

# GRACE CHURCH IN PROVIDENCE

*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.*



## THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER: GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

~ CHORAL HOLY EUCHARIST WITH SPIRITUAL COMMUNION ~  
RITE II

APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2021  
LIVE-STREAMED AT 10:00 AM

# WELCOME 'VIRTUALLY' TO GRACE CHURCH!

Welcome to the Easter Season at Grace Church! This is, of course, far from a normal Easter season. For the second year in a row (and hopefully the last) it comes in the midst of a pandemic, and our worship today reflects that reality. We are live-streaming these services and the prayers and praises we offer to God in this most joyous season of the Church year. We hope that today's service will connect you with Grace, and, even more importantly, with the Lord, whose rising to new life we celebrate during these weeks. Most of all, we pray that the joy of his resurrection will lift your hearts as we look to a new birth for our world that awaits deliverance with hope and expectation.

The Rev. Canon Jonathan Huyck+  
*Rector*

## VOLUNTARY

Prelude on 'Lasst uns erfreuen'

*David N. Johnson (1922-1987)*

## THE WORD OF GOD

### THE OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

*People* **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*Celebrant*

**A**LMIGHTY GOD, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

*Sung by the Choir*

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord, God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: received our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,

Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

*Setting: Canterbury Mass, Anthony Piccolo (b. 1946)*



THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**B**OUNTIFUL GOD, you call us to labor with you in tending the earth: Where we lack love, open our hearts to the world; where we waste, give us discipline to conserve; where we neglect, awaken our minds and wills to insight and care. May we with all your creatures honor and serve you in all things, for you live and reign with Christ, Redeemer of all, and with your Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

THE FIRST READING

*Ezekiel 47:6-12*

**H**E SAID TO ME, ‘Mortal, have you seen this?’ Then he led me back along the bank of the river. As I came back, I saw on the bank of the river a great many trees on one side and on the other. He said to me, ‘This water flows towards the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah; and when it enters the sea, the sea of stagnant waters, the water will become fresh. Wherever the river goes, every living creature that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish, once these waters reach there. It will become fresh; and everything will live where the river goes. People will stand fishing beside the sea from En-ge-di to En-eglaim; it will be a place for the spreading of nets; its fish will be of a great many kinds, like the fish of the Great Sea. But its swamps and marshes will not become fresh; they are to be left for salt. On the banks, on both sides of the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail, but they will bear fresh fruit every month, because the water for them flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for healing.’

The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 23

*Dominus regit me*

*Sung by the Choir*

The LORD is my shepherd; \*

therefore can I lack nothing.

<sup>2</sup> He shall feed me in a green pasture: \*

he lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.

<sup>3</sup> He shall convert my soul: \*

and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.

<sup>4</sup> Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: \*

for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup> Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me:

thou has anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.

<sup>6</sup> But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: \*

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

*Anglican Chant by C. Hylton Stewart (1884-1932)*

*The plainsong Alleluia, which heralds the Gospel, is sung by the Choir.*

AT THE SEQUENCE, ALLELUIA

*Choir* Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*Cantor* The good Shepherd has risen: he who has given his life for his sheep.

*Choir* Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

*John 10:11-18*

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**J**ESUS SAID, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away — and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

Wen Stephenson

*We say together,*

THE NICENE CREED

**WE BELIEVE IN ONE GOD, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:**

**by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.  
Who has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

##### *The Intercessor and People pray responsively*

In the beginning, the Spirit of God hovered over the waters. The water that God called into being is at the heart of all that lives.

Mindful of the many ways water affects our lives, let us pray for our waters and for the life of the world around us.

God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all people of faith, and for the transformations in their lives that are marked by the sacredness of water: at the Red Sea, in the Jordan River, in ritual baths, in the washing of feet, and in Holy Baptism.

God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the leaders of nations, corporations, and communities around the world, that they may exercise wise stewardship over the waters of their lands, so that all people may have clean water to drink and may live free from waterborne diseases.

God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the wisdom to shape creative solutions to conflicts over water in the dry places of our planet, and for justice and peace in desert lands.

God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all the waters of the earth: for oceans and seas, for rivers and streams, for lakes and ponds, for watersheds, marshes, and swamps, for the waters beneath the ground; and for all creatures that live in the waters of the earth.

God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who travel or work at sea or on inland waterways.

God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all afflicted with too much water in flood or tsunami, storm or ice; and for those people and creatures who suffer as glaciers and ice floes melt and shrink.

God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who have died and for all who mourn, that their tears of grief may be turned to wellsprings of joy.

