

Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

March 20, 2020

## A Message from the Rector

God of the present moment,  
God who in Jesus stills the storm  
and soothes the frantic heart;  
bring hope and courage to us  
as we wait in uncertainty.  
Bring hope that you will make us the equal  
of whatever lies ahead.  
Bring us courage  
to endure what cannot be avoided,  
for your will is health and wholeness;  
you are God, and we need you.

*from The New Zealand Prayer Book*



Please [click here](#) to watch.

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## Voices of Grace: "Virtual" Worship

At Grace Church we are committed to



continue building a loving and joyful community through worship despite temporarily not being able to gather on Sundays or weekdays due to health concerns related to COVID-19. Until our normal rhythm of worship and gatherings resumes, every Sunday morning we will send an email, post on Facebook and upload to Vimeo a short worship video put together by our staff that will feature clergy and parishioners participating in "virtual worship" reading lessons from scripture, preaching, and music all from their homes. Keep a look out for Voices of Grace: Virtual Worship every Sunday morning!

If you'd like to print the service leaflet for this Sunday's Virtual Worship please [click here](#).

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## Please Consider Electronic Giving to Sustain your Pledge



During this period of disruption, we kindly ask parishioners to sustain their support as they're able. While the proportion of parishioners giving electronically has grown in recent years, many still make their offerings at worship. Mailing your pledge payments to the church is certainly an option, but many may better appreciate the convenience of establishing secure and recurring electronic pledge payments right from a checking account. This can be accomplished on your computer [by clicking here](#), or also quite conveniently by using the GivePlus app on your phone. [Here's a video tutorial](#) on using the GivePlus app. Thank you for continuing to shine your light upon Grace Church.

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## Portraits of Grace



During this period of social distancing, it comforts us to recall our moments together and reflect upon the strength and vibrancy of our Grace Church community.

This photo of an ice-skating outing in downtown Providence with members of the 20s/30s Group was submitted by new vestry member Jeff Williams. Anyone interested in joining this ministry, even if remotely for now, please e-mail [20s30s@gracepvd.org](mailto:20s30s@gracepvd.org).

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## "Virtual" Thursdays at Noon Concerts

Though our normal Thursdays at Noon Concert Series has been temporarily put on hold, the parish musicians will continue the music online! [Click here](#) to watch Vince Edwards, Organist & Director of Music at Grace play a short program of music by Jeremiah Clarke, Franz Schubert, and others.



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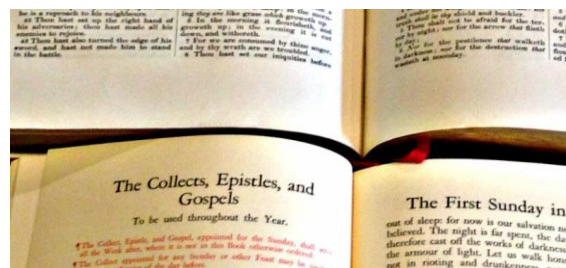
## Details of the Temporary Closure at Grace

This closure impacts all parish activities at least through the end of March (and likely through May), including Sunday worship, the Open Doors ministry, the Wednesday Eucharist, the Thursday Noon concert, the Thursday Lenten Eucharist and dinner, the Stations of the Cross liturgy on Fridays, all meetings and ministry gatherings, all music lessons and choir rehearsals, and the Compline services which had been scheduled for this Sunday evening. If parishioners have purchased items for the Lenten Cross drive to benefit Children's Friend, please kindly hold onto those items until we resume worship. We will continue to send a weekly ENews, so please stay tuned for further updates and some form of online worship experience that we intend to provide.

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March 22, 2020

## The Fourth Sunday in Lent: Laetare



Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*Amen.*

For the texts of the readings for The Fourth Sunday in Lent: Laetare, [please click here](#).

This week from the Episcopal Church: [Life Transformed: The Way of Love in Lent: Bless](#)

[Click here](#) for the latest from the Episcopal News Service. And for current news from the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island, [please click here](#).

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