

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.

WELCOME!

Happy Easter! That's a greeting that works on Easter Day up to the Feast of Pentecost. Another Easter greeting appropriate for the day and season is, "Christ is risen!" to which one replies, "He is risen indeed." In the Christian East, this greeting is especially common, not only in church but if you greet a friend in the bakery or post office. We might not use it as much in the West, but, as Christians, we should always have that message in our hearts, any day of the year. So welcome to Grace Church, Happy Easter, and Alleluia, Christ is risen!

The Rev. Canon Jonathan Huyck+
Rector



THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

~ SUNG HOLY EUCHARIST ~

APRIL 24TH, 2022
10:00 AM

In keeping with the current change in Covid masking policies in Rhode Island, we have updated our masking policy at Grace Church. If you are fully vaccinated, you are not required to wear a face-covering. If you are not fully vaccinated, we ask that you wear your face-covering at all times when inside the building. Of course, anyone is welcome to continue to wear a face-covering if they so choose. Masks are available should you want one, and hand sanitizer has been placed in every pew

and at stations throughout the Church for your convenience.

Please turn off or silence all mobile devices prior to the service.

VOLUNTARY

Prelude on 'O filii et filiae' from Ten Hymn Preludes, Set 1

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

The Cantor and Choir sing from The Pavilion,


Alleluia! Christ is Risen! : The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Let us go forth in peace : In the name of Christ. Amen.

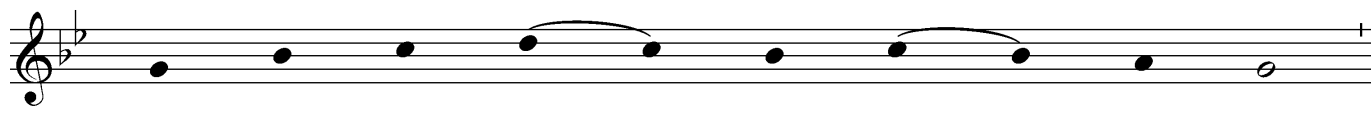
Please stand as you are able and join in singing the hymn on the following page.

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN, 206

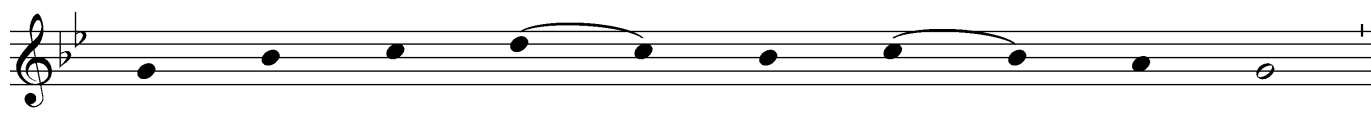
Antiphon (at the beginning)



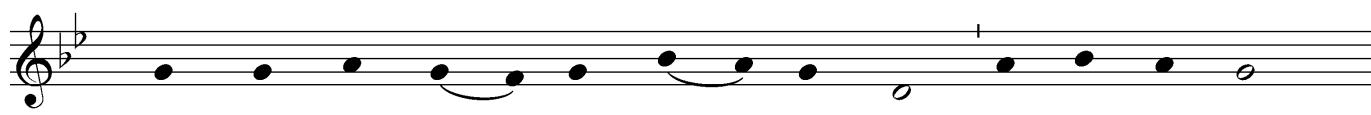
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



1 O sons and daught - ers, let us sing!
 2 That night the a - pos - tles met in fear;
 3 When Thom - as first the tid - ings heard,
 4 "My pierc - ed side, O Thom - as, see;
 5 No long - er Thom - as then de - nied,
 6 How blest are they who have not seen,




1 The King of heaven, the glo - rious King,
 2 a - midst them came their Lord most dear,
 3 how they had seen the ris - en Lord,
 4 my hands, my feet, I show to thee;
 5 he saw the feet, the hands, the side;
 6 and yet whose faith has con - stant been,



1 o'er death and hell rose tri - umph - ing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 and said, "My peace be on all here." Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 he doubt - ed the dis - ci - ples' word. Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 not faith - less, but be - liev - ing be." Al - le - lu - ia!
 5 "Thou art my Lord and God," he cried. Al - le - lu - ia!
 6 for they e - ter - nal life shall win. Al - le - lu - ia! [Ant.]

