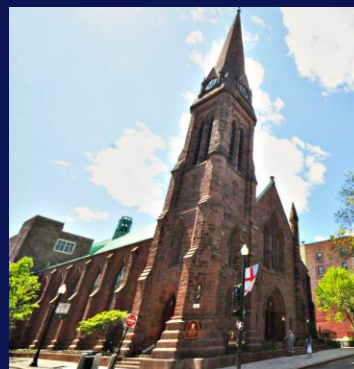


GRACE ABOUNDS



Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

May 26, 2022

Spotlight: Ascension at Grace Church

Today is the Feast of the Ascension, which officially occurs 40 days after Christ's resurrection. A church's "feast of title" can be transferred to the nearest Sunday, which is what we are doing this coming Sunday by using the collects and readings for Ascension Day at the 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM Eucharist services (in stead of the collects and readings for The Seventh Sunday of Easter).

Churches named "Grace" don't technically have a "feast of title" but some historically have adopted Ascension Day. There is precedent at Grace Church for this, dating to May 1st, 1913, the first Ascension Day with the newly added Chancel. From *A History of Grace Church*: "Ascension Day, May 1, saw the active operation of a plan dear to [the rector] Dr. Crowder's heart, namely the observance of that festival as "Grace Church Day," comparable to Trinity Sunday or the appropriate Saints' Day for a Church bearing the name of the Trinity or of some saint." This is all the more appropriate as the great Triptych above the High Altar is, indeed, a depiction of the Ascension of Christ. Additionally, a panel in the great Chancel Window includes a traditional Ascension image: the feet of Christ just disappearing into the sky above as St. Mary and the Apostles look upwards. Happy Feast of the Ascension!



Presiding Bishop's Prayers for Uvalde, Texas



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

Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Michael Curry led in prayer live on social media Tuesday evening (May 24, 2022) in the wake of the school shooting in Uvalde, Texas. He shared a prayer adapted from Bishops United Against Gun Violence, as well as prayers from the Book of Common Prayer.

A letter from the Rt. Rev. David Reed, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas: “In your prayers, make room for the children of Uvalde—all of them, and of all ages—and pray for all victims of violence that the Peace of Christ will be known and welcomed.”

[Click here](#) to read Bishop Reed's complete letter.

Episcopal Public Policy Network, Office of Government Relations

Since at least the 1970s, The Episcopal Church has resolved to support legislation that would reduce the risk of gun violence. More than a dozen times, General Convention has urged Congress to act to restrict the ownership, sale, and use of firearms, to do all it can to prevent gun violence, to limit the availability of weapons, and to lament the lives broken and destroyed by violence. We have [recognized the efforts of Bishops United Against Gun Violence](#), and [commended the leadership](#) of young people who desperately want to end this violence. Decades later, we see gun violence continuing on a daily basis, in communities with high rates of violence, especially in communities of color, in domestic disputes and in violence against women, in suicides, and in mass shootings.

[Click here](#) to view
Resources to Respond to Gun Violence on the Episcopal Church website.

A Second Challenge Grant

We are so excited to announce a second \$25,000 challenge grant for The Organ Project at Grace! The anonymous challenge comes from a Grace parishioner, and we are hoping that we can get it matched by Pentecost Sunday, June 5! If you can contribute to this matching challenge gift in ANY AMOUNT, please contact the Rector, Jonathan Huyck, or the Director of Music, Vince Edwards. When this gift is matched we will have over 10% of the cost of the project! Matching gifts are a great way for parishioners or friends of Grace to inspire others to give to the Organ Project. Please be in touch if you would like to set up a matching gift challenge in any amount. Thanks for your support to help bring this project closer to fruition.



www.gracechurchprovidence.org/organproject

Outdoor Sunday School & First Communion

In May/June, Sunday School kids will be learning about the Eucharist. All kids age 4 through grade 5 are welcome for any or all of these sessions! Just meet in the Pavilion courtyard at 10am, a few minutes before the service starts. Class is outside, so please dress for the weather. (Younger children are welcome upstairs at the nursery.)



