



GRACE CHURCH IN PROVIDENCE

AN EVENING EUCHARISTIC LITURGY IN THE CELTIC TRADITION

Thursdays in Lent at 6:00 PM

March 10th, 2022

We invite you to join as an active participant in the worship of God.

Please stand as you are able.

THE OPENING RESPONSES

- Leader* Young and old, friends and strangers,
All **God welcomes us.**
- Leader* Lost and bewildered, found and rejoicing,
All **God welcomes us.**
- Leader* Proud of our success, afraid of our poverty,
All **God welcomes us.**
- Leader* This morning, this day, this night, for ever,
All **God welcomes us with a hug of love.**
- Leader* Our message is this:
All **God welcomes sinners and eats with them.**
- Leader* Our hope is this:
All **God welcomes sinners and eats with them.**
- Leader* Our home is this:
All **God welcomes sinners and eats with them.**

HYMN



1. Bro - ther, Sis - ter, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you;
2. We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, and com - pan - ions on the road;
3. I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time of your fear;
4. I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
5. When we sing to God in hea - ven we shall find such har - mon - y,



- pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser - vant too.
we are here to help each oth - er walk the mile and bear the load.
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
I will share your joy and sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.
born of all we've known to - ge - ther of Christ's love and a - go - ny.

Words and Music: Servant Song, Richard Gillard (b. 1953)

THE PRAYERS

Leader God of life, do not darken your light to us, God of life, do not limit your joy in us, God of life, do not shut your door to us, God of life, do not refuse us your mercy.

All **Lord, do not refuse us your mercy.**

Leader O God of life, eternity cannot hold you, nor can our little words catch the magnificence of your kindness. Yet in the space of our small hearts and in silence you can come close and repair us.

A brief moment of silence is observed.

Leader O God of life, grant us your forgiveness,

All **For our careless thoughts, for our thoughtless deeds,
for our empty speech and the words with which we wounded.**

A brief moment of silence is observed.

Leader O God of life, grant us your forgiveness,

All **For our false desires, for our hateful actions,
for our wastefulness and for all we left untended.**

A brief moment of silence is observed.

Leader O loving Christ, hanged on a tree yet risen in the morning, scatter the sin from our souls as the mist from the hills; begin what we do, inform what we say, redeem who we are.

All **In you we place our hope, our great hope, our living hope,
this day and evermore. Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE WORD OF GOD

Reader Listen for the Word which God has spoken;

All **SPEAK LORD, TO OUR SPEAKING,
Speak, Lord, to our listening,
Speak, Lord, to our souls' deep understanding.**

Reader A reading from the Book of Esther.

Esther 14:1-6, 12-14

THEN QUEEN ESTHER, seized with deadly anxiety, fled to the LORD. She took off her splendid apparel and put on the garments of distress and mourning, and instead of costly perfumes she covered her head with ashes and dung, and she utterly humbled her body; every part that she loved to adorn she covered with her tangled hair. She prayed to the LORD God of Israel, and said: "O my LORD, you only are our king; help me, who am alone and have no helper but you, for my danger is in my hand. Ever since I was born I have heard in the tribe of my family that you, O LORD, took Israel out of all the nations, and our ancestors from among all their forebears, for an everlasting inheritance, and that you did for them all that you promised. And now we have sinned before you, and you have handed us over to our enemies. Remember, O LORD; make yourself known in this time of our affliction, and give me courage, O King of the gods and

Master of all dominion! Put eloquent speech in my mouth before the lion, and turn his heart to hate the man who is fighting against us, so that there may be an end of him and those who agree with him. But save us by your hand, and help me, who am alone and have no helper but you, O LORD.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The Cantor sings the acclamation first, then the Congregation repeats it. The Cantor then sings the verse and the acclamation is repeated by all.



The words of the Sa- vior give light to the world, and mer- cy and peace shall fol- low.

Music:

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 7:7-12

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

ASK, AND IT WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for bread, will give a stone? Or if the child asks for a fish, will give a snake? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him! 'In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

We repeat the Acclamation after the Gospel response.

THE HOMILY

Adrienne Southgate

THE CREED

Leader We believe, O God of all gods, that you are the eternal maker of life:
We believe, O God of all gods, that you are the eternal maker of love.