Antiphon (at the end)



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Attributed to Jean Tisserand (15th Century); translated by John Mason Neale (1818-1866)
Music: O filii et filiae, melody from Airs sur les hymnes sacréz, odes et noëls, 1623

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
People **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**

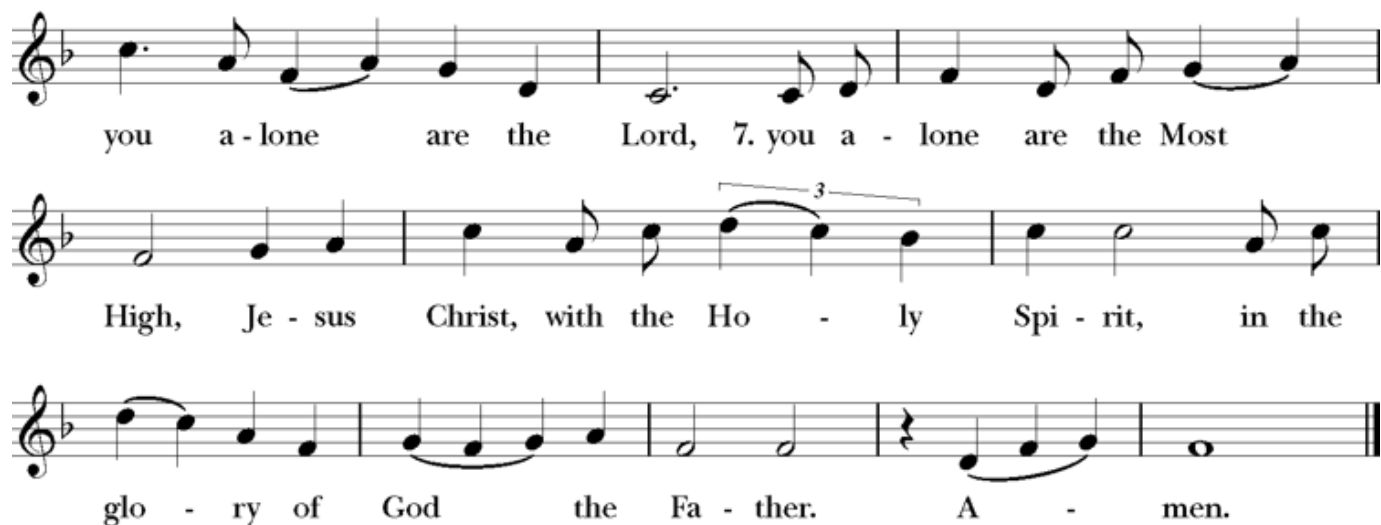
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS, S-280

Sung by all



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,

Continued over the page. →



Setting: Robert J. Powell (b. 1932)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

ALmighty and Everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the readings from Holy Scripture.

THE FIRST READING

Acts 5:27-32

Reader A reading from the Book of Acts of the Apostles

WHEN THE TEMPLE POLICE had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

- 1 O praise God in his holiness *
praise him in the firmament of his power.
- 2 Praise him in his noble acts *
praise him according to his excellent greatness.
- 3 Praise him in the sound of the trumpet *
praise him upon the lute and harp.
- 4 Praise him in the cymbals and dances *
praise him upon the strings and pipe.
- 5 Praise him upon the well-tuned cymbals *
praise him upon the loud cymbals.
- 6 Let every thing that hath breath *
praise the LORD.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

Setting: Sir Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

THE NEW TESTAMENT READING

Revelation 1:4-8

Reader A reading from the Book of Revelation

JOHN TO THE SEVEN CHURCHES THAT ARE IN ASIA: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**



Please stand as you are able.