If you have a child in 2nd grade or above who would like to use these four upcoming Sunday School sessions as preparation for an informal "first communion" day in June, please plan to attend all of the sessions, if possible. The "first communion" experience is completely optional, according to each family's wishes, and children who have already taken communion are welcome at Sunday School just to learn more about the Eucharist, as well. (Anyone who has been baptized is welcome to receive communion in the Episcopal Church at any age.) Please contact the Rector with any questions at 331-3225.

Food Donations

Grace Church has partnered with a fellow Episcopal parish here in Providence, St. Peter's and St. Andrew's Church, to support their Food Pantry. We invite you to bring non-perishable items to Grace on Sundays when you come to church and place them in the woven baskets in the rear of the church. We'll deliver the donations to Sts. Peter & Andrew. All non-perishable donations are welcome but especially encouraged are tuna, peanut butter, cereal, diapers & wipes, toilet paper, and paper towels. Thank you for your generosity!



Caring for Ukraine

If you'd like to donate to the relief of Ukrainian refugees through the Episcopal Church, please [visit this page](#) of the Episcopal Relief & Development site.



[Listen to the Ukrainian National Anthem](#) as performed by Providence Singers here at Grace Church on March 5th.

Organ Project Promotional Video to Share

The Organ Project at Grace was officially endorsed by the Vestry in October 2021, and **we are actively seeking funding for this project**. A small group of parishioners has assembled as a committee to explore financing and funding options. We want to keep the project alive and in the hearts and minds of the Grace community and beyond. In addition to the two brochures ([Click here for the Overview Brochure](#) and [Here for the Proposed Specification Brochure](#)), we have created a short promotional video to share with friends, acquaintances, and anyone who might have interest in our project. As always, if you would like to know more about this exciting project, or just want to know more about the organ at Grace in general, please be in touch with Vince Edwards, our Director of Music. vedwards@gracepvd.org Enjoy the video!

[Click here](#) or on the image below to watch and share!



Final Thursdays at Noon Concert!

The next concert will be on June 2nd,
played by our parish musicians
Vince Edwards & David Heinze.



This will be the final Thursdays at Noon Concert of the 2021-2022 season!

Bookmarks detailing the line-up of Thursday performers are available on the information tables in the rear of the church. We hope you join us and bring along friends!

For a complete list of performers and videos of previous concerts, please check out the Thursdays at Noon Concerts webpage on the Grace website by [clicking here](#).

Sunday Morning Worship: The Feast of the Ascension (Transferred) May 29, 2022

Every Sunday Morning, Grace Church offers a 'live-stream' broadcast of our Sunday morning 10:00 AM Eucharist service. We hope this experience allows those who are not able to join us in person on Sundays to participate in the worship life at Grace.



~ Sunday Morning Links ~

YouTube: [Click here!](#)

Facebook: [Click here!](#)

This service will be live-streamed to the [Grace Church Facebook Page](#) and the [Grace Church YouTube Channel](#). Please use the links provided below to watch. The service will also be archived on the [Grace Church website](#), [Vimeo](#), Facebook, and YouTube pages for 'on-demand' viewing after Sunday morning. We hope this experience allows those who are not able to join us in person on Sunday to participate in the worship.

Per the CDC guidelines and due to the increase in COVID-19 cases in our area, we are requiring people to wear masks when they come to church, whether or not they are vaccinated. We are blessed with a large Nave, that allows for more room to spread out, so

please do make full use of the available space. Masks are available from an Usher, should you need one and hand sanitizer has been placed in every pew and at stations throughout the Church for your convenience.

Regardless of how you choose to participate in our worship life together,
ALL ARE WELCOME at Grace Church!

May 29, 2022
The Feast of the Ascension
(Transferred)

Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

For the texts of the readings for The Feast of the Ascension, [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.](#)