All **WE BELIEVE, O Lord and God of all people,**
that you are the Creator of the high heavens,
that you are the Creator of the skies above,
that you are the Creator of the oceans below.

Leader We believe, O Lord and God of all people, that you are the one who created our souls and set their course, that you are the one who created our bodies from dust and from ashes, that you gave to our bodies their breath and to our souls their possession.

All **GOD, BLESS TO US OUR BODIES,**
God, bless to us our souls,
God, bless to us our lives,
God, bless to us our belief.



THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader Gracious God, you have promised to hear when we pray in the name of your Son. Therefore in confidence and trust we pray for the Church:

Reader Father, enliven the Church for its mission.

All **That we may be salt of the earth and light to the world.**

Reader Breathe fresh life into your people.

All **Give us power to reveal Christ in word and action.**

Leader We pray for the world:

Reader Creator of all, lead us and every people into ways of justice and peace.

All **That we may respect one another in freedom and truth.**

Reader Awaken in us a sense of wonder for the earth and all that is in it.

All **Teach us to care creatively for its resources.**

Leader We pray for the community:

Reader God of trust, inspire with your wisdom those whose decisions affect the lives of others.

All **That all may act with integrity and courage.**

Reader We remember those who are celebrating birthdays or anniversaries this week. Give grace to all whose lives are linked with ours.

All **May we serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.**

Leader We pray for those in need:

Reader We remember those who have asked for our prayers. God of hope, comfort and restore all who suffer in body, mind or spirit.

All **May they know the power of your healing love.**

Reader Make us willing agents of your compassion.

All **Strengthen us as we share in making people whole.**

Leader We remember those who have died and those who mourn:

Reader We remember with thanksgiving those who have died in the faith of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone.

All **Father, into your hands we commend them.**

Reader Give comfort to those who mourn.

All **Bring them peace in their time of loss.**

Leader We pray for ourselves and our ministries:

Reader Lord, you have called us to serve you.

All **GRANT THAT WE MAY WALK IN YOUR PRESENCE:**
your love in our hearts,
your truth in our minds,
your strength in our wills;
until, at the end of our journey,
we know the joy of our homecoming
and the welcome of your embrace,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Please be seated for the hymn.

AT THE OFFERTORY, HYMN



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace,
whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm,



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
be there at our lab - ors, and give us, we pray,
be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Words: Jan Struther (1901-1953)

Music: Slane, Irish ballad melody; adapt. The Church Hymnary, 1927

Please stand as you are able.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord is with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up to God.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Holy One.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

IT IS RIGHT AND A GOOD AND JOYFUL THING always and everywhere to give thanks to you, O God. You created us to live in communion with you, yet we turned away. In the beginning, your Spirit moved across the waters, and creation began. You made human beings in your image to live in community with you. When we sinned and fell away, your Spirit called us back. You spoke through your prophet Joel: Return to me with all your heart, for I am gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. And so with people from all times and places, in every language, with all creation, we praise your name:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

Sung by all

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord. God of pow'r and
might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Bles - sed is he, O bles - sed is
he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - - - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: St. Anne's Mass, James MacMillan (b. 1952)

Celebrant Thanks be to you, Holy God, for steadfast mercy. You are holy and blessed is your child Jesus Christ. Your Spirit flowed through his life as he became the bridge for our reconciliation. In this season we remember his life and work.

People **Lead us in your truth and teach us, for you are the God of our salvation.**

Celebrant God of the Covenant, you saved those on the ark through the flood and gave them your sign of Covenant, the rainbow. Through repentance and baptismal waters we too have been saved, and made signs of your New Covenant in Jesus Christ.

People **Lead us in your truth and teach us, for you are the God of our salvation.**

Celebrant After Jesus was baptized in the Jordan, your Spirit drove him out into the wilderness. Like Jesus, we too are tempted. Yet he showed us how to resist evil.

People **Lead us in your truth and teach us, for you are the God of our salvation.**

Celebrant Coming out of the wilderness, Jesus began proclaiming your good news, saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

People **Lead us in your truth and teach us, for you are the God of our salvation.**

Celebrant

ON HIS FINAL EVENING WITH HIS DISCIPLES, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.” After supper Jesus did the same with the cup, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood; do this in remembrance of me.”