God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray this morning for *Eric Horsmann, Carol Violet, Whitney Reeve, Patricia Phillips, Janet Tougas, Barbara Girard, Elizabeth Crawford, Gordon Martin, Lori Martin Croll, Nicole James, and the Jarrett family.* Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble.

God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for those suffering from the coronavirus, either through illness, loneliness, unemployment, or anxiety, for all those caring for the sick, those seeking treatments and vaccines for the virus, and all those whose work places them in harm's way. May this pandemic depart from the face of the earth, and may those who suffer in its wake be healed.

God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, including those we name now either aloud or in the silence of our hearts.

*The Celebrant adds the following concluding collect.*

**B**LESSED GOD, FOUNTAIN OF LIFE: Grant that we may see all water as holy, and so protect and preserve the waters of the earth and the life they sustain. In the name of Christ, the living water, we pray. **Amen.**

#### THE PEACE

*Celebrant*            The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People*                **And also with you.**

#### WELCOME AND PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

*Please join in singing.*

AT THE OFFERTORY, HYMN 645

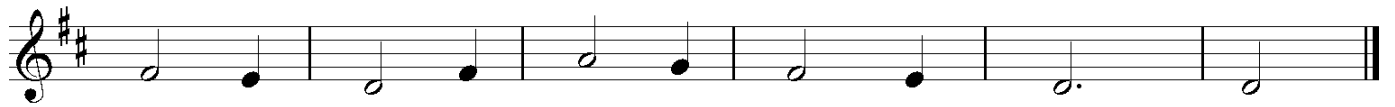


1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness  
2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed  
\* 3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in  
\* 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear  
5 Thou spread'st a ta-ble in my sight; thy unc-tion  
6 And so through all the length of days thy good-ness





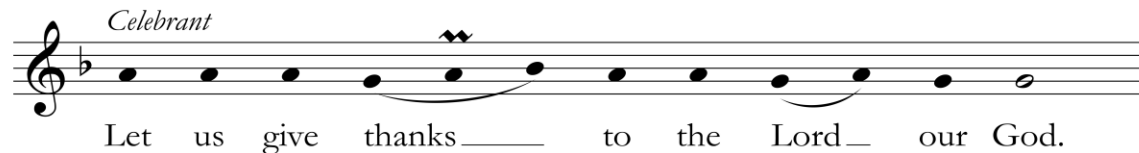
1 fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
2 soul he lead - eth, and where the ver - dant  
3 love he sought me, and on his shoul - der  
4 Lord, be - side me; thy rod and staff my  
5 grace be - stow - eth; and oh, what trans - port  
6 fail - eth nev - er: Good Shep - herd, may I



1 I am his, and he is mine for ev - er.  
2 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.  
3 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.  
4 com - fort still, thy cross be - fore to guide me.  
5 of de - light from thy pure chal - ice flow - eth!  
6 sing thy praise with - in thy house for ev - er.

Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877); para. of Psalm 23  
Music: St. Columba, Irish Melody

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



### *Celebrant*

**I**T IS RIGHT, AND A GOOD AND JOYFUL THING, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his

death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

*Sung by the Choir*

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the Highest.

BLESSED IS HE who comes in the Name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the Highest.

*Setting: Canterbury Mass, A. Piccolo*

*Celebrant*

**H**OLY AND GRACIOUS FATHER: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world. On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*Celebrant*

**W**E CELEBRATE THE MEMORIAL OF OUR REDEMPTION, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.





THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**O**UR FATHER, WHO ART IN HEAVEN, hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ, our Passover, is sacrificed for us.

*People* Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE COMMUNION

*The Celebrant receives the consecrated wine first, after which, the Choir and Clergy receive the consecrated bread. If you are joining the service 'virtually' and would still like to participate in the sacrament, we invite you to pray the following prayer during communion.*

A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*Saint Alphonsus Liguori (1696-1797)*

**I** BELIEVE THAT YOU, O Christ, are present

in the most holy Sacrament of the Altar;

I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you, and I unite myself to you as if you were already there.

Never permit me to be separated from you!

**O** Lord Christ, let the sweet and consuming force of your love absorb my whole soul,  
that I may die for the love of you, who was pleased to die for the love of me. Amen.

AGNUS DEI

*Sung by the Choir*

LAMB OF GOD, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

*Setting: Canterbury Mass, A. Piccolo*

AT THE COMMUNION, MOTET

CHRIST, WHO KNOWS ALL HIS SHEEP, will all in safety keep;  
He will not lose his blood, nor intercession:  
Nor we purchased good of his dear Passion.  
I know my God is just, to him I wholly trust:  
All that I have, and am, all that I hope for:  
All's sure and seen to him, which I here grope for.  
Jesus take my spirit, I trust thy life and merit;  
Take home this wandering sheep, for thou has sought it:  
This soul in safety keep, for thou has bought it.