AT THE SEQUENCE, GEORGIAN ALLELUIA

Sung by the Choir

Please join in singing the Sequence Hymn on the following page.

THE SEQUENCE HYMN, 209

1 We walk by faith, and not by sight; no
 2 We may not touch his hands and side, nor
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
 4 that, when our life of faith is done, in

gra - cious words we hear from him who spoke as
 fol - low where he trod; but in his prom - ise
 may our faith a - bound, to call on you when
 realms of clear - er light we may be - hold you

none e'er spoke; but we be - lieve him near.
 we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
 you are near, and seek where you are found:
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

*Words: Henry Alford (1810-1871), alt.
 Music: St. Botolph, Gordon Slater (1896-1979)*

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

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

WHEN IT WAS EVENING ON THAT DAY, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of The Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

THE SERMON

The Reverend Jennifer West

Please stand as you are able and 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.**

In the name of Jesus, the Living One, you have created the universe by your eternal Word, and have blessed humankind in making us stewards of the earth. Let us pray for the needs of all who inhabit your creation.

We pray for your world, that we may share and conserve its resources, and live in reverence for the creation and in harmony with one another.

Risen Lord, **hear our prayer.**

We pray that wonders born of faith and love may be worked among all peoples through those who follow in the path of Jesus.

Risen Lord, **hear our prayer.**

We pray that war and terror, as well as their causes, may yield to deeds of forgiveness and reconciliation.

Risen Lord, **hear our prayer.**

We pray that those persecuted for the name of Jesus may witness to their faith by following Christ's commandment that we should love both friend and enemy.

Risen Lord, **hear our prayer.**

We pray that we, who have not seen the risen Lord and yet have come to believe, may share the forgiveness we have received.

Risen Lord, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the people of Ukraine, that they may be delivered from the tyranny and violence of their oppressors, so that they may live in peace and safety.

Risen Lord, **hear our prayer.**

We pray this morning for: *Eugene Togba, Julia Woodward, Lavarina Clemens, Roger Phillips, David Olsen, Kathryn Chamberlain, Lori Kipnis, Joanne Quinn, and Whitney Reeve.* Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble.

Risen Lord, **hear our prayer.**

We pray that the dead who acknowledged Jesus as their Lord and their God may rejoice forever with the Living One.

Risen Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, 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, MOTET

QUIA VIDISTI ME,
Thoma, credidisti:
beati qui non viderunt,
et crediderunt.
Alleluia.

*Because thou hast seen me,
Thomas, thou hast believed:
blessed are they that have not seen,
and yet have believed.
Alleluia.*

*Words: John 20:29
Music: Luca Marenzio (c 1553-1599)*

Please stand as you are able, to sing the Doxology as the offering is brought forward.

THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all bles-sings flow; praise him all crea-tures here be - low;
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise him a - bove ye heav'n-ly host:
Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. O — praise him, O — praise him,
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

*Words: Thomas Ken (1637-1711)
Music: Lasst uns erfreuen, melody from Auserlesne Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng, 1623; adapt. R. V. Williams (1872-1958)*



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant

IT 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, S-127

Sung by all

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow - er and might, hea - ven and earth are full of your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high -

est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the



Setting: Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)

Celebrant

HOLY 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."

Celebrant

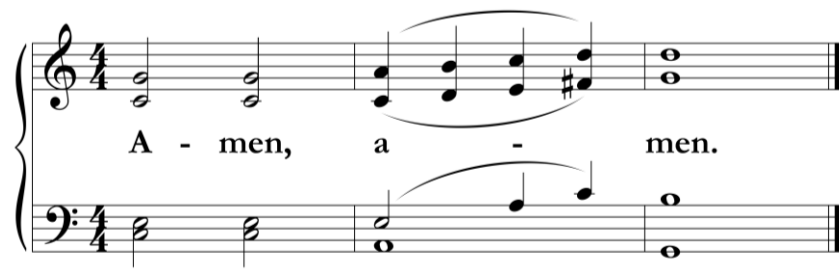
Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People

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

After the Celebrant breaks the host, please join in singing the Fraction Anthem.