Celebrant We bring our whole selves to you, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Celebrant

POUR OUT YOUR HOLY SPIRIT ON US and on these gifts of bread and cup that they may be for us the Body and Blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior. May this meal be for us signs of your gracious mercy: forgiveness of our sins and promise of salvation. Bring your reign near to us in this meal, Mighty Spirit.

Celebrant Draw us together in the ark of your church, that we may be signs of your covenant in the world, Covenanting God, Resisting Christ, and Saving Spirit, One God in Three.

People **To you be all praise and glory, Holy God, now and forever. Amen.**

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the body of Christ:

All **Though we are many, we are one body for we all share in the one bread.**

Celebrant Every time we eat this bread and drink of this cup:

All **We proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.**

Celebrant Look, here is your Lord coming to you in bread and wine.
These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

THE COMMUNION

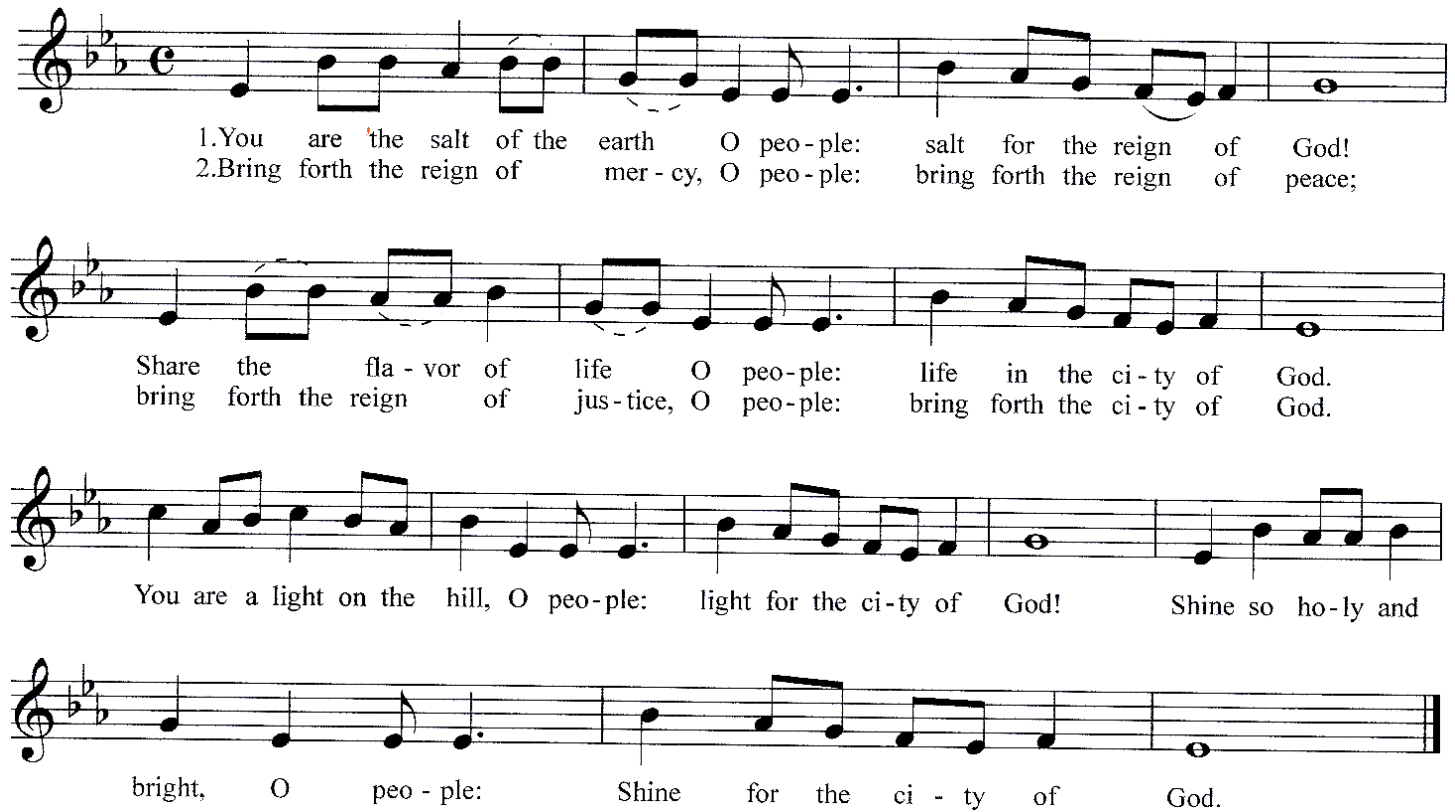
If you would prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest when you come to the altar. We also have gluten-free wafers for those who are allergic. Please bring your purse and valuables with you.

