

Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

October 16, 2020

A Message from the Rector



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

Spotlight: Socially Distanced Choristers!

The Grace Church Choristers and Training Choir have begun in-person rehearsals! We are making use of our Labyrinth and Garden space and our Pavilion which has good ventilation. We have divided the groups in half to create smaller groups, with one group meeting on Thursday and the other on Friday. The choristers had a mini-camp in August to try out the spaces and make sure we can all be safe! We are all so happy to be together and singing, even if we are masked and fourteen feet apart!



Stewardship 2021: Faith-Filled Generosity

The theme for the 2021 stewardship campaign is **Faith-Filled Generosity**. In this week's reflection, we hear from The Rt. Rev. Diane M. Jardine Bruce, Bishop Suffragan in the Diocese of Los Angeles.



Bishop Jardine Bruce reminds us that "we have two sets of three legged-stools in our Episcopal Branch of the Jesus Movement". One of those stools comprises *scripture, reason and tradition*; while the other is formed by your *time, talent and treasure*. She continues: "The first shapes our faith; the second is how we use the gifts we have been given to live out our faith."

Pledge cards have been mailed out, but if you didn't receive one and would like one mailed to you please e-mail admin@gracepvd.org. Over the coming weeks, you'll hear from members of our parish who've submitted stories by video of their experiences of stewardship and the discernment that guides their giving. And we'll hear from spiritual leaders sharing their thoughts on faith-filled generosity, all leading up to **Dedication Sunday on November 22nd**.

Forward Movement: A Season of Prayer for an Election

Join us October 27th-November 4th!

We come together, asking God for courage and wisdom, thanking God for love and joy. As we move toward the election of leaders for the United States, may we all join in a season of prayer, committing to offer to God our fears and frustrations, our hopes and dreams.

A novena is an ancient tradition of nine days of devotional prayers, often with a specific intention. In this case, we pray for discernment in voting and for the well-being of our nation.

For more information and Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's video invitation, [please click here.](#)



A Pictorial Directory for Grace Church

Photo submissions are already trickling in for our upcoming pictorial directory for Grace Church, but we'll need broad participation from our community to make a great result. Please [submit your photo](#) as soon as you're able.



Rather than scheduling portrait photography sessions, we're asking parishioners to either take their own portraits, or use any suitable recent portrait, and submit them to us [using this simple web form](#). To have your photo included, please submit your photo **no later than November 1st**. Please submit only one photo per household.

Please try to submit a photo that is: clear, well-lit, of good resolution, and fairly close-in to the people pictured. Please try to avoid cropping out other people, or partial crops of surrounding content. We can always crop your image for you.

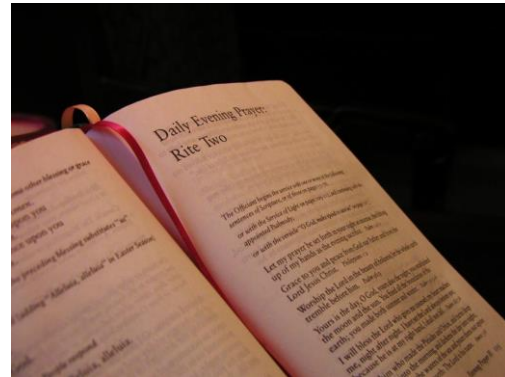
Submitting your photo using the web form is very much preferred, but for anyone unable to do so, images can alternatively be e-mailed to photo@gracepvd.org. Or with questions about how to take and access a photo on a smart phone or other device, please likewise contact the above e-mail. Of course, households opting not to submit a photo will still be included in the directory unless they have opted out of the directory listing entirely, but as these directories are not circulated outside our own parish membership it's our hope that most in our community will take part. We look forward to mailing out the finished product this winter!

The Daily Office Offerings at Grace

Outdoors in The Pavilion Garden

Wednesdays at 6:00 PM
Evening Prayer

Saturdays at 10:00 AM
Morning Prayer



To sign up for either service [please email the Rector here](#), letting him know which service you would like to attend. The parking lot gate will be up, and you can walk from the lot outside around the corner to enter the garden via Westminster Street. (If stairs are difficult for you, let the Rector know and he will be happy to take you from the lot through The Pavilion). Please scroll down to view the Covenant for Regathering if you plan to attend.

Important Update: Thursdays at Noon Concerts



We have resumed in-person attendance for the Thursday Noon Concerts! There are some very important guidelines that must be followed and those are listed below. Please be in touch with Vince Edwards (vedwards@gracepvd.org) if you have any questions or concerns. *Please note: the concerts will still be recorded and made available for those who are not able to be here in person.*

- A maximum of 30 people can be accommodated.
- Limited parking is available in the Grace lot.
- Entry is via The Pavilion parking lot door - the Westminster Street doors will not be an entrance.
- To attend, you **MUST** register by emailing [Vince Edwards \(vedwards@gracepvd.org\)](mailto:Vince_Edwards@gracepvd.org) no later than 6:00 PM on the Wednesday evening before the concert, including name, phone number, and number in your group. Unfortunately, "walk-ins" will not be allowed.
- All attendees must be masked at all times, and showing no symptoms of Covid-19, or have had any recent contact with anyone who has tested positive for the virus.