THE FRACTION ANTHEM, S-155

Sung by all

Organ

Congregation

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass-o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us; there-fore let us keep the

feast. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Setting: Gerald Near (b. 1942)

THE INVITATION

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts, by faith with thanksgiving.

THE COMMUNION

To receive communion, extend your hands to the Priest and they will place the wafer in your hand (if you would like a gluten-free wafer, please ask for one). If you wish to receive the wine in an individual cup, approach one of the Communion Stations near the Pulpit or Eagle Lectern, take a small, compostable, plastic cup from the table next to the pillar, and the Minister of Communion will pour a small amount of wine into it. After drinking the wine, place the cup in the baskets by the pillar and return via the Side Aisle. If you prefer to receive the wine from the Chalice, you may do so in The Chapel of the Messiah, located to the left of the Chancel. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest when you come to the Altar.

AT THE COMMUNION, DUET

THE LORD IS MY STRENGTH AND MY SONG.
He is become my salvation.

Words: Exodus 15:2

Music: from *Israel in Egypt*, Part the Third, HWV 54, George Frederic Händel (1685-1759)

~ Erin Preston, *Soprano*; Nikki Lawrence, *Mezzo-soprano* ~

Please join in singing the hymn.

THE COMMUNION HYMN, 242

1 How oft, O Lord, thy face hath shone on doubt-ing souls whose
2 He loved thee well, and firm-ly said, "Come, let us go, and
3 His breth-ren's word he would not take, but craved to touch those
4 He saw thee risen; at once he rose to full be-lief's un-
5 O Sa-vior, make thy pres-ence known to all who doubt thy

1 wills were true! Thou Christ of Pe-ter and of John,
2 die with him"; yet when thine Eas-ter-news was spread,
3 hands of thine; when thou didst thine ap-pear-ance make,
4 cloud-ed height; and still through his con-fes-sion flows
5 Word and thee; and teach us in that Word a-lone

1 thou art the Christ of Thom-as too.
2 mid all its light his faith was dim.
3 he saw, and hailed his Lord Di-vine.
4 to Chris-tian souls thy life and light.
5 to find the truth that sets us free.

Words: William Bright (1824-1901), alt.

Music: Jacob, Jane Manton Marshall (1924-2019)

When Communion is completed, please stand as you are able and say together

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

ALMIGHTY AND EVER-LIVING 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 EASTER BLESSING

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

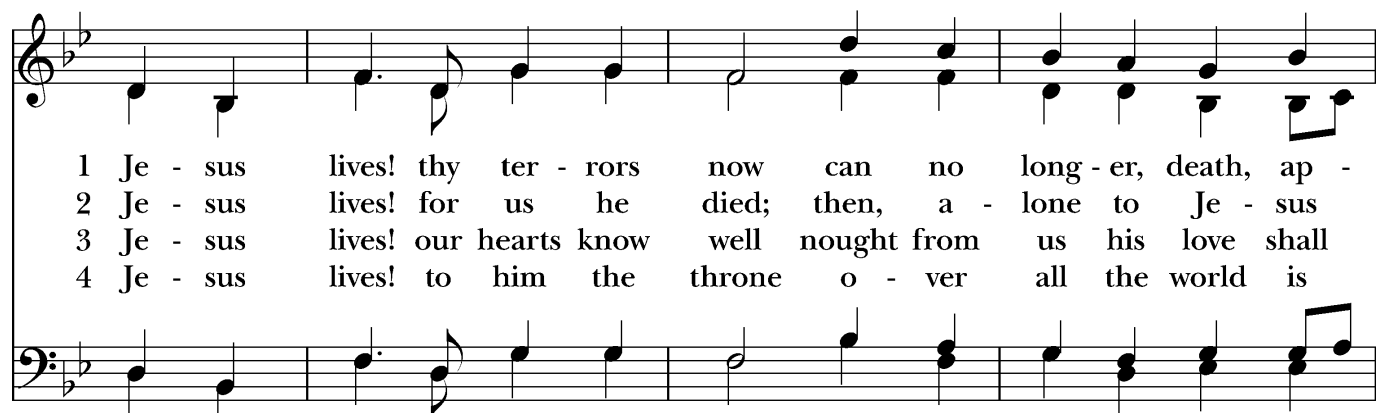
May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Please remain standing as you are able and join in singing the hymn.