THE CLOSING PRAYER

Leader God, our God, you have called us to be a people on the move; travelling light, dying to live, ready to lose ourselves for the sake of the world.

All **LEAD US ON OUR JOURNEY from who we are to who you want us to be;
so that patience is built into us, kindness is assumed in us,
gentleness is part of us, compassion flows from us,
truth is second nature to us and the commitment of love is part of us.**

HYMN



1. You are the salt of the earth O peo-ple: salt for the reign of God!
2. Bring forth the reign of mer-cy, O peo-ple: bring forth the reign of peace;

Share the fla-vor of life O peo-ple: life in the ci-ty of God.
bring forth the reign of jus-tice, O peo-ple: bring forth the ci-ty of God.

You are a light on the hill, O peo-ple: light for the ci-ty of God! Shine so ho-ly and

bright, O peo-ple: Shine for the ci-ty of God.

Words: Marty Haugen (b.1950) based on Matthew 5:13-16
Music: Vince Edwards (b.1968)

THE BLESSING

Leader The blessing of the Trinity;

All **The blessing of God.**

Leader Who is in this place and every place;

All **The blessing of Jesus.**

Leader Who is among us, often unrecognized;

All **The blessing of the Holy Spirit.**

Leader Encouraging us to welcome, and to feel at home;

All **Be with us all.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant As we greet each other, sharing this place and time, may our life as a community reflect the dance of the Trinity by which the world is blessed. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

We exchange the sign of peace with one another as we depart.

All are welcome to join us for a brief presentation in The Pavilion.

*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.*

LENT 2022 AT GRACE CHURCH

Wednesdays at 12 Noon

Spoken Holy Eucharist with a brief homily in The Chapel of the Messiah.

Thursdays at Noon Concerts

March 17: Garrett Law, Organ

Interim Director of Music, Holy Trinity Church, Covina, CA

March 24: Agita Arista, Flute

Freelance Musician and Educator, Boston, MA

March 31: Joseph Ripka, Organ

Canon for Music, St. Paul's Cathedral, Oklahoma City, OK

April 7: Clara Gerdes Bartz, Organ

Director of Music, Most Holy Redeemer & Nativity Parish, NYC

Thursday 'Celtic' Eucharists – 6:00 PM

A short, sung Eucharist service with music and prayers from the Celtic tradition and a brief sermon preached by a lay person.

A brief presentation in The Pavilion follows.

Upcoming Lay Preachers

March 17: Ryan Weimer

March 24: Andrew Shaprio-Zysk

March 31: Matthew Sneider

April 7: Drake Douglas

Fridays during Lent (March 4 – April 8)

12 Noon – 12:30 PM

The Way of the Cross

A short liturgy in which participants walk to 14 stations posted throughout the church commemorating Christ's journey to Mount Calvary and his death on the Cross.

Choral Evensong for the Feast of St. Joseph

March 20th at 4:00 PM

*with music by Richard Ayleward, T. Tertius Noble, Thomas Morely, and others
sung by the Choir and Choristers of Grace Church.*

Choral Compline

March 20th at 8:00 PM (Doors open at 7:30 PM)

*Half an hour of Gregorian chant and Renaissance polyphony,
sung by the Grace Church Schola in a darkened church lighted by candles and filled with fragrant incense.*

LEADERSHIP AT GRACE CHURCH

STAFF

The Reverend Canon Jonathan Huyck, *Rector*
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The Reverend Hartwell Hylton, *Associate Rector*
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Christopher Barker, *Director of Administration*
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John Carbone, *Sexton*

Pedro Quinilla, *Assistant Sexton*

VESTRY

Class of 2022

Carissa Mills
Lori Brown
Joel Goloskie
Nicholas Halar

Class of 2023

Liz Messier
Emily Pera
Frank Ward
Jeff Williams

Class of 2024

Diane Stamp
Joseph Berryhill
Michael D'Alesandre
Anaezi Modu



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