*Words: Richard Baxter (1615-1691)*

*Music: Eric Thiman (1900-1975)*

*We stand and say together*

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

**F**AITHFUL GOD in the wonder of your wisdom and love

you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels,  
and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life.

We thank you for feeding us with this bread.

May it strengthen us that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may embody your desire  
and be renewed for your service through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen

THE BLESSING FOR EASTERTIDE

**T**HE GOD OF PEACE, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*Please join in singing,*

THE CLOSING HYMN 400

*Stanzas 1, 4, 5, 7 only*



1 All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us  
\*2 Great rush - ing winds and breez - es soft, you clouds that ride the heavens a -  
\*3 Swift flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to  
4 Dear mo - ther earth, you day by day un - fold your bless - ings on our  
5 All you with mer - cy in your heart, for - giv - ing o - thers, take your  
\*6 And ev - en you, most gen - tle death, wait - ing to hush our fi - nal  
7 Let all things their cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in hum - ble -

1 sing: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing  
 2 loft, O\_\_ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing  
 3 hear, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Fire, so in -  
 4 way, O\_\_ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! All flowers and  
 5 part, O\_\_ sing now: Al - le - lu - ia! All you that  
 6 breath, O\_\_ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! You lead back  
 7 ness, O\_\_ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God the

1 sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,  
 2 morn, with praise re - joice, stars night - ly shin - ing, find a voice,  
 3 tense and fierce - ly bright, you give to us both warmth and light,  
 4 fruits that in you grow, let them his glo - ry al - so show:  
 5 pain and sor - row bear, praise God, and cast on him your care:  
 6 home the child of God, for Christ our Lord that way has trod:  
 7 Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spi - rit, Three in One:

*Refrain*

O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia,  
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*Words: Francis of Assisi (1182-1226); tr. William H. Draper (1855-1933), alt.  
 Music: Lasst uns erfreuen, melody from Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng, 1623;  
 adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)*

## THE DISMISSAL

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.  
*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## VOLUNTARY

Alleluia, Festal Postlude on the Tune 'Lasst uns erfreuen' *William Faulkes (1863-1933)*

*In recognition of Faith Climate Action Week (April 18 to 25), the Opening Collect, First Lesson, Prayers of the People and Post-Communion Prayer are taken from Enriching Our Worship, and reflect the themes of the week. Thanks to parishioners Paula Keogh, Michelle Mach, and Jeff Williams for their work on this important topic, and for bringing awareness to our worship and community life at Grace.*

~ SERVING TODAY ~

*Celebrant:* The Reverend Canon Jonathan Huyck

*Lector, & Intercessor:* Dave Seifert

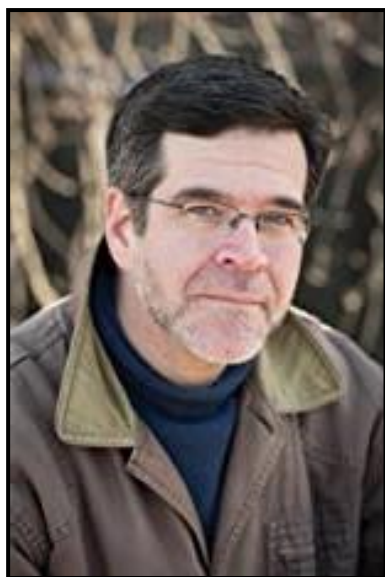
*Crucifer:* Cindy Stephanopoulos

*Audio/Visual:* Drake Douglas

*Ushers:* John Trosclair, Denise Lapolla

*Cover art: The Good Shepherd Window in the Baptistry of Grace Church.*

*Photo Credit: Brian Kutner*



**A note about our Guest Preacher, Wen Stephenson**

Wen Stephenson, the author of *What We're Fighting for Now Is Each Other: Dispatches From the Front Lines of Climate Justice* (Beacon, 2015), is an independent journalist and climate activist, and a contributing writer for The Nation. Formerly an editor at the Atlantic and the Boston Globe, he has also written about climate, culture, and politics for Slate, the New York Times, Grist, and the Boston Phoenix. Wen has a deep interest in religion and spiritual practice, with a commitment to interfaith dialogue and understanding. Though he was brought up in a conservative evangelical church in southern California, with family roots in Texas (mostly the rural, small-town, working-class parts), Wen is now an active member of a progressive Episcopal parish and a longtime member of a Zen Buddhist sangha (community).

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