THE CLOSING HYMN, 194

Musical notation for the hymn "The Closing Hymn, 194". It features a treble and bass staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the staff.

1 Je - sus lives! thy ter - rors now can no long - er, death, ap -
2 Je - sus lives! for us he died; then, a - lone to Je - sus
3 Je - sus lives! our hearts know well nought from us his love shall
4 Je - sus lives! to him the throne o - ver all the world is

pall us; Je - sus lives! by this we know thou, O
 liv - ing, pure in heart may we a - bide, glo - ry
 sev - er; life, nor death, nor powers of hell tear us
 giv - en: may we go where he has gone, rest and

grave, canst not en - thrall us. Al - le - lu - ia!
 to our Sa - vior giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 from his keep - ing ev - er. Al - le - lu - ia!
 reign with him in hea - ven. Al - le - lu - ia!

*Words: Christian Furchtegott Gellert (1715-1769); tr. Frances Elizabeth Cox (1812-1897), alt.
 Music: St. Albinus, Henry John Gauntlett (1805-1876)*

THE DISMISSAL

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

VOLUNTARY

Offertoire on 'O filii et filiae'

Jean-François Dandrieu (c 1682-1738)

~ SERVING TODAY ~

Celebrant & Preacher: The Reverend Jennifer West

Crucifer: Cindy Stephanopoulos

Lectors: Ryan Dellinger, Andrew Raftery

Intercessor: Geneva Walker

Ministers of Communion: Frank Ward, Lucia Bomster

Altar Guild: Margrete Jean-Louis, Barbara Hughes

Greeter: Jane Ditmars

Ushers: Ed Morgan, Denise Lapolla, Steve & Dot Haskell

Audio/ Visual: Matthew Sneider

Coffee Hour Servers: Pat Trosclair, Pam Baker

Cover art: An Orthodox Icon depicting "Doubting Thomas" putting his finger in Jesus' side.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL COMPLINE TONIGHT! This evening at 8:00 PM the men of the Grace Church Schola will sing a short, 30-minute service of Choral Compline. Come, pray in the stillness, and experience the unaccompanied singing of Gregorian chant and Renaissance polyphony in a darkened church, lighted only by candles and with incense wafting through the air. *Doors open at 7:30 PM.*

COLLEGIUM ANCORA IS BACK! Join us Sunday, May 1st at 4:00 PM for “Isn’t it Romantic?” - songs from the heart of 19th century Germany. Music of Brahms, Mendelssohn, and Rheinberger - three masters of that era - will conjure images of brooks, birds, trees, flowers, streams, mountains, sun, moon, and of course, love! This concert is a perfect way to welcome spring! Tickets are available at www.collegiumancora.org or at the door.

UPCOMING 2022 INQUIRERS’ CLASS: The 2022 Inquirers’ Class will take place on six consecutive Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM in the Chafee Room, beginning on May 1st for six weeks. The clergy will lead discussions on the Christian faith in the Anglican/Episcopal tradition. Adults interested in the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Reception, or Renewal of Baptismal Vows are encouraged to attend, and absolutely all in the parish are welcome. If you have any questions, please email the Rector at jhuyck@gracepvd.org.