- Attendees must sanitize their hands and sit in pre-marked areas of the church.
- No social gathering in The Pavilion, either before or after the concert, is allowed.
- The concert will be recorded and made available later in the day via Vimeo, Youtube, and Facebook (details at gracechurchprovidence.org)

[Click here](#) or on the image to the right to watch David Heinze playing works by J.S.Bach, Johann Pachelbel, George Thalben-Ball, Helmers Pavasars, and John Weaver.

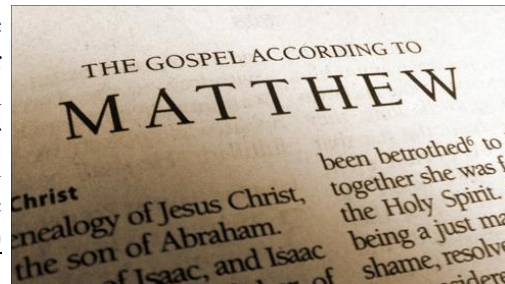
Miss a Thursday Concert? Can't find the email in your inbox? Click on the YouTube button on the bottom of this email to visit the Grace Church YouTube Channel where all concerts, worship services, and virtual tours have been archived for your convenience!

Just want to re-watch past concerts? [Click here.](#)



Virtual Bible Study: The Gospel of Matthew

Join us via Zoom for an 8-week study of the first book of the New Testament led by the Rector and our newly-ordained Deacon, Hartwell Hylton. We've been reading Matthew in our Sunday services, which continues until Advent, and this class sheds more light on what we're hearing. Each class meets from **11:30 AM to 12:30 PM on Mondays.**



To sign up, or if you have questions, email the Rector at jhuyck@gracepvd.org.
All are welcome!

Requests for Hymns from Grace

Email Vince Edwards with your hymn requests for our Hymn Series. His email is vedwards@gracepvd.org or [click here](#) to fill out an email form! If you have either The Hymnal 1940 or The Hymnal 1982, you are encouraged to include the hymn number with your request.



Some Resources

[Click here](#) for the online contents of [The Hymnal 1982](#).

[Click here](#) for the online contents of [The Hymnal 1940](#).

[Click here](#) for the online contents of [The New English Hymnal](#).

[Click here](#) for the online contents of [Hymns Ancient & Modern](#).

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 as we normally would 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](#).

Downtown Fall Clean-Up

Join Us For A Community Cleanup!

Over the last four years, hundreds of DNA volunteers, along with our partners at the Providence Parks Department, transformed over a mile of our Riverwalk (from the Hurricane Barrier to the basin of Waterplace Park). We

replaced broken/missing cables, sanded and painted over 400 railings, light poles, trash receptacles and benches.



Due to COVID-19, many of our volunteer opportunities this year were canceled. While now following all the latest [Rhode Island Department of Health](#) guidelines, we are excited to host a social distance fall cleanup on **Saturday, October 17, from 9 am to 11 am** to remove stickers, touch up paint railings, benches, lamp posts and pick-up trash along our waterways.

To RSVP for this event or see FAQ's, [please click here](#).

Courtyard Garden & Labyrinth Open

The Courtyard Garden and Labyrinth at Grace will be open for visitors between 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM, Monday through Friday as weather permits.

Guidelines for walking the Labyrinth while observing social distancing will be posted.

Our beautiful labyrinth is featured in [this newly published guide](#) to labyrinths in Connecticut and Rhode Island.



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.



October 18, 2020 The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, [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.](#)





Covenant for Regathering

I promise, to the best of my ability with God's help, to abide by the guidelines of the Diocese of Rhode Island for participation in church as we regather during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In faithfulness to the Baptismal Covenant (*BCP* p. 304-305), I will strive to:

Love my neighbor as myself, I will...

- Wear a mask or scarf over my nose and mouth at all times in church buildings, except momentarily to receive the sacrament or lead worship by an assigned speaking part, and follow public health guidelines for hand sanitizing and disinfecting.
- Only attend worship if I am non-symptomatic for the COVID-19 virus or any other transmittable disease that could compromise the health of another person also attending.
- Abstain from attending if doing so would put me at greater risk due to my own health status.

Respect the dignity of every human being, I will...

- Make no physical contact with people beyond the members of my own household.
- Maintain a six foot or more distance from other members of the congregation.
- Respect any requests for distance, masking, cleaning, and disinfecting to ensure the safety and comfort level of others.

Seek and serve Christ in all people...

- Support the decisions of my diocesan and congregational leaders.
- Stay connected with others in my community by telephone, video chat, mail, or other means.

This is our expectation for all those who wish to worship with us in person. By participating in our worship, you assume responsibility for following the above, and acknowledge the risks of participation in an in-person gathering.

June 2020