

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 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

~ CHORAL HOLY EUCHARIST WITH SPIRITUAL COMMUNION ~
RITE II

MAY 2ND, 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

Cantilène *from* Symphonie Romane, Op. 73

Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

THE WORD OF GOD

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

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

Celebrant

ALMIGHTY 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 BE TO GOD ON HIGH, and on earth peace, good will towards all.

We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee,

we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Setting: The Short Communion Service in E-flat, Basil Harwood (1859-1949)

THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY GOD, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

THE FIRST READING

Acts 8:26-40

AN ANGEL OF THE LORD SAID TO PHILIP, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a wilderness road. So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 22:24-30

Deus, Deus meus

Sung by the Choir

²⁴ My praise is of him in the great assembly; *

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

²⁵ The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: *

“May your heart live for ever!”

- ²⁶ All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- ²⁷ For kingship belongs to the LORD; *
he rules over the nations.
- ²⁸ To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- ²⁹ My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the LORD'S for ever.
- ³⁰ They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.

Anglican Chant by Andrew Sievewright (1926-2010)

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

AT THE SEQUENCE, ALLELUIA

Choir Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.
Cantor I am the true vine, you are the branches.
Those who abide in me and I in them, bear much fruit.
Choir Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 15:1-8

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

JESUS SAID TO HIS DISCIPLES, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rector



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

Grafted as living branches onto Christ, the true Vine, let us ask God to provide for the needs of all.

We pray for the Church in all its communities throughout the world: May it have peace and be built up in this paschal season.

Risen Lord, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the families of nations in all their rich diversity: May people seek peace, not in word or speech only, but in truth and action.

Risen Lord, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those for whom guilt lies heavy on their hearts: May the God who is merciful reassure them with pardon and peace.

Risen Lord, **hear our prayer.**

We pray this morning for *the Messier Family, Hope Brothers, Fr. Benjamin Straley, Denise, Richard, Patsy, Sarah, Diana, Ruby, Lola, Eric Horsmann, Carol Violet, Whitney Reeve, Patricia Phillips, Janet Tougas, and Barbara Girard.* Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble.

Risen Lord, **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.**

We pray for the departed who followed the way of Jesus in this life: May they receive from God the eternal life for which they prayed.

Risen Lord, **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 a concluding collect.

THE PEACE

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

WELCOME AND PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

AT THE OFFERTORY, HYMN 379

1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let
2 God is Love; and Love en - folds us, all the world in
3 God is Love; and though with blind - ness sin af - flicts all

earth re - joice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him
 one em - brace: with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,
 hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind - ness

and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun -
 ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are
 guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall

da - tion, God who spread the heaven a - bove, God who breathes through
 break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that
 nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so

all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.
 self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.
 Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

Words: Timothy Rees (1874-1939), alt.
 Music: Abbot's Leigh, Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991)

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

WE 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,

OUR 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 prayer on the following page during communion.

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

O LAMB OF GOD, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Setting: The Short Communion Service in E-flat, B. Harwood

AT THE COMMUNION, MOTET

AS THE FATHER HAS LOVED ME, so have I loved you. Remain in my love.
This is my commandment: that you love one another, as I have loved you.
God is love, and those who live in love, live in God and God lives in them.
If you keep my commandments, and you love one another, your joy will be complete.

Words: John 15:9-12
Music: Simon Lole (b. 1957)

We stand and say together

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLIVING GOD, we thank you for feeding us
with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory,
now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING FOR EASTERTIDE

THE 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 323

1 Bread of heaven, on thee we feed, for thy Flesh is
2 Vine of heaven, thy Blood sup-plies this blest cup of

meat in-deed; ev-er may our souls be fed
sac-ri-fice; Lord, thy wounds our heal-ing give,

with this true and liv-ing Bread; day by day with
to thy cross we look and live: Je-sus, may we

strength sup-plied, through the life of him who died.
ev-er be graft-ed, root-ed, built in thee.

*Words: Josiah Conder (1789-1855), alt.
Music: Jesu, Jesu, du mein Hirt, melody Paul Heinlein (1626-1686); harm. The English Hymnal, 1906*

THE DISMISSAL

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

VOLUNTARY

Fantasia in C, BWV 570

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

~ SERVING TODAY ~

Celebrant & Preacher: The Reverend Canon Jonathan Huyck

Deacon: The Reverend Hartwell Hylton

Crucifer: James Mahoney

Lector & Intercessor: Joy Twelves

Audio/ Visual: Peter Dugan

Ushers: Frederic White, Robert Olawoye

Cover art: Close-up of a stained glass window in the Narthex depicting "fruit of the vine".

Photo Credit: Brian Kutner

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