THURSDAYS AT NOON CONCERTS: Our guest recitalist on Thursday, April 28th will be Violinist Kelly Jeppesen and Pianist Frederick Jodry. They will play a program of music by Estonian composer Arvo Pärt and Neo-classical, Franco-Russian composer Igor Stravinsky. We hope you will join us and bring friends!

CARE FOR THE SQUARE – ANNUAL GRACE CHURCH CEMETERY CLEAN-UP: Trinity Gateway Historic Improvement Association will be partnering with Trinity Square Together for their bi-annual Care for the Square. Join us on **Saturday, May 7th from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM** to beautify the neighborhood in and around Trinity Square, PVD. They will meet outside Salvation Army (386 Broad St) Providence, RI first. Free lunch is provided for all volunteers! If you feel moved to support their efforts, you can donate to their GoFundMe account: <https://gofund.me/b669e5ab>

DONATIONS FOR UKRAINE: If you’d like to make a donation as part of the relief effort for Ukrainian refugees during this time, you can do so through the Episcopal Relief and Development website: <https://support.episcopalrelief.org/ukraineresponse>

COLLEGIUM  ANCORA

ISN'T IT
Romantic?

SECULAR MUSIC FROM
BRAHMS, MENDELSSOHN, & RHEINBERGER



May 1st, 2022

4:00 PM | GRACE CHURCH, PROVIDENCE
300 WESTMINSTER ST.

TICKETS \$20

WWW.COLLEGIUMANCORA.ORG



THE PRESIDING BISHOP'S EASTER MESSAGE

An abridged version of the Presiding Bishop's Easter Message 2022 is reprinted here. Watch and read the entire message by scanning the QR code below or visiting <https://iam.ec/easter2022>

In Matthew's gospel, the resurrection of Jesus is introduced this way: "After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord had descended from heaven, came and rolled back the stone before the tomb until it was open."

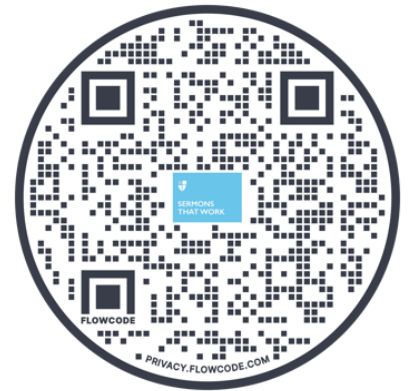
A number of years ago, when I was serving as the bishop of North Carolina, one of our clergy, the Rev. James Melnyk, offered a workshop on the Saturday before Palm Sunday on how to design, and color, and make Easter eggs.

I attended the workshop with a number of other people from around the Raleigh area and did my best to make an Easter egg. But Jim was a master at doing so. You see, Jim's family hailed from Ukraine, and he had been making those Easter eggs from childhood, and spoke of his grandmother and the family tradition that hailed from Ukraine, the making of those Easter eggs. I knew the significance of the Easter egg and Easter. I knew the stories and the truth and the teachings about the coming of new life into the world, and the connection of life emerging from an egg, and Jesus rising from the dead, bringing new life and hope into our world.

But it became clear to me, in the last month or so, in this time when the people of the Ukraine are struggling for their freedom, struggling to be what God intends for all people to be, free people, that, that egg, which is deeply embedded in the life and the consciousness of the people of Ukraine, that those Easter eggs are not just mere symbols, but reminders of the reality of the resurrection of Jesus. Think back. On Palm Sunday, Jesus entered Jerusalem, as we know, riding on a donkey. That was a deliberate act on his part.

