



Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

May 22, 2020

A Weekly Message from the Rector



[Click here](#) or on the image above to watch.

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 and YouTube a short worship video put together by our staff that will feature clergy and parishioners participating in "virtual worship" by reading lessons from scripture, preaching, and making music all from their homes. Keep a look out for Voices of Grace: Virtual Worship every Sunday morning!

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



Rest in Peace: Bob Nelson (1945 - 2020)

We are saddened to report that life-long Grace parishioner Bob Nelson passed away this past Saturday (from a non-Covid illness). Today, Bob was laid to rest at the Rhode Island Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Exeter. His family will host a memorial service at Grace at a later date (to be announced) when all can attend. Bob grew up in the Men and Boys' Choir and loved and supported music at Grace his whole life. He now sings with the angels in heaven and his beloved wife, Wendy. May Bob's soul, and the souls of all the departed, rest in peace.



For a complete obituary, please [click here.](#)

Courtyard Garden & Labyrinth

The Courtyard Garden and Labyrinth at Grace will be closed for the near future. We will keep you updated as to a possible opening date.

Tea Time Theology

Grace parishioner Mo Akande and a couple other young adults from different Episcopal parishes in RI have created a podcast called "Tea Time Theology" featuring interviews with different clergy members around RI. Mo produced the music for the podcast, and she will be the host for Season 2!

Listen on: [iTunes](#), [Stitcher](#), [Google Play](#), or [Podbean](#)

You can also listen to the hymn playlist of all the hymns for each episode (performed by Mo with Jess Huettelman and Chelsea Sardoni) by [clicking here](#) or on the logo to the right!



Daily Prayer Link

Inspiring readers since 1935, the Forward Day by Day meditation is a significant resource for daily prayer and Bible study to more than a half million readers worldwide. Also: pray Morning, Noonday, and Evening Prayer, plus Compline, every day; get Daily Devotions, Prayers and Thanksgivings, and the Liturgical Calendars, all linked for use online.



[Click here](#) or on the logo above to find out more!

Thank You For Sustaining Your Stewardship

As the offering plate has ceased circulating each Sunday, it is only through the deliberate continuity of stewardship by our parishioners that Grace will reliably meet its financial obligations during this period.



We know that some among us have lost jobs or seen household income disrupted by this pandemic, so we understand some may need to pause or reduce their support for a time. For this reason, we're in particular need of broad participation - and perhaps even accelerated pledge payments where possible - from those who are able.

Please mail in your pledge payments or schedule electronic contributions. If you're accustomed to placing cash contributions in the offering plate, please consider mailing a check instead. Alternatively, an outdoor mail slot is located adjacent to the reception office at The Pavilion entrance.

Electronic contributions are fast and easy to arrange [through our website](#) or by using the [GivePlus mobile app](#). We're [standing by to help](#) if anyone would like assistance setting that up.

Thank you for maintaining your support of Grace Church as we navigate through an unprecedented challenge. And thank you for joining us in prayer for all who are in need of comfort, peace and healing this Eastertide. May they find these in the never-ending love of our resurrected Christ, and may God's blessing be upon us all.

Habits of Grace: Meditations from the Presiding Bishop

[Click here](#) or on the image to the right for weekly videos, posted every Monday from Presiding Bishop Michael Curry.



An Offer of Help: Preparing Wills & Medical Guidelines

Even as we each hope and pray for everyone's health and well being during this pandemic, it never hurts to be prepared for any possibility. If you have not already made a Last Will and Testament, or prepared a document which



gives medical personnel guidance about the kind of care you want to receive, this may be a good time to do so. Our Senior Warden has offered to prepare a simple set of papers for any parishioner, free of charge. If you would like to discuss this, please call Adrienne Southgate at 401-301-7823 or email her at asouthgate1@cox.net.

Wednesday Virtual Prayer Group

The Wednesday prayer group invites all parishioners to join them in prayer via Zoom every Wednesday at noon. If you can't make that time but would still like to have their prayer list for your own prayers, you can request that list instead. Either way, contact Adrienne Southgate at asouthgate1@cox.net to join in.



"Virtual" Festal Choral Evensong for The Feast of the Ascension May 21, 2020

On Thursday, May 21, 2020 as part of our Voices of Grace "Virtual Worship", we sent out a special video of a Festal Choral Evensong to celebrate the Feast of the Ascension. Though Grace Church does not have a patronal feast day (such as parishes named after saints have), our most prominent visual element inside the church is the Ascension of Christ depicted in the central panel of the Triptych above the High Altar, thus adding, perhaps, a special significance to this feast day for our parish. [Click here](#) or on the image to the right to watch!



To download the service leaflet which includes the music, readings, and Prayer List, for The Feast of the Ascension, please [click here](#).

May 24, 2020

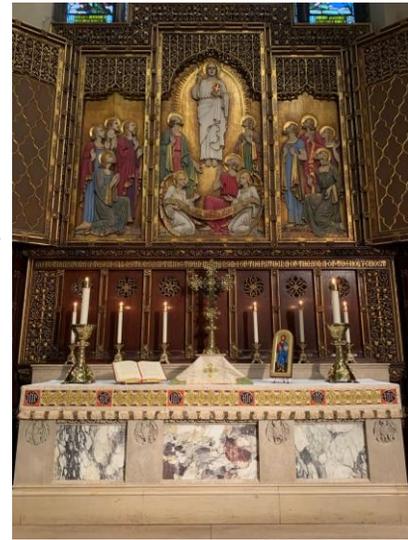
The Feast of the Ascension (transferred)

Grant, we pray, Almighty God, that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into heaven, so we may also in heart and mind there ascend, and with him continually dwell; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

For the texts of the readings for The Feast of the Ascension, [please click here.](#)

[Click here](#) for the latest from the Episcopal News Service.

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



Details of the Temporary Closure at Grace

This closure impacts all parish activities until further notice, including Sunday worship, the Open Doors ministry, the Wednesday Eucharist, the Thursday Noon concert, all meetings and ministry gatherings, all music lessons and choir rehearsals. We will continue to send a weekly ENews, so please stay tuned for further updates and our online worship experience videos sent out every Sunday.
