holy Eucharist at 8 AM
Festival Holy Eucharist at 10 AM
with the Grace Church Choir and Westminster Brass

Embracing the Episcopal Vision of Creation Care at Grace Church



April is "Earth Month", with Earth Day on April 22, and April 5 - 14 designated as *Faith Climate Action Week* by [Interfaith Power & Light](#). So, it is fitting that we at Grace Church take a look at the commitment that the Episcopal Church has made to "safeguard the integrity of Creation and to sustain and renew the life of the Earth."

"As a whole church, we have promised to place the care of God's Creation at the heart of our common life," states [the Episcopal Church's webpage on Creation Care](#). "Together, we have taken up church-wide action in order to safeguard the integrity of Creation and to sustain and renew the life of the Earth."

The Presiding Bishop's Office and the Advisory Council on Stewardship of Creation developed three goals for the Care of Creation:

Loving - Goal #1 - Create and sustain a network of Episcopalians dedicated to the care and protection of the whole Creation.

Liberating - Goal #2 - Stand in solidarity with the most vulnerable victims of the impact of climate change -- particularly women, poor people, and people of color -- as part of seeking the liberation and flourishing of all God's people.

Life-Giving - Goal #3 - Set climate mitigation benchmarks as individuals and as a church, in order to live more simply, humbly, and gently on the Earth.

Our Sunday School children and Youth Group will be learning about Creation Care and what we can do to protect our Earth from the impacts of climate change. On Sunday, April 27th, we will have an information table for parishioners with fact sheets about climate change, post cards to send to elected officials, and copies of the Episcopal Church's Creation Pledge that you are invited to sign and make your own commitment to Creation Care.

To learn more about Creation Care activities in the RI diocese, see the most recent issue of *Risen*, the diocesan magazine, in print [or online](#).

Our Good Friday Preacher

The Good Friday service will be held at Noon on Friday, April 19. This year's Good Friday preacher will be the Rev. Elizabeth Chandler Felts. Rev. Felts became the Senior Minister of our neighbor church on Weybosset Street, Beneficent Congregational Church, three months ago. As an undergraduate at Northwestern University, Rev. Felts majored in religion, where she graduated with departmental honors. She is a graduate of Harvard Divinity School where she won the Hopkins Share for Ministerial Promise and the Billings Prize for Pulpit Delivery. Ordained in the United Church of Christ, Rev. Felts served churches in Boston, Chicago, and San Francisco, and was active in the UCC on national, conference, and association levels and organized extensively in local interfaith communities. Prior to her arrival at Beneficent, Rev. Felts served as a hospice chaplain in California. Following the Noon service, the church will remain open for prayer until 3 pm.



Collegium Ancora Concert May 5

Please mark your calendars for a special concert by Collegium Ancora, the professional choral ensemble in residence at Grace Church, on Sunday, May 5, at 5:00pm. Collegium will present G.F. Handel's *Israel in Egypt*, an engaging oratorio with chamber orchestra. [Please visit collegiumancora.org](http://collegiumancora.org) for information or to purchase tickets online.



Final Call for Lenten Giving Cross

The Lenten Cross has been placed in the church, and even though the bulbs representing donation requests for foster families through our partner agency [Children's Friend](#) may have been claimed by now, gift cards to local grocery stores and general retail stores (e.g. Walmart, Target) are still most appreciated. For safe-keeping, please place gift cards into the tall donation box near the baptismal font.

When dropping off your donations, please affix the corresponding bulb to your donated item. Items can be left at the back of the church on Sundays, or brought to the parish office during office hours, through Palm Sunday.



Please Support Easter Flowers and Music

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 April 15 will be recorded in the service bulletins for Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday.

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.

This Week at Grace

Weekly Worship Schedule:

Sunday 8:00am Holy Eucharist

Sunday 10:00am Holy Eucharist
with Music

Wednesday 12:00 Noon Eucharist

Thursday 6:00pm Holy Eucharist during Lent

Thursdays at Noon concerts will continue for the Winter/Spring 2019 season through May 23.

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.



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.

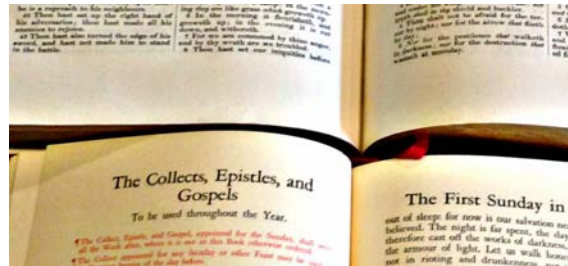
Parking for Worship: Free parking for Sunday worship is provided:

- 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.

April 14, 2019 Palm Sunday

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

This week from the Episcopal Church: [The Way of Love in Lent - WORSHIP](#) and [The Sunday of the Passion.](#)



[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.



**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.