He entered Jerusalem at about same time that Pontius Pilate, the governor of Rome, would've been entering the city from the other side, from the other gate. Pilate would've been riding a war horse, accompanied by a cavalry and infantry. He would've been riding in the streets of Jerusalem at this, the dawn of the Passover, which was a celebration of Jewish freedom. Harking back to the days of Moses and the Exodus, Pilate knew that the people would remember that God decreed freedom for all people, and that the Roman empire, which held Judea as a colony, would need to put down, by brute force, any attempt to strike a blow for their freedom.

So, Pilate entered Jerusalem on a war horse, and Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey. The way of humility, the way of the love that we know from the God who is love, the way of truth, the way of compassion, the way of justice, the way of God, the way of love. That way faced



the way of the world, brute force, totalitarian power, injustice, bigotry, violence, embodied in Pontius Pilate, governor of Rome. And the rest of the week was a conflict between the way of the empire and the way of the kingdom or the reign of God's love...

AN EASTER MESSAGE FROM BISHOP KNISELY



For obvious reasons, this spring feels more meaningful than usual, doesn't it? The world is watching war and its attendant atrocities unfold because of the Russian Invasion of Kyiv. The UN has issued a climate change report that indicates that we should be much more alarmed than we have been. And COVID, while waning, is still impacting us, and helping to exacerbate divisions in American society — and still spreading in Asia and the global south. Lent and Easter this year are happening while all of this concern swirls in the background. I'm finding it hard to focus. And yet. The promise of Easter is that light breaks in when the night is darkest. The surprise of God's Easter Victory and all that follows is startling because of the despair and pain that preceded it. And that experience gives us reason to be

hopeful even when others might despair. Peter Gomes, the former Harvard chaplain, once said that when he asked a South African anti-apartheid leader whether he was optimistic about the prospects for healing in South Africa as it rebuilt itself. The leader replied, "No, I am not optimistic. But as a Christian, I am hopeful." It feels like right now there's not much to be optimistic about, but for us as Christians right now, we have reason to be hopeful. In other places, I have noted that the experience of the Episcopal Church in these pandemic years has been different than that of many other organizations. We have managed, for the most part, to find a way to support one another and to get through these once-in-a-lifetime challenges. Much of that is due to the creativity and faithfulness of the lay and ordained leadership, but most of that is due to the fact that we were not overcome with despair. Rather, having hope that God was still present among us and that we had something important to share, we were able to adapt to the moment. That was not true for some others. That hopefulness is what distinguishes us from so many of our neighbors. And, at our best, our hopefulness is contagious, so that though others might despair, they might note something different about us, and noting it, find our faith kindles their hope. Hope at this moment is not the denial of reality. We have hope because of the spiritual discipline that we have cultivated in the years preceding this moment, in the Lenten journeys we have shared and in the Easter moments we have witnessed. It is our birthright as baptized people. It is our possession because we have been grafted into the living body of Christ. And without hope, we would simply perish. But while managing to hang on to hope in these moments can be salvation for us personally, sharing it with others can transform the world. The news that we have a reason to hope in God and in each other is at the core of the Gospel that we promise to share every time we renew our baptismal vows. Do not doubt that we have something of great value to share with others. And knowing that, remember how important our common life is to the world around us.

LEADERSHIP AT GRACE CHURCH

STAFF

The Reverend Canon Jonathan Huyck, *Rector*

jhuyck@gracepvd.org

The Reverend Hartwell Hylton, *Associate Rector*

hhylton@gracepvd.org

Vince Edwards, *Organist & Director of Music*

vedwards@gracepvd.org

David Heinze, *Associate Director of Music*

dheinze@gracepvd.org

Christopher Barker, *Director of Administration*

cbarker@gracepvd.org

John Carbone, *Sexton*

Pedro Quinilla, *Assistant Sexton*

Selemani Mayundo, *Sunday Sexton*

VESTRY

Class of 2023

Liz Messier
Emily Pera
Frank Ward
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GRACE CHURCH IN PROVIDENCE

300 Westminster Street • Providence • RI • 02903

401-331-3225 • www.GraceChurchProvidence